

Deere, those types of things. They have line employees, and they want to get those cabs worked through the line.

Guess what happens?

Employees don't show up. They can't fill the jobs. They have lots of disruption.

We are seeing these supply chain disruptions all across the country, skyrocketing costs for materials and others. A lot of this is tied to these bad policies.

What I do appreciate is some of the Governors across the country who have taken it upon themselves to say: You know what we are going to do? If you don't look for qualified work, if you don't accept work, you are going to lose your unemployment compensation benefits.

Unfortunately, in Minnesota and some other States, you have Governors that want to hang onto emergency powers and still not make those requirements.

I think at the Federal level, in my Small Business Committee and other committees represented here, we should look at how we can tie those benefits to make sure that there are those strings attached and we do everything possible to get folks back in the workforce. It is time. And I know that that is always best for folks to have good, high-paying jobs, and be upwardly mobile and self-sufficient.

□ 1930

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DONALDS).

Mr. DONALDS. The inflation report came out this morning, 4.2 percent increase in inflation. You have got to ask yourself what happened and how did it happen so fast?

Well, one of the key things we are seeing in this economy is very clear. What we are seeing is that the pool of workers is actually quite small compared to the demand for product from people who, frankly, have been locked down for over a year who are ready to go out and spend a lot of money that they have saved, get back to normal life, but there aren't the necessary workforce in order to produce the level of goods that the economy is demanding. So then, of course, the price of every individual unit is now going up because you have a scarcity of supply.

How did this happen? Well, when this body passed a coronavirus spending bill, or the American Rescue Plan or however you want to call it, when we put in an additional payment of direct checks to individuals, not to mention extended unemployment benefits that are 100 percent to what their wages were before the pandemic, and you let that run through the later part of this year, you are going to see exactly what we have seen all across America.

You have seen too many workers not filling their shifts. I will give you an example. I was at a McDonald's drive-through, 24-hour drive-through in my district about 12:30 in the morning. I was hungry. The first drive-through I

went through, there was nobody there working. They cordoned off the drive-through. Has anybody in America ever seen a McDonald's 24-hour drive-through closed? It was closed because nobody was there.

The second McDonald's I went to, there was one worker in the shop. He said, "It is going to take me 30 minutes to fill your order because nobody else is here, and I am making breakfast for the morning shifts."

We have to pull back some of these benefits. We have to, because the way you miss a jobs report by 750,000 jobs is by paying people to stay home. That is not working for our economy. It is not working for our small businesses, and we are starting to see the effects in inflation, and it is only going to get worse unless we act swiftly here in the Nation's Capitol.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close. I thank the gentleman for his comments. I want to thank all of my colleagues who joined me and joined us here tonight. Thank you to my friend Representative JACKIE WALORSKI for cosponsing this Special Order.

We all agree that it was necessary for Congress to step up and act quickly to help hardworking Americans laid off or out of work during the widespread pandemic shutdowns. But here we are, three vaccines later, the States are loosening restrictions. We need to refocus on where we are going, on what we are doing, on making sure children go back to school and people go back to work.

I am proud to support Ranking Member BRADY's Reopening America by Supporting Workers and Businesses Act. Instead of paying people to stay home, it will allow States to provide back-to-work bonuses and increased funding for reemployment services.

In April's dismal jobs report, which was mentioned earlier, it is an indication we have a long way to go. It is a time that we need to get our economy back on track and our people back to work. Every time we go down the street, if you listen to the people who spoke here tonight, jobs, help wanted, help wanted, help wanted, and no help to be found. Why? Because as good as an intention as we had when we passed the unemployment extensions, Mr. Speaker, what we are doing is we are prolonging this situation where we can actually get back to work. We can take these things off, we can actually be safe going to work. We are being vaccinated. Things are gearing back up.

Let's not go down the path of government entrapment. Let's go back to what America is about: People seeking employment when jobs are there, to bettering their family when jobs are there. Not through government programs, but through the opportunity of actually working every day to provide for their families and to provide their children and grandchildren with opportunities.

We are going to have to do that because we have spent a lot of money this

last year, quite often in making sure that our American citizens were taken care of. And rightfully so. But now it is time to go back to work.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

OUR FRIENDS IN ISRAEL ARE UNDER ATTACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) for 30 minutes.

Mr. MAST. I am joined by my colleague here, Mr. ROY. There will be some colloquy going between us as we each feel the need to discuss what is going on in Israel right now, the response by the world, the response by the United States of America.

Mr. ROY, I don't know if you have any opening comments that you would like to begin with, but we can certainly start with that.

Mr. ROY. I would just say how much I appreciate the gentleman, I appreciate his service, I appreciate his understanding about how important Israel is to us as an ally and how important it is for our country to stand united right now as we watch our friends under attack. I look forward to engaging with him.

Mr. MAST. Let's start with what my friend just said, our friends under attack. That first word, "under attack" is the most important part to realize here. I want to quote one of our other colleagues in a statement, Ms. OMAR, in one of her statements about these very events. She said, "Israel airstrikes killing civilians in Gaza is an act of terrorism. Palestinians deserve protection. Unlike Israel, missile defense programs such as Iron Dome don't exist to protect Palestinian civilians. It is unconscionable to not condemn these attacks."

That is absolutely right. Palestinians don't receive support like Iron Dome. That would be akin to giving al-Qaida or ISIS or the Taliban U.S. bomb technicians and military personnel to help them out. That would be the apples-to-apples comparison of giving the attackers, Hamas, Palestinian Islamic jihad, others, that would be the equivalent of giving them those kind of assets.

Hamas purposefully makes their civilians the shields to their offensive points. That is not hyperbole. Think about that, what they do to their population. I don't want to just speak about this in platitudes.

If the gentleman has anything to add, by all means, I will just yield to him as that time arises.

I want to speak about these by specific incident to say exactly how much Israel is being attacked and let the American people judge who is the aggressor here. We will go over both rocket attacks, which are acts of terrorism, and suicide bombings.

You might think I am reading every one of them in history, but I am not.

They are all serious, but I am reading what largely became the most serious of them. We will start just now with the rocket attacks.

I am not going to read for today because the totals aren't in, but as of yesterday, over 600 rockets were launched into Israel. When I say 600 rockets, I don't want people to think they are small, the size of this table or my cane. We are talking about Fajr-5 rockets. They are made by Iran. They are 21 feet long. That is basically a little bit longer than a Chevy Suburban. The warheads on these rockets are about 90 kilograms, or 200 pounds of explosives. To put that into perspective, what detonated underneath my feet when I lost my legs was probably somewhere around 5 to 10 pounds. So each of these warheads being fired in, somewhere around 200 pounds of explosives.

So just yesterday, 600 rockets; May 9, six rockets; April 25, five rockets; April 24, two rockets; April 23, 36 rockets; April 15, one rocket; January 20, one rocket; January 18, two rockets.

Going back into 2020, December 26, two rockets; November 21, one rocket; November 14, two rockets; October 22, two rockets; October 16, one rocket; September 15, 13 rockets; August 21, 12 rockets; August 16, two rockets; August 2, one rocket; July 5, three rockets; June 26, two rockets; June 15, one rocket; February 23 and 24, 90 rockets over the course of that Sunday and Monday.

Moving into 2019, November 12, 190 rockets launched by Palestinian Islamic jihad; May 5, 200 rockets; May 4, 250 rockets; March 25, one rocket; March 14, two rockets.

Going back into 2018, November 12, one mortar; November 11, 17 rockets; August 8, eight rockets; July 26, 11 rockets; July 14, 174 rockets, barrage, Israel.

And we are talking about—let's put into this perspective as well—a country roughly the size of the State of New Jersey, not the breadth of the United States of America.

Mr. ROY. Has the gentleman traveled to Israel?

Mr. MAST. Many times.

Mr. ROY. Is the gentleman aware that even when it is the size of New Jersey, really the population center is really in an area pretty much the size of probably about a quarter of New Jersey or half of New Jersey, right?

In Lebanon, for example, at all times, there is about 150,000 rockets sitting there pointing at this space between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem in the northern part of Israel, where virtually all of the population lives, of all walks of faith, by the way. They are under constant threat, and without Iron Dome would be in grave danger, as they are taking this rocket fire from the Gaza Strip today.

Mr. MAST. You are exactly right. We have both had the honor of spending time there. I have had the honor in my life of wearing two military uniforms, for a dozen years in the U.S. Army and

also for a period wearing the uniform of the Israel Defense Forces.

One of the things that I learned so well in my time spent serving there was what I feel the same way about as a father of four. When you go over there and you get to the weekend and the time for Shabbat dinner, each family over there, because everybody serves, as they get their family together for that Shabbat meal, every family is waiting for a son, a daughter, a grandson, a granddaughter to come home from that weekend from that service that everybody is mandated to perform and that in all likelihood, sometime during their service, they will probably have to wield their weapon in defense of Israel, given the percentages of the times that they find themselves under attack.

Mr. ROY. As we have been watching over the last several weeks with our friends in Israel under attack, particularly this week with the amount of missiles that are going in, there has been wide success, obviously, with Iron Dome, but obviously that puts a continued stress on Iron Dome. Is the gentleman as concerned as I am that we have this country standing alongside Israel to ensure that they have got the resources they need, that they can continue to have a strong Iron Dome, continue to be able to push back on the rockets that are being fired into Israel from Gaza Strip by Hamas?

Mr. MAST. I could not agree more, and to put into perspective why, a great American word, Alamo. Israel is really, it is an Alamo in the Middle East, of freedom, democracy, human rights for all people. That is what they are in that region, and if we don't stand for them, for that friend, that great ally in this region, who do we stand for?

Mr. ROY. I am a proud Representative of San Antonio, Texas, where our Alamo stands, so I appreciate that reference. Is the gentleman aware that there has been numerous casualties, numerous deaths as a result of this rocket fire, very specifically including non-Israeli citizens? In fact, I saw some social media yesterday of a young Indian woman from the country of India who was killed while visiting Israel, and that there have been numerous others, children, and others that have lost their lives, and, also, thousands upon thousands of Israeli farmland that has been torched and burned, livelihoods that have been put into disarray as a result of this rocket fire. Does the gentleman agree with that?

Mr. MAST. I totally agree. Let's make a perspective on that as well.

Mr. ROY. Please.

Mr. MAST. I just went over a tremendous list of years of rocket attacks. Now, when Israel goes and flies over the Gaza Strip and puts a piece of ordnance on a target, it is because that location is where they were firing rockets from. They are defending themselves. That is very specific. It is the definition of defense.

All of those rockets and mortars being lobbed into Israel, those are fired entirely indiscriminately beyond, say, they are trying to send them in an area. They are not trying to send those rockets in to land and take down a date tree or some other kind of farm field or something like that. Their specific intent is to indiscriminately hit the largest centers of population and anybody or any piece of infrastructure, whether it is related to military, civilians, restaurants, you name it, they don't care. It is the definition of indiscriminate killing.

□ 1945

Mr. ROY. Is the gentleman aware that there have been numerous people who have thrown out the phrase that Israel—many of our friends, by the way—that Israel has a right to defend itself. I mean, we hear this regularly.

Would the gentleman agree that Israel has more than a right to defend itself, but rather a duty and, in fact, a responsibility to defend itself, defend the people of Israel, and to stand strong as what you just described, the greatest democracy in the Middle East with a plurality of individuals in that country who respect freedom and democracy in a multiethnic population even as we are, as a result, I believe, of the previous administration, experiencing a renaissance in the Middle East, potential peace. We are seeing the response to that here, if the gentleman would agree.

Mr. MAST. I would respond to the gentleman by saying what greater calling for any government, what greater responsibility for any government, than to protect its people.

You speak at length about the protection that the United States of America owes to its people on the southern border. It is one of the things that you address so regularly. That carries over to what we are speaking about right here.

I would add on this point simply to that: When I go back in time and say what brought about me going over to put on the uniform of the IDF, I was a student in Boston. At that time, a recent Gaza war was going on, back in 2014. What I witnessed there, aside from people who were protesting Israel—again, for going out there and defending herself—were people also seeing U.S. servicemembers like myself. They were out there to protest Israel, but they started harassing people like me and my family because they could see I was a U.S. servicemember. So, that goes to the jump that they make when they layer the United States and Israel next to one another.

But what I said to myself after those experiences was this makes absolutely no sense. This is total hypocrisy. If any one of our neighbors—Mexico, some Caribbean country, Canada—started lobbing rockets or lobbing mortars into the United States of America, my friends in the service would go and eliminate those enemies. Everybody in

the United States of America would be grateful to them for doing so. How we do not afford that same right to Israel—or some of our colleagues do not—is absolutely beyond me.

Mr. ROY. Would the gentleman be surprised if I told him that on my first trip to Israel in 2014 May, I believe, that we were able to take a helicopter tour of the north end of Israel, as I described earlier, where the bulk of the population is, and fly up the Jordan River and go up to the northern part of Israel, and that we would have been able to experience visiting a hospital in Israel where Israeli doctors, Jewish doctors, were caring for at the time—the gentleman will remember in 2014 what was going on in Syria and the devastating toll that the Syrian regime was having on its own people—and that there were children and women and those who were being attacked in their own country in Syria who were receiving the best, top-notch medical care in the world in Israeli hospitals? Then, Israelis were secreting them back to Syria and not making it public so that there would be no reprisal taken against the Syrians because they had gone to get care in Israel.

Would the gentleman be surprised by that, based on his experience and his service in Israeli Defense Forces?

Mr. MAST. Not surprised in the slightest. We have seen this not just go on for those who were wounded in Syria and other places. We can see it right here in our own area of the world, where Israel responded to the earthquake in Haiti and other natural disasters around the globe. They are often among the first on the ground to go out there and respond.

The gentleman has spoken about his time in Israel, and we have spoken about some of these rocket attacks. Again, I don't want to live in the ambiguous here. I want to speak to exactly what has gone on in history. I am now going to move at this point to some of the suicide bombings that have taken place in the State of Israel and go through some of those.

In 2016, a bus bombing, 20 injured; Hamas takes credit.

Now, before I continue with just saying "Hamas takes credit" or "Palestinian Islamic jihad," it is important to have perspective on that, as well. In 2006, Hamas is not just a terrorist organization. In 2006, they became the majority-elected government for the Palestinian Authority. So, when people talk about a two-state solution, you are talking about Hamas, which I am going to speak about in length here being the government entity that would be that second state.

Let's continue on. We will go to 2006 here. Rosh Ha'ir Restaurant bombing, 11 killed, Palestinian Islamic jihad.

HaSharon Mall, December 2005, five killed, Palestinian Islamic jihad.

Market bombing, October 26, seven killed, Palestinian Islamic jihad.

Mall bombing, July 12, 2005, five killed, Palestinian Islamic jihad.

Club bombing, February 25 in Tel Aviv, al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, Hezbollah involvement.

Bus bombing, January 29, 2004, Jerusalem, 11 killed, Hamas.

Liberty Bell Park bus bombing, February 22, eight killed, al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades.

Ashdod Port massacre, March 14, 2004, 10 killed in a double suicide bombing carried out by, again, Hamas.

Beersheba bus bombing, August 31, 2004, 16 killed, Hamas claims responsibility.

Again, I am reading to you just a small portion of all the attacks that I could read to you.

Haifa bus 37 suicide bombing, March 5, 2003, 17 killed.

Bus station massacre, January 5, 2003, in Tel Aviv, 23 killed, Palestinian Islamic jihad and Hamas.

Mike's Place suicide bombing, a pub, April 30, 2003, three killed, Hamas.

Gross Square attack, May 17, 2003, two killed, Hamas.

Jerusalem, bus number six bombing, seven killed, Hamas claims responsibility.

Davidka Square bus bombing, June 1, 2003, 17 killed, Hamas claims responsibility.

The list could go on. I don't know if you would care to comment on any of this as I could continue year after year with these suicide attacks, the stabbings, the bombings, the vehicular manslaughter, the rocket attacks. It goes on and on.

Mr. ROY. I would say to the gentleman that my response is that I could go through a similar list, and the gentleman has done that perfectly well.

What I was struck by in my time in Israel, and that was particularly in the summer of 2019 as I already described and May 2014, the extent to which the people of Israel were so grateful, one, for the United States' support in working with them on Iron Dome in order to have the technology, and not just Iron Dome, David's Sling and all the various different technologies that they are using to be able to live, to be able to live in less fear, and their ability, by the way, to build a fence, to build an infrastructure and border in order to prevent traffic and people coming in that might wish to do them harm, and the extent to which they would tell stories about loved ones that each and every one of them had lost in one of these suicide bombings or some other attack.

How gratified they were that many of these things were things they were talking about in the past and that Israel was moving forward and being able to live in peace and to be able to live without fear of those kinds of attacks as much.

I would just question whether the gentleman would agree that—I don't necessarily always believe in coincidences when we have an administration who refuses to even call Prime Minister Netanyahu for the first 40 or 50

days of the administration. We have an administration that was more interested in sitting down with Iran than sitting down with our friends in Israel, so that we might see that some of our enemies, our mutual enemies, are emboldened to engage in this kind of attack.

Mr. MAST. I could not agree more with the gentleman. It is important that we acknowledge the truth. Who are our friends, who are our enemies, who those are that are posing a threat, what are the threats that they are posing, we make that known.

That has an effect on the saber-rattling, and we should take the saber-rattling that is going on, whether it is in Iran or whether it is in a Palestinian-controlled territory or Syria or anywhere else, we need to take that seriously.

To your point about that pride that you saw and that friendship between the U.S. and Israel, on a separate experience, again, in Israel, I believe this was in 2017 for myself, I am with my wife. We are down on the Sea of Galilee with other Members of Congress, literally inside of a restaurant filled simply with patrons of that area. The patrons in that restaurant stood up and to us, who were Members of Congress, the United States House of Representatives, bipartisan, they sang "God Bless America."

I would challenge anybody that we could find many places across the globe where we would find a group of restaurant patrons who would stand and sing twice, in my experience, "God bless America."

Mr. ROY. Well, the gentleman recounts something that I experienced, as well, and, more than that, a heartfelt description of the reasons that the Israelis were so thankful for our friendship and our support and their belief, I believe rightfully so, that the United States' relationship with Israel is a significant part of their ability to exist as a nation, particularly under the intense scrutiny and attack that they find themselves.

Here we are, I think this Friday will be the 73rd anniversary of Israeli independence. I think I am right about that. I pulled it out of my head. That almost now 75 years is, I think, in direct connection to America's support. Of course, it has ebbed and flowed over the years, but that support and that particularly strong support with President Trump moving the Embassy to Jerusalem, I believe that the people of Israel rightfully recognize that support is key to their security and safety, if the gentleman agrees.

Mr. MAST. I totally agree. But it didn't stop with moving the Embassy to Jerusalem. It had to do with acknowledging if Iran is a friend or an enemy and reversing what had gone on with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, moving away from Iran, moving back toward our consistent friend and ally, Israel. It had more to do with going out there and recognizing the relationships that we have through our

cross-military training exercises that we do, sharing of military technologies, and so on and so on.

It didn't just end with acknowledging something that everybody knew for decades since the beginning of Israel, where the capital is. That was an important piece of it for the President to make that acknowledgment. But it went so far beyond. Would the gentleman agree?

Mr. ROY. Well, I do agree with the gentleman. I might say to the Speaker, in order to be deferential to my friend's time, if I might ask how much time remains in the gentleman's half-hour?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROY. I would agree with the gentleman. I would add a couple of other thoughts. I noticed today a tweet on May 11, which would be yesterday, by Supreme Leader Khamenei, "Palestinians are awake and determined. They must continue this path. One can only talk with the language of power with these criminals," i.e., Israelis. "They must increase their strength, stand strong, confront the enemy," the enemy being, of course, Israel, "and force them to stop their crimes."

Would the gentleman agree that Iran is certainly responsible and tied to Hamas, to the supply of rockets and technology that is being targeted toward our friends in Israel and that we must remember where Iran stands with respect to Israel and the United States?

Mr. MAST. I thank the gentleman for his question.

I could continue on through this list and read year after year, nine killed, nine killed, six killed, 14 killed, 11 killed. I read Hamas, Palestinian Islamic jihad, al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, and Hezbollah in that list, as well, and the list goes on year after year after year.

As you look at those threats and those calls to violence, it begs the question—I can't take credit for this quote. I forget who exactly said it first. But they said you don't sell a gun to somebody that wants to shoot you.

This was the failed policy that President Trump worked to correct, in reversing from that relationship with Iran and strengthening that relationship with Israel. Would the gentleman agree?

Mr. ROY. I would agree, and I think that it is critically important to remember who we are dealing with and who we empower at the expense of both our national security and the national security of our friends in Israel.

I would also offer a tweet that I saw from his home base in Qatar, the Hamas political director and literal United States designated terrorist Ismail Haniyeh. He tweets his support, tweets his support of the attacks on Israel.

This individual notes, and I don't know that we need to get into cancel culture, but this individual notes that he won't be banned from Twitter, and I

think this is something we should all be cognizant of as we are looking around the world when we remember that, in the previous administration, with President Trump's policies, that we were seeing extraordinary gains in peace in the Middle East, Arab countries recognizing Israel, opening up flights and engagement between Israel and countries that before would not recognize them. Does the gentleman agree with that?

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Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his question.

Not only do I agree with that, but I think one of the most important points that we make on that is that it was without concession. We didn't have to negotiate. The President did not negotiate or barter a deal that said, Listen, you need to go out there and submit to another authority that is bombing you, sending mortars, sending rockets, kidnapping people from your territory. You don't have to submit to some other authority in order to have this peace.

It was a negotiated peace based upon a truth and, I believe, an acknowledgment by those other nations of exactly what has been read off here today. The historical documentation of rocket attacks, mortar attacks, suicide bombings that point to the fact that Israel is not the aggressor. They show a tremendous amount of restraint year after year after year. The fact that their enemies that attack them are not simply a smoldering pile of ashes at this point is demonstration of the restraint.

I don't know that if we had that kind of history, we would—that our enemy would not be a smoldering pile of ashes.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I would agree with the gentleman. I would suggest that the gentleman made the point best earlier when he said, How would we respond in United States of America if this many missiles were being fired from Mexico?

Where, by the way, we have cartels who are operating control of our border.

If we had, literally—and here is some of the data. The gentleman quoted some data. Here is some from my staff:

More than 1,500 missiles—possibly 700 already, I think the gentleman alluded to—in the last 72 hours, on average, every 3 minutes by Hamas; 200 of the rockets fired fell short of crossing the border and caused civilian damage; IDF targeting military PIJ and Hamas infrastructure, the operatives and the rocket launchers, an Iron Dome battery was operationalized from reserves. IDF forwarded an attack by an elite Hamas unit, which is trying to dig a tunnel into Israel. And now you have got the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Quds Brigade saying it will expand the ring of fire and target Tel Aviv, and after Tel Aviv with huge rocket barrage. This is the state of things in Israel.

And to the gentleman's point, and I will yield back: No American would be sitting here today—if I am sitting here in Austin, Texas, or San Antonio, Texas, about 150 miles to the west and over to Mexico, if we had 1,500 rockets firing in on San Antonio or Austin, look, man, I would be grabbing my weapons and I would be heading down to the border, and we would be taking care of business.

This is the reality of what we are talking about. So when I hear people saying Israel has a right to defend itself, Israel has a duty and a responsibility to defend itself, I support them fully.

Mr. Speaker, I would yield back to the gentleman.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, by my calculation, we should have about 2 minutes remaining. So I will try to give the gentleman the last word in just a moment.

Mr. Speaker, I would just bring us back to what I opened up with for myself here. And that was the tweet, the statement that was put out in a number of places by our colleague, who I am absolutely astounded sits on the Committee on Foreign Affairs with me, Representative OMAR. That Palestinians deserve protection and that Israel is somehow the aggressor committing an act of terrorism. And ask that the American people go out there, do your own research, look up what the history is, look at the attacks, see what's going on, and judge that for yourself in the most honest way that you can.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. This was kind of an impromptu colloquy, but I think this is the best of what we do in the House, and I would like to do it more often with you and other colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I would just say to the gentleman who has served in IDF and who has served in our Armed Forces: You bear the scars of your service, and we thank you for that. You know well what the Israelis are experiencing every day. And I am glad that you and I stand here united, along with at least the majority of conference.

I wish it was more of a bipartisan agreement of our duty in this country, our responsibility to stand with our friends in Israel, with whom we have an extraordinary relationship. That our joint efforts to stand athwart terrorists to build things like Iron Dome. To work together on missile defense technology has made this world infinitely safer.

And that the most recent administration, the President Trump administration, deserves extraordinary credit, which it never gets in the press, for what was an unbelievable achievement with respect to Middle East peace and the direction we were headed.

And that we are going to stand with Israel. That we are going to make that an unequivocal statement, that we stand with Israel, we are going to defend Israel, and we are going to make sure that we can work together in

peace going forward for the betterment of this world and for our mutual relationship.

Mr. Speaker, I would yield to the gentleman for any closing thoughts.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 13, 2021, at noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-1087. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing 14 officers to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral or real admiral (lower half), pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a(b)(4); Public Law 111-383, Sec. 505(a)(1); (124 Stat. 4208); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1088. A letter from the Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's 2020 Fair Lending Report, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 5493(c)(2)(D); Public Law 111-203, Sec. 1013(c)(2)(D); (124 Stat. 1970); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1089. A letter from the President and CEO, Securities Investor Protection Corporation, transmitting a Report Regarding Standard Maximum Cash Advance Amount, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 78fff-3(e)(3); Public Law 91-598, Sec. 9(e)(3) (as amended by Public Law 111-203, Sec. 929H(a)(2)); (124 Stat. 1857); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1090. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1091. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive and Administrative Officer, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting the Authority's 65th Semiannual Inspector General Report for the period October 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-1092. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting a report on the activities in the time period since the eighth Emmett Till Act Report, and second Reauthorization Report, which was dated June 2019, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 509 note; Public Law 110-344, Sec. 3(c)(2); (122 Stat. 3935); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1093. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's Third Annual Report from the Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties, pursuant to Public Law 115-59, Sec. 2(c)(4), 131 Stat. 1152 (Sept. 2017) (codified at 42 USCA Sec 405, note); jointly to the Committees on Oversight and Reform and Ways and Means.

EC-1094. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's Attorney General's First Quarterly Report of Fiscal Year 2021 on the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 4332(b)(2); Public Law 103-353, Sec. 2(a) (as added by Public Law 110-389, Sec. 312(c)); (122 Stat. 4165); jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. TAKANO: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 958. A bill to codify maternity care coordination programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-30). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. TAKANO: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 1448. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on dog training therapy, and to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide service dogs to veterans with mental illnesses who do not have mobility impairments; with an amendment (Rept. 117-31). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1703. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the Administrator of General Services to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Children's Museum to provide the National Children's Museum rental space without charge in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-32). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CLOUD:

H.R. 3129. A bill to amend the War Powers Resolution to require an annual report and assessment with respect to each specific statutory authorization of the use of military force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GUEST (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. MELJER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 3130. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Operation Stonegarden grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS (for himself, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. BOST, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 3131. A bill to subsidize the salaries of State and local law enforcement officers and

promote officer hiring and retention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AMODEI (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. HORSFORD):

H.R. 3132. A bill to reauthorize the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 3133. A bill to establish a National Secure Data Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. JACOBS of New York, Mr. ROY, Mr. OWENS, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BUDD, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. MAST, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. TIF-FANY, Mr. BUCK, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. ROUZER):

H.R. 3134. A bill to prohibit the United States Armed Forces from promoting anti-American and racist theories; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3135. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, or possession, of any live animal of any prohibited primate species; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROOKS (for himself, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BABIN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Mr. GAETZ):

H.R. 3136. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to strengthen the disclosure requirements for institutions of higher education related to foreign gifts and contracts; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CAWTHORN (for himself and Ms. FOX):

H.R. 3137. A bill to amend title III of division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 to prohibit the expenditure of funds on the priorities noticed in the proposed rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to Proposed Priorities-American History and Civics Education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KATKO, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MCCALL, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 3138. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a grant program relating to the cybersecurity of State