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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. MOLINARO).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 30, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARCUS J. MOLINARO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, 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 time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

REALITIES AND NECESSITIES OF WAR

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, the attack on Israel by Hamas on October 7 was an unprovoked act of barbarity and butchery that targeted innocent civilians and broke every rule of war dating back to medieval times.

The sinister nature of this attack and the genocidal character of the government behind it should shock the

conscience of every man and woman of good will on this planet.

As the Nazis were systemically murdering 6 million Jews, the civilized nations of the world took up arms in defense of the defenseless, annihilated the scourge of Hitler and Hitlerism, and vowed to never allow such crimes to be permitted again.

To assure this objective, these United Nations restored the Jewish state to the Jewish homeland, whose roots in Israel trace back to the dawn of human history.

Never again. Israel exists today to maintain and uphold that sacred vow of mankind.

Never again. The generation that survived those times knew how vital that declaration is and how essential the existence of Israel is to fulfill it.

Yet, the genocidal hatred that produced the Holocaust was never completely extinguished. It has now morphed into a more virulent strain of Nazism that came on full display on October 7. Shockingly, we are seeing support for that ideology in the riots unfolding on our streets and on our campuses, and it has even seeped into the Halls of Congress.

Now, I oppose punishing anyone for their opinions, even vicious opinions, but they should be denounced at every opportunity, and the destructive policies they advocate should be decisively defeated; which brings me to the folly of the Biden administration.

Now, Hamas is the popularly elected government of Gaza. When it attacked, Israel responded the only way it morally could, by waging war with all of its might and resources.

Gaza was not provoked by Israel. Quite the contrary: In 2006, Israel granted the people of Gaza the right of self-government, and they promptly responded by electing Hamas. Last week, a poll of Palestinians found overwhelming support for that government and the atrocities that it has com-

mitted. There is no moral equivalency here. Israel has practiced tolerance toward all its Arab neighbors while Hamas is dedicated to the annihilation of Israel.

War is hell on Earth. A nation forced into it has a moral obligation to put all of its resources behind its soldiers and to achieve unconditional victory as quickly as possible, and then to resolutely destroy the government and culture that unleashed it.

The demands for a cease-fire by the Biden administration, the provision of so-called humanitarian aid to Hamas-controlled Gaza, and demands for proportionality are utterly self-destructive to all involved because their practical effect is to prolong the conflict indefinitely.

In war, you don't want a proportional response; you want the most disproportional response you can muster. The more disproportional it is, the sooner it is ended.

Humanitarian aid is what you send after the enemy has unconditionally surrendered and not a moment before. Can you imagine sending food and fuel into Nazi Germany during World War II? That is lunacy.

The fountainhead of this problem is Iran. It is funding the most extensive terrorist network in history. The sanctions against Iran were producing a growing popular resistance to that regime, yet each time it was about to boil over, Obama, and later Biden, took billions of dollars owned by the Iranian people and instead turned it over to their oppressors in Iran.

Biden's refusal to enforce sanctions has meant an estimated \$30 billion of revenues to Iran. It was about to release another \$6 billion when the attack on Israel embarrassed them into temporarily backing down.

When President Biden releases money to Iran or relaxes sanctions, he is funding the very terrorist operations unleashed against Israel. When he

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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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leaves our borders wide-open, he is creating an open pathway for terrorists into our country. When he sends aid to Hamas-controlled Gaza, he gives aid and comfort to the very forces that unleashed such terror upon Israel and aspire to unleash it against America.

For our own sake, and for the sake of humanity, America must stand unconditionally with Israel, cutting off any resources to its adversaries and providing the arms, ammunition, and moral support it desperately needs.

This is the only way to restore the full force of civilization behind these two sacred words "never again."

ISRAEL AND UKRAINE NEED SUPPLEMENTAL AID

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERRY). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have less than 3 weeks scheduled in the remainder of this year for us to act.

We have less than 3 weeks to secure aid for Israel and Ukraine before we return to our districts in December.

They cannot afford that time. Each day we wait, winter grows colder in Ukraine. Each day we sit on our hands, American and Israeli hostages in Gaza become more fearful that they have been forgotten, as do their families.

Each day we idle, our allies sacrifice more lives in their fight against tyranny and terror. Each day we fail to act, America's reputation as the world's greatest defender of freedom and democracy decays.

Inaction suggests to our friends and foes alike that our Congress chooses doubt over determination, reluctance over resolve, and contention over conviction. We embolden those assaulting democracy in Israel, Ukraine, and elsewhere to set their sights on the rest of the free world, including our own shores.

We must not project uncertainty in our willingness to oppose despots and international terrorists. Securing this supplemental aid without condition and without delay needs to be this House's priority.

I have served in Congress for over 42 years, including 28 years in the leadership. In that time, I have seen Democrats and Republicans work together to defend democracy and further freedom.

Earlier this year, I went with former Speaker McCarthy to meet with Israeli leaders to reaffirm our vital U.S.-Israel relationship. I worked with him to preserve the overwhelming bipartisan support our Congress has had for Israel for the past 75 years, just as I did with past Republican leaders.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we come together in solidarity as Vladimir Putin threatens freedom, democracy, international law, and the lives of Ukrainians.

A few years ago, I stood with Republicans in Kyiv's Independence Square to lay wreaths for the prodemocracy protesters who were gunned down there

during the Revolution of Dignity in 2014. Republicans also joined me on my codet to Ukraine's border just last year.

When I met with President Zelenskyy and House leaders on both sides of the aisle in September in this House, we expressed our unanimous commitment to Ukraine's cause, to America's cause, to freedom's cause.

We saw that same bipartisanship on the House floor in recent weeks when some 75 percent of us voted to approve additional funding for Ukraine. All seven times, perhaps eight times if you count a couple of bills, that issue came up for consideration, 75 percent of us voted for Ukraine's funding.

We ought to act on the strong consensus that exists in this body to deliver aid for Israel and Ukraine now, today, perhaps tomorrow, but certainly very soon.

Neither dysfunction nor disagreement ought to undermine that effort. Victory is our objective; delay is our enemy.

I have spoken with Israeli and Ukrainian leaders. I have met with officials from NATO partners and other allies. I have talked with the families of American hostages held captive by Hamas and Gaza. Their question is the same: Is America still willing to pay the price of freedom? Our answer, Mr. Speaker, and the answer of America must be yes. Now.

We must send a deafening message to our friends and to the enemies of freedom and democracy. We will defend our allies and our shared values, not only in the next few days, but in all the days to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to act. It is time to act without condition. Ukraine needs us, Israel needs us, and freedom, democracy, and international law need us.

Let us act now.

HONORING EXCEPTIONAL AMERICAN HEROES FOR THEIR SELFLESS COMMITMENT TO SERVING OUR NATION

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

Mr. SELF. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to lay out that this House has passed an Israel supplemental bill, \$14.3 billion. Today, I call on the Senate to pass this aid to Israel forthwith.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to recognize our veterans by honoring exceptional American heroes and their selfless commitment to serving our Nation and their communities. It is a moment to acknowledge those who have sacrificed much and devoted all to safeguard our country.

This year, Texas' Third District is saluting the brave veterans who have exhibited remarkable service, leadership, integrity, and dedication. These veterans represent true role models within our community, deserving our utmost respect, acknowledgment, and honor.

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The veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District receiving the 2023 Congressional Veteran Commendation Award are as follows:

Lieutenant Colonel James Angelino, U.S. Army;

Commander Paul Chabot, U.S. Navy; Command Sergeant Major Shane Chapman, U.S. Army;

Sergeant Dave Cornette, U.S. Army; Colonel William George, U.S. Army;

Colonel Larry Greene, U.S. Army;

Sergeant Michael Karson, U.S. Army;

Lieutenant Colonel Shawn Keefe,

U.S. Marine Corps;

Staff Sergeant Casey McEuin, U.S.

Army;

Sergeant James Owsley, U.S. Army;

Lance Corporal Ramil Paredes, U.S.

Marine Corps;

Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony

Rulli, U.S. Navy;

Sergeant First Class Ruben Tobar,

U.S. Army.

I salute these 13 veterans. God bless them, and God bless America.

CELEBRATING TOLUCA LAKE'S CENTENNIAL

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate the centennial of a beautiful neighborhood that has contributed to the rich culture of the San Fernando Valley, Toluca Lake.

Prior to the first Europeans' arrival, the Tongva people were the first inhabitants of Toluca Lake. They established their homes on the banks of the Los Angeles River there.

In 1889, General Charles Forman purchased the territory on which modern-day Toluca Lake lies and, by 1893, applied for the first post office and named the town Toluca Ranch, which he claimed was a Paiute Indian word for beautiful and fertile valley.

Just like the rest of the San Fernando Valley at the time, Toluca Lake was lined with crops of satsuma plums, cling peaches, Moorpark apricots, and much more.

The lake in Toluca Ranch, which has starred in many movies, was very attractive for movie producers, which in turn resulted in the movie industry beginning to develop there. In 1915, Carl Laemmle built Universal Studios in the area, after which several other studios, like Warner Bros. Studios and others, started flooding into the community.

After the general's death in 1919, the ranch was sold to a group of investors, who tried to build a bedroom community around the studios and named the area Toluca Lake Park. By 1923, another group of investors purchased the property and built a housing community, which is now called Toluca Lake.

Toluca Lake has been home to many famous American artists and celebrities, such as Frank Sinatra, Bob