

This morning, Sharon also announced that as a sign of good faith, he plans to release 400 Palestinian prisoners. This is in addition to the 500 prisoners freed in February as part of an agreement between the two sides.

I would urge President Bush to be firm in his meeting with Abbas on Thursday that any support of terrorism will not be tolerated, that these next couple months will be critical if the peace process is to continue, the disengagement, and the upcoming Palestinian elections must go smoothly.

Mr. Speaker, I would like all of my colleagues to be cautiously optimistic about the situation in Israel. These initial steps are heartening, but the words must be met with action.

I had the opportunity almost two years ago to go to Israel at the time when there was a cease-fire and there was relative peace. At that time Mahmoud Abbas was the Prime Minister, and I realized very quickly that he was not in a position of authority and that it was not likely that the peace process was going to continue or that the cease-fire was going to continue. Very quickly, after myself and the rest of the congressional delegation left, the violence began again, Abbas ceased to be the Prime Minister, and we went through essentially another year, over a year of violence, if not longer than a year.

I hope that this time is different. I hope that because of the overtures and the steps that Ariel Sharon has taken, that we can see now a situation where Abbas is ready to negotiate and to end the violence. But I do think it is incumbent upon President Bush to make that point, that we are not going to see peace, we are not going to see any new negotiations, we are not going to see any roadmap unless Abbas and the Palestinian Authority immediately take steps to ensure that there is peace and that violence does not continue.

□ 2300

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND). Pursuant to clause 12(a), of rule I, the House is in recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 p.m.), the House stood in recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 0010

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PUTNAM) at 12 o'clock and 10 minutes a.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1815, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a priv-

ileged report (Rept. No. 109-96) on the resolution (H. Res. 293) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1815) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2006, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CLEAVER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DUNCAN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, May 25.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GIBBONS, for 5 minutes, May 25. (The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 188. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2005 through 2011 to carry out the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program; in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 11 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until today, Wednesday, May 25, 2005, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2106. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting a report presenting the specific amounts of staff-years of technical effort to be allocated for each defense Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) during FY 2006, pursuant to Public Law 108-287, section 8028(e); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2107. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a report to Congress on the use of Aviation Career Incentive Pay (ACIP) and Aviation Continuation Pay (ACP), pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 301a(a) 37 U.S.C. 301b(i); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2108. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the annual report on operations of the National Defense Stockpile (NDS), detailing NDS operations during FY 2004 and providing information with regard to the acquisition, upgrade, and disposition of NDS materials, as well as the financial status of the NDS Transaction Fund for FY 2004, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 98h-2; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2109. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to Section 9010 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Pub. L. 108-287); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2110. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the final report on the Department's Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) program for FY 2004, pursuant to Public Law 105-388 42 U.S.C. 13211-13219; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2111. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold under a contract to New Zealand, Israel, and Canada (Transmittal No. DDTC 002-05), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

2112. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to Section 23(g) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), notification concerning the request for the Government of Israel to cash flow finance a Direct Commercial Contract (DCC) for the procurement of Engineering, Development and Production of Hardware Components for a Digital Army Program (DAP) for the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) Command Control Division Headquarters; to the Committee on International Relations.

2113. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, a correction to Transmittal No. 05-10 of 26 April 2005, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Israel for defense articles and services; to the Committee on International Relations.

2114. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31,