

up on Tuesday. If the gentleman would accept, I think what we perhaps can best proceed at this time by having the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] and the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY] conclude their discussions about their planning for the committee, and then we will make every effort in conjunction with the committee to see that all members are notified of the meeting time and try to accommodate any efforts to bring amendment requests before the committee.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, let me yield to my friend, the gentleman from Montana [Mr. WILLIAMS], for any question he may have.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I have no questions. If the minority leader is completed with the schedule, I would ask my friend to yield to continue the dialog which was preceding prior to the announcement of the schedule.

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman from California would yield further, if it is in order, I would like to make my unanimous consent requests, and then, if in fact it is the will of the Chair to let the gentleman continue in this in order for the other Members to make their discourse, I actually have other things on my schedule I would like to do.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, would it be possible for the majority leader to pose a unanimous-consent request that the item which has been discussed here be continued for half an hour, since several Members seem to want to be heard?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members may seek 1-minute recognition before special orders.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] apparently has the first special order and indicated he would be happy to make time available for Members who want to make comments on this.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1996

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1996

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when

the House adjourns on Monday, September 16, 1996, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with no Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 1-minute requests at this point.

VIOLATING AN AMERICAN TRADITION

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would remind my colleagues and all elected Federal officials, as well as candidates for President and Vice President, that the United States has a long and valued tradition of ending politics at the water's edge.

I have served in this body under a number of administrations, including those of former President Reagan and Bush. Under both Presidents, this country was involved in contentious controversial military matters, but always and without exception the leadership on both sides of the aisle supported those Republican Presidents' military actions overseas.

Speaker Tip O'Neill supported Ronald Reagan's actions, even when he disagreed with them, for example in Lebanon. Speaker Jim Wright supported the actions of his President. Speaker Tom Foley supported the actions of his President.

We are coming perilously close in this Congress and in the Presidential campaigns to violating that valued American tradition.

PRESIDENT GOING BEYOND MANDATES OF U.N. RESOLUTION

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

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I am outraged at what is currently happening here—comments being made.

First of all, there is no Member of this body who does not fully support our troops. Let us make that statement known up front. In fact we on this side have restored \$8 billion of cuts that this administration made to support those troops.

What is happening right now is that this President is going beyond the mandates of the U.N. resolution, which do not give the United States unilateral authority to go in and take action in Iraq. There is no provision in there for unilateral action. The allies are not behind us, as President Bush had when he went in there in the first place. In fact, Saudi Arabia is now considering denying us basing rights for the F-117's.

□ 1215

We know nothing about what is occurring. As a senior member of the Committee on National Security, I asked our chairman, who has not been briefed, about what is occurring, and we are about to send our young pilots into harm's way with no plan, no functional understanding for us in this Congress about what the ultimate game plan is.

The War Powers Act requires this President to consult with us, and we in this institution should demand that take place.

If anyone wants to charge politics, I would say the politics is this administration rushing to send our troops into harm's way with no justifiable situation that merits that action.

STOP PLAYING POLITICS AND SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would say to my colleague from Pennsylvania if this is not politics being played, I do not know what it is.

We can have all the briefings we want, the fact of the matter is the support for our men and women ought to be forthcoming and it ought to be done the way the Senate did, passed it virtually unanimously. We ought to stop playing politics and support our troops. We ought to support our men and women. We ought not to let Saddam Hussein control the situation.

Quite frankly, as someone who supported President Bush when it came to the Persian Gulf War, if President Bush had done what he should have done and removed Saddam Hussein we would not be in the position we are right now.

So I think that we ought to stand behind our President. We ought to stand behind our men and women. We ought to not play politics just because there is an election coming up 6 weeks from now.

We ought to do what is right. We ought to do what the Senate did, and we ought to pass some kind of resolution supporting our men and women.

The fact that we have been briefed or have not been briefed or have not been briefed enough is totally irrelevant. The fact is we should be supporting our President in a bipartisan fashion the way Congress has always done and support our men and women.

CONSULTATION IS IMPORTANT

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

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON] wants to stand tight, I will yield him some time, even though it is only a minute.

I am going to do a one-hour special order on supporting the troops. I am wearing the pin, air force fighter pilot here is wearing the pin of the First Armored Division, which is not an armored division anymore. It is now light infantry in Bosnia, because all our tanks are up in Germany. And that was done without total consultation with this House.

Consultation is important. I served 3 weeks while Jerry Ford was President, 4 years of Carter, 8 years of Reagan, 4 years of Bush, and even though the timing was not timely sometimes, always there was consultation with the gang of 8: the two Intelligence Committee chairmen, the 2 Armed Services Committee chairmen, the 2 Foreign Affairs or International Relations chairmen.

This is just God awful what is happening here. And everybody in uniform knows this chairman supports them, so I do not have to apologize for that.

I demand constitutional authority of this House over men and women going into combat. And the minimum we should get is what we have had ever since World War II: consultation. That is what crossing the beach means: full support with the elected Senators and Representatives of the men and women in uniform; being consulted in this Chamber.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO BE INFORMED

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

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to just echo the remarks of the gentleman from California and the gentleman from Pennsylvania that have just gotten up here and talked about.

I would say to my friend from New York there has never been anybody in this House in the year and 9 months I have been here who has supported our troops more than I have. I have given them my full support in Bosnia, over an operation which I did not particularly agree with, but I supported the men and women once they were there.

We are on the brink right now of potentially another Operation Desert

Storm, but yet nobody in this House has any idea what is going on.

I just left a national security meeting 30 minutes ago, in which the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON] made the comment, he said does anybody on either side of the aisle have any information about exactly what is going on in Iraq right now.

Nobody, nobody has any idea, and yet we are asked to stand up here and take action to fund operations we know nothing about, to support operations we know nothing about.

I think it is unfair. It is un-American. This body deserves to know. I implore the President to inform us, to let us know what is going on.

TRIBUTE TO MARTI MORGAN

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House for just one moment to announce the passing of one of our staffers, a dear friend, Martha B. Morgan, affectionately known as Marti Morgan, who I had the great pleasure and honor of working with on the Committee on Government Operations, which is now the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

Marti was a professional staffer. She was from New Mexico, I believe, and she sat behind me for several years on the Government Reform Subcommittee with the gentleman from New York [Mr. TOWNS] and others, and she was truly one of those unsung heroes of this Chamber and of this Congress.

She worked so hard. On the minority side we had very few staff members on the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, so she used to have to do double duty. But she was always there and did a great job and I appreciated her service so much to me and to our committee and to our subcommittee.

And then she joined the majority, as I did, and we cut the staff dramatically, eliminated many positions, so our staffers had to work even harder. But she was one of those people who cared about this Congress and who cared about this country and whose efforts will be missed.

I just want to wish Marti's family my sympathy, express the sympathy on behalf of our committee and the subcommittee and this Congress to her family and remember her in this hour.

THE CHURCH INSURANCE PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind this House of the continuing threat to our Nation's sacred houses of worship.

Reverend J. Linzie Whitmill recently contacted me to say that his insurance

company is threatening to cancel his church's fire protection policy. Mr. Speaker, Reverend Whitmill and his congregation have not been negligent in minimizing the risk of fire, nor have they been negligent in paying their insurance premiums.

How then is it that this model insurance client is facing cancellation of the insurance that provides his congregation financial and emotional security and peace of mind? Apparently, the insurance company feels threatened by the recent plague of church arson. This injustice must be stopped.

Before we adjourn, I urge this Congress to approve H.R. 3830, the Church Insurance Protection Act [CIPA] to guarantee insurance protection for our churches. America's churches cannot wait until next year for passage of this bill.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOLEY of Oregon). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

MEMBERS SHOULD LEARN THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, we have seen a good deal of hand-wringing and posturing these past few days on this floor and in the editorial pages of our Nation's major and minor newspapers about the ethics process. I guess that is to be expected, given that we are deep into the blatant partisan election-year politicking that often overtakes us every 2 years. And I suppose I should not be surprised that editorial writers have not studied the rule book of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct or of this House, and, therefore, often write pieces that misstate or confuse facts.

But I do expect more from Members of this institution, all of whom are bound by the rules of this House and all of whom have an obligation to improve in its credibility, not attempt to tear it further down.

The fact is, however, that many of my friends on the other side of the aisle seem not to have read and understood the rules of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct as prescribed in this little blue book. These rules clearly state that we on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct are not permitted to do what my friends are so desperately trying to get us to do, and that is release information before our process is complete.

Now, I have said before and I say again that I have long believed that the current process, as prescribed by