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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2008

The Senate met at 2 p.m., and was called to order by the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who restores our souls, enable us to live in Your company and dwell in Your presence. Inspire our Senators. Uphold them by Your spirit and strengthen them with Your hands. When tomorrow's responsibilities loom large, remind them that You can turn their obstacles into opportunities. Forgive them when they doubt the effectiveness of spiritual weapons such as love, patience, and kindness. Teach our lawmakers that any success alien to Your way is worse than failure, and that any failure directed by Your spirit is better than victory. Give them courage and resolution to do their duty and a heart to be spent in Your service and in doing all the good they can.

We pray in the Name of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JIM WEBB 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 11, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WEBB thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, after my remarks and that of the distinguished Republican leader, we will resume consideration of S. 2248, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Senators will debate the remaining amendments to the legislation this afternoon. There will be no rollcall votes today. However, Senators should expect to begin voting on remaining amendments tomorrow morning at about 10 a.m. Everyone should know that under the order that is now before the Senate, all debate will have to be completed today.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2596, S. 2615, S. 2616, and S. 2619

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have one small item of business. It is my understanding there are four bills due for second readings.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct. The clerk will report the bills by title for the second time.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2596) to rescind funds appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, for the City of Berkeley, California, and any entities located in such city, and to provide that such funds shall be transferred to the Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps account of the Department of Defense for the purposes of recruiting.

A bill (S. 2615) to extend the Protect America Act of 2007 for 15 days.

A bill (S. 2616) to authorize certain programs and activities in the Forest Service, the Department of Interior, and the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2619) to protect innocent Americans from violent crime in national parks.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings with respect to these bills en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN TOM LANTOS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, when I was elected to Congress in 1982, I had the opportunity to visit over the telephone on many occasions with a new Congressman named TOM LANTOS. He was new from California. He was very interested in my election. He helped me

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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raise some money for that election, made many phone calls, and reached out to me as a friend. So when I came to Washington, I had the opportunity to meet him personally. That was the beginning of the development of a real friendship.

I have traveled with TOM LANTOS overseas. He led delegations. When I was a new Senator, I traveled with him. Senator Daschle led a trip. One of the places we went was to Hungary, and we had the opportunity to have TOM LANTOS show us around Budapest. Why was that important? It was important because the Nazis waited until toward the end of the war before they moved in to disperse the Jews out of Budapest and Hungary generally.

He was one of the Jews in Budapest they captured on many occasions. He escaped the Nazis on seven different occasions. They would capture him; he would get away. He said one reason he was able to escape as much as he did was that he had long blond hair, and the Nazis didn't figure he was Hungarian. He actually took us to places where he had been captured, arrested by the Nazis in Budapest. It was a wonderful time we spent with him for 2 days in Budapest.

This morning, our country grieves the loss of truly an American hero, Congressman TOM LANTOS, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives. He was born in Budapest, Hungary. When he was 16 years of age, Hitler and the Nazis occupied his country. He and his family, like so many other Hungarian Jews, were captured, rounded up, beaten, and taken away, sent to labor camps. As I have indicated, he was a hard one to stay captured; he got away.

It was through him I first learned about the struggles that people have on a personal, individual basis. He was a man who protected his girlfriend, his friend Annette at the time. They were both saved by the great Swedish diplomat after whom we have streets named in Washington, DC. He was able to escape many times but not his family. All of them were killed.

All alone, a teenager, with little cause for hope, after the war, he moved through displaced persons camps. TOM LANTOS remained optimistic. He refused to give up. He spent a couple years wandering around Europe after the war.

He wrote an essay on President Franklin Roosevelt, and because of this essay, he earned an academic scholarship to study in the United States. He came on a converted World War II troop ship in 1947. He brought with him only one possession. It was a large Hungarian salami, but when he arrived, it was confiscated by Customs officials. So it is neither a cliché nor an exaggeration to say that TOM LANTOS came to America with nothing.

This "American by choice," as he was fond of calling himself, earned a BA and a master's degree from the University of Washington-Seattle and a

Ph.D. from the University of California. Soon after he arrived here, he married his childhood sweetheart, Annette Lantos.

For the next three decades, he and Annette lived in the San Francisco area. TOM worked as a professor in economics, an international affairs analyst, and an economist in many different areas, testifying in cases, consulting generally. In less than three decades after becoming a U.S. citizen, TOM LANTOS became a Congressman. He brought to Washington remarkable depth of knowledge and intellect and stood out as a powerhouse from the day he arrived in Washington.

As I indicated, I had the honor of serving with him in Congress, but I also served with him on the House Foreign Affairs Committee as it was then called, and, as everyone else, I found him blessed with the mind of a scholar and grace of a gentleman. TOM LANTOS could deliver a speech. He still had the Hungarian accent, but he could bring an audience to its feet. He was a great speaker.

I can recall no one in Congress who did not admire this fine man. He and Annette were always there to talk about their lives together as kids, teenagers. They had been together 60, 70 years. Raoul Wallenberg was the Swedish diplomat. Because of TOM LANTOS, there is a street named after him in Washington, DC, right by the Holocaust Memorial.

I can recall no one, Democrat or Republican, who didn't relish the opportunity to work with him. Once TOM LANTOS said:

I like to work hard to make this a better country, to provide a just government for our people and make sure we have learned from the past.

TOM LANTOS did just that—leaving an indelible mark on issue after issue from health care, Social Security, to the environment, the budget, foreign affairs, of course, but also was his love of animals. He had a caucus in the Congress he worked on dealing only with animals. He loved animals and wanted to make sure they were treated appropriately.

He cochaired the congressional human rights caucus where he fiercely advocated the spread of liberty throughout the world. His convictions were so deeply rooted that he and four other Members of Congress were arrested in 2006 for protesting the genocide in Darfur at the Sudanese Embassy.

After years in the minority, Congressman LANTOS finally achieved his dream of chairing the House Foreign Affairs Committee, but it lasted only one year. He was diagnosed being sick right before Christmas, the first knowledge he had esophageal cancer, and he passed away within the last 24 hours.

We were all deeply saddened to hear he was sick. I was stunned when I learned he was so sick he would retire to fight cancer. The fight did not last long.

I talked today with HOWARD BERMAN, who will replace him as chair of that committee. He told me he visited TOM in Washington at his house. He said he handled his oncoming death the way he handled so many things: with great dignity and understanding.

TOM leaves behind a great family. He has two daughters, Annette, the same name as his wife, and Katrina. These are two beautiful women, as beautiful on the inside as they are on the outside. These 2 daughters gave TOM and Annette 17 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He doted on those grandchildren. A number of us here had him contact us for things dealing with his grandchildren, making sure they got in the school they were supposed to, jobs he wanted them to get. He cared about every one of those 17 grandchildren.

Landra and I have 16 grandchildren, but we have 5 children. He had 2 daughters with 17 grandchildren.

The Lantos family is truly in our hearts today. TOM said once:

It is only in the United States that a penniless survivor of the Holocaust and a fighter in the anti-Nazi underground could have received an education, raised a family, and had the privilege of serving the last three decades of his life as a Member of Congress. I will never be able to express fully my profoundly felt gratitude to this country.

That is what TOM LANTOS said and he meant every word of it. He benefited from the limitless opportunity America affords, but America benefited far more from the service of Congressman TOM LANTOS.

So today we pause to express our profound affection and appreciation and gratitude for this wonderful man. Congressman TOM LANTOS was a great American. His spirit will be sorely missed and his legacy never forgotten.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have a very busy week ahead. We are going to finish, as I have indicated, the debate on FISA tonight. We will have a series of votes. We have about seven or eight votes we have to complete tomorrow. We have postcloture debate tomorrow. We need to finish this bill tomorrow, and we will finish it tomorrow. We will complete it.

We are going to take a run at the Indian health bill. I spoke with Senator DORGAN this morning. He said he has had a good working relationship with JON KYL and they are very close to being able to finish this bill.

We are going to bring up the conference report on intelligence authorization this week. The legislation contains an important provision that would ensure one standard of interrogation across the U.S. Government requiring the CIA to abide by the Army Field Manual dealing with interrogation techniques.

That matter has, it appears, a 60-vote point of order against it. We understand that. I hope we don't have to file