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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McNULTY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 8, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL R. McNULTY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: God of the ages and Lord of all.

Here in America You find a Nation that is fully modern yet guided by ancient and eternal truths. The United States is a very innovative, creative, and dynamic country and among the most religious on Earth. Here, faith and reason were part of our foundation and coexist in harmony to this very day. This is not only one of America's greatest strengths; it is one of the reasons our land remains a beacon of hope and opportunity for millions across the world.

Lord, may America's quest for freedom continue to be guided by the conviction that the principles governing political and social life are intimately linked to a moral order based on the dominion of God the Creator who created all women and men equal and endowed with inalienable rights grounded in the laws of nature and nature's God. This vision, Lord, gives us the power to act giving You glory now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CARNAHAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 308. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to concurrent resolutions of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 72. Concurrent Resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the International Year of Sanitation.

S. Con. Res. 81. Concurrent Resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Women's Health Week.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 2929) "An Act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965."

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 110-53, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism:

Graham Allison of Massachusetts.

Richard Verma of Maryland.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 110-53, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following individual to serve as a member and Chairman of the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism:

The Honorable BOB GRAHAM of Florida.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 110-53, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism:

Robin Cleveland of Virginia.

James Talent of Missouri.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, HARRY S TRUMAN

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, in remembrance of President Truman's birthday today, I want to share a speech my grandfather, Representative A.S.J. Carnahan, made on this floor over half a century ago in April 1945 after Truman assumed the Presidency:

"Mr. Speaker, my own native State, Missouri, bows with the Nation and the world in sorrow at the loss of the late

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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President Roosevelt. As we bow in the presence of divine providence and have committed a national leader to the ages, we must carry on. New hands must take up the task of national leadership. Missouri is honored to present to the Nation and the world the new American leader, President Harry S Truman.

"Born and reared on a Missouri farm, elected county judge, sent to the U.S. Senate, selected by President Roosevelt as a running mate, elected vice president and now President of the United States, it's typically Missourian and typically American. What could more truly represent the American tradition and spirit than from farm boy to President?"

"This is the first time my beloved State of Missouri has furnished a President. We are happy it is Harry Truman. His honesty, ability, frankness, experience, and humility fit him for the very heavy tasks which lie ahead. He is equal to the occasion."

CONGRATULATING TROOPER ROBERT "BOBBY" HAYSLIP

(Mrs. SCHMIDT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Trooper Robert "Bobby" Hayslip of West Union, Ohio, for being awarded the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Trooper of the Year Award.

Trooper Bobby Hayslip was commissioned a State Trooper only 6 years ago as part of the 138th academy class and has quickly risen to the top. Bobby's District Commander, Captain Daniel Kolcum, best describes him as being hardworking and aggressive but also compassionate and professional.

Trooper Hayslip is known for being a leader in making both enforcement and non-enforcement contacts; he is constantly working to keep Ohioans safe through investigations, assisting motorists, and getting drunk and impaired drivers off Ohio's roads. The dedication of Trooper Hayslip does not end after his shift. It continues in his free time as a volunteer working with local juvenile traffic offenders and at-risk high school students.

Mr. Speaker, I am very thankful that the best trooper in the State of Ohio is patrolling Ohio's Second Congressional District.

Congratulations, Bobby, and continued success in years to come.

WHY ARE WE STILL IN IRAQ?

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, with this House on the threshold of granting the President \$183 billion to continue the war in Iraq long past his term, it's an appropriate time to ask why are we

still in Iraq, especially since the Democratic leadership promised the American people, 2 years ago, that if they voted Democrat, we'd move to end the war. Why are we still in Iraq?

Why are we still in Iraq? Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11, with al Qaeda's role in 9/11. Iraq didn't have weapons of mass destruction. Why have we lost 4,000 of our finest troops? Why have we seen tens of thousands of Americans injured? Why have we seen over a million innocent Iraqis killed?

The war is based on lies. The Bible says, you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. We need to start telling the truth here on this floor about the war in Iraq. And we need to end the war, end the occupation, close the bases, bring our troops home. Why are we still in Iraq?

This is a wake-up call for the American people. This is a wake-up call for the Congress. This is a wake-up call to stand for the truth.

THE NOBLE THREE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, America's lawmen are the last strand of wire in the fence between the law and the outlaws. They are all that stands between chaos and civilization, between the barbarians and the people, and between what is good and what is evil.

As we honor these lawmen, I give special attention to the Capitol Police Officers. These officers are on duty 24 hours a day in the halls, on the roof, and in the shadows of this Capitol diligently protecting this shrine of democracy.

Ten years ago, a madman entered the Capitol, shot and killed Officer Jacob Chestnut. He headed to the majority leader's office and wounded Officer Douglas McMillan and tourist Angela Dickerson. His shooting stopped after he murdered John Gibson, who literally gave his life for a Member of Congress.

In these hallowed halls, we have portraits and statues of great Americans that have lived before us, but the spirit of duty, sacrifice, and honor is still alive and on display daily by those Capitol Police who serve us so well. They carry on the tradition of Chestnut, McMillan, and Gibson, those noble three that stood in the line of fire for the rest of us.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT MICHAEL BROUSSARD

(Mr. MCNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCNERNEY. Today it gives me great pleasure to rise in honor of Staff Sergeant Michael Broussard of Contra Costa County's own Brentwood, California, for winning the 25th Best Ranger Competition, one of the Army's athletic achievements.

Held at Fort Benning, Georgia, the competition tests a Ranger's physical and mental toughness and self-discipline. Of the 28 participants, only 16 were able to complete the grueling 3-day athletic competition, which features some of the best athletes in the world.

Despite this honor, I believe Staff Sergeant Broussard's greatest achievement is that he repeatedly served this Nation with distinction by completing two deployments to Iraq and two deployments to Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Broussard is a true American hero and an example of the commitment, dedication, and capability of our men and women in uniform on and off the battlefield.

THE PRACTICE OF EARMARKS IS OUT OF CONTROL

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, many of us in this body have realized for quite a while that the practice of earmarking is out of control. When we herald the fact that we had a mere 12,000 earmarks last year, as opposed to only 15,000 a couple of years ago, we know that something is wrong.

But the exercise we went through last week was perhaps the best indication we had yet that we still have a long way to go. We authorized the Justice Department to investigate the origin of an immaculate earmark, an earmark that wasn't in either the House or Senate version of the bill, that only showed up when the President signed the legislation. The earmark was not in either the House or Senate version. Now, one would think that the discovery of an immaculate earmark would prompt an immediate congressional investigation. Instead, we waited 2 years and then authorized the Justice Department to look into it.

Mr. Speaker, we owe this great institution far better than we're giving it, from bridges to nowhere to teapot museums, to immaculate earmarks that we don't even pass, let alone scrutinize. We can do far better than this.

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF ISRAEL

(Mr. BARROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, in 6 days, on May 14, we observe the 60th anniversary of the declaration of the independence of the State of Israel. That's also the 60th anniversary, I'm proud to say, of the day that the administration of President Harry Truman recognized the State of Israel as a free and independent state.

Throughout the past 60 years, the relationship between the United States and Israel has been based on a shared commitment to democratic values. Also, for the past 60 years Israel has