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No. 80

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
May 31, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DANIEL WEBSTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

#### HILL 303, KOREA—AUGUST 17, 1950

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when the world is in trouble, when peoples throughout history are in need of help because of oppression, and they need freedom and liberty, those nations always call 911.

And who answers on the other end of that call? Throughout the history of this great Nation, America answers. We always answer the call when somebody is in trouble and they need help. And such an occurrence occurred in 1950.

In 1950, World War II was over with. The United States had downsized its military. Basically, we were unprepared for another war. But war picks its own opportunities.

What occurred in 1950 was that in the Korean Peninsula, North Korea, with the aid of the Chinese, invaded our ally South Korea. They went into the heartland of South Korea and, of course, South Korea called 911.

America answered. They called it a U.N. operation, but history shows that U.N. operations basically are American operations, where Americans go and fight those battles.

Our country also called it a conflict. Our own President, at that time, referred to it as a police action, but it was neither of those. It was a war. It was a war where Americans went and fought.

I want to tell you about one such action that occurred in the Korean War, Mr. Speaker. You may or may not have ever heard of Hill 303 in South Korea. The Americans, under the control and operation of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division, had the high ground on Hill 303. Approaching them were a superior number of North Korean communists coming to take that hill. The Americans were pushed off that hill, except for a small group of Americans who refused to leave.

Company G, a mortar company, and Company H stayed on the hill. Approaching troops—at first the Americans thought that these approaching troops were South Koreans coming to help them. But it turned out, of course, they were North Koreans. But they held their ground anyway, and they were overrun by the North Koreans.

And here's what happened after the Americans retook the hill. As they retook the hill, they found out that those members of Mortar Company G and Company H, those that had been captured, had their hands tied behind

their backs, that they were put in a gully there in South Korea, unknown to anybody, and they were machine-gunned down. Forty of the 45 were murdered. The other five were able to survive, and some escaped.

This weekend, this Nation honored our war dead for all wars. And I want to thank a school in my district, Creekwood Middle School in Kingwood, Texas, for honoring and remembering those 40 Americans that were murdered on Hill 303 in 1950 when the Americans held that ground and were overrun by the North Koreans.

Creekwood Middle School has a history of honoring American history, especially in our wars. They did a history project not too many years ago on World War I. But with this project that they had on Saturday of last weekend, they honored these men, as they should have, that were murdered on Hill 303. They have a memorial there at Creekwood Middle School for them, probably the only memorial in the United States that honors those men at Hill 303 in Korea. There is one in South Korea, however.

One of the people that was present then and also present Monday on Memorial Day at the Houston National Cemetery was Donald Foisie. Donald Foisie, of Atascocita, Texas, is 80 years old. He got the Purple Heart that day because he was able to survive that onslaught of the North Koreans.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I want to mention the names of the 40 members of the Army that were captured and murdered that day by the North Korean communists.

Pvt Leroy Abbott; Pvt Leo W. Jacques; Pfc Leroy Bone; Pfc Richard Janhnke; Pvt Arthur W. Borst; Pfc Raymond J. Karaiseky; Sgt. Ray A. Briley; Pvt Herbert R. McKenzie; Pfc Benjamin Bristow; Pvt Milton J. Mlaskac.

Pvt Billie J. Causey; Pvt Houston Monfort; Pvt John W. Collins; Pvt Melvin W. Morden; Pvt Johnny K. Dooley; 2Lt Cecil Newman, Jr.; Pvt Cecil C. Edwards; Pvt Robert J.

□ 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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O'Brien; Pfc Harlon Feltner; Pfc Brook T. Powell.

Pvt Richard T. Finnigan; Pvt Bruce A. Reams; Pvt Kenneth G. Fletke; Cpl Ernest Regney, Jr.; Pvt Arthur S. Garcia; Pfc Walter Schuman; Pvt Charles Hastings; Pvt George Semosky, Jr.; Pfc Antonio Hernandez; Pfc John W. Simmons.

Pvt Joseph M. Herndon; Cpl Glen L. Tangman; Pvt John J. Hilgersen, Jr.; Pfc Tony Tavares; Pvt Billy R. Hogan; Pvt William D. Trammel; Pvt Glenn E. Huffman; Cpl William M. Williams; Sgt Robert A. Humes; Cpl Siegfried S. Zimniuch.

Thirty-seven thousand Americans died in Korea. When the war was over, it just ended. There was no peace treaty. It just stopped. It's a cease-fire. We still have Americans at the 38th Parallel guarding that border.

When those troops came home 60 years ago, they were ignored. Unlike Vietnam—those veterans were abused. Those troops that came home from Korea were just basically ignored. America was more interested in Marilyn Monroe marrying the great baseball player, Joe DiMaggio, and this new rock star, Elvis Presley, than it was in honoring our Korean veterans and our war dead.

It's important that America always honor those that served and did not return, and those that served and returned, those that served and returned with the wounds of war. For, Mr. Speaker, the worst casualty of war is to be forgotten.

And that's just the way it is.

#### TAXATION IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, taxation is serious business. How to pay for what America needs should be at the core of a thoughtful policy and political discussion. Unfortunately, going into a campaign "silly season," it will be hard to have any thoughtful conversation.

Here on Capitol Hill, we've been trapped in a twilight zone for years, making a reasonable discussion for revenue extraordinarily difficult, if not impossible.

The simple fact is that we are an aging and growing Nation. Our tax collections in recent years have fallen due to a combination of the near economic collapse and the maddening slow economic recovery, which, together, with the series of tax cuts since 2001, have reduced total collections to levels not seen since Harry Truman was President. And they continue to lag.

As important as it is to do business differently, to rein in and reform defense spending, our bloated agricultural programs, and health care, the tax system itself must be addressed. More revenues are required to meet our needs, service the debt, and avoid more borrowing.

Most Americans understand this. While no one wants to pay higher

taxes, the public understands and will support them, if done right: balanced, simple, and fair.

The worst tax is a tax on our future, the result of unsustainable spending and debt, coupled with tax cuts for people who don't need or deserve them.

The second worst tax is the complex mess we inflict on the public right now. The tax system has a compliance cost to taxpayers of over \$160 billion a year for a system that is unfair and inefficient.

Now, there are only a few tax choices we should examine and discuss before we start arguing about the ultimate solution. We can only tax work, wealth, consumption, user fees, investment.

We can also tax what we don't like, the so-called sin taxes, like pollution or tobacco.

And finally, there are royalties for what, if anything, we get back when we give away public wealth like oil, gas, gold, and other valuable minerals. This is not an insignificant source of revenue, going not to some faceless government, but for the public. This is too seldom discussed in the context of paying for services or reducing the debt.

All seven have advantages and disadvantages, but we should be clear-eyed about them, especially this year, when we will be considering before December 31, what the CBO says will cost \$5.4 trillion to extend all the expiring tax provisions for the next 10 years. This would be a good place to start in reforming the tax system and collecting badly needed revenue.

This should be done only after careful examination. Changes that we may want have to be done very carefully. They don't have to be done all at once or suddenly, because that can have unintended consequences.

□ 1010

There are some areas where we need to continue current policy. Something that should happen as soon as possible is to extend the production tax credit, which is one of those provisions due to expire at the end of the year. This modest subsidy has helped jump-start alternative energy, particularly for wind; and it could be a model on how to do it right for energy and economic growth. It doesn't have to be a permanent entitlement, but merely help the industry come to scale. But the threat that it won't be extended has already shut down new project development and has curtailed manufacturing in the United States. Bipartisan legislation could be passed next week overwhelmingly, and I hope it's something that we would consider.

Some areas need bold action, like the alternative minimum tax. This has been perverted into a grossly unfair tax on millions of American families and threatens tens of millions more. It will never be imposed. We will do everything we can to blunt its full effects. It should just be eliminated outright as part of this end-of-the-year process. Other provisions, like carried interest,

where billionaire hedge fund managers get wildly favorable tax treatment on unbelievable wealth, cry out for reform.

Using the looming deadline to deal with the basics, we can phase in adjustments over the full 10-year period to be fair in transition, avoid dislocation and continue to nurture the still-fragile recovery; and if we start now, we will be able to make commitments, hopefully, that will be honored by both parties over the course of the next decade.

Done right, we can meet the revenue requirements for what America needs, simplify the system, reduce unfairness and complexity, and reduce cheating so that it is fair and more efficient.

#### VETERANS OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALBERG. This past Monday, we gathered together to honor America's fallen soldiers—the men and women who gave their lives sacrificially in exchange for our freedoms. Amid the Memorial Day parades and picnics, we reflected on their courage and their bravery to fight for these freedoms at any cost, including the ultimate cost.

We must never take for granted the privileges we enjoy because of their sacrifice, such as being able to worship where and how we want; that our media can share information without fear of censorship; and that we can freely vote for public officials without fear of punishment. Let us also remember the young men and women spread across the world who continue to fight for that freedom. To them, we also say thank you and pray for a safe and soon return.

But our commitment to the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces should not end when they return. Each year, thousands of new veterans return home, many to Michigan's Seventh District, still wearing the physical, mental, and emotional scars from their time in combat. I am fighting in Congress to make sure that veterans receive the highest-quality medical care that they have earned and deserve.

I also want to provide our Nation's heroes with the resources they need to settle back into civilian life, which is why I cosponsored the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act. Specifically, this legislative package, which became law last November, will smooth the transition for veterans from military service back into the job market through job counseling, training, and placement.

Too often, our troops return home, expecting to trade their fatigues and weapons for a suit or a hard hat, only to find out that the employment situation is a battlefield, to say the least, of a different kind. Millions of Americans are without work under the current administration's failed economic policies, with the unemployment numbers being considerably higher for veterans.