

The good news is that the public outcry is being heard. Already the full committee has voted to reverse its decision to completely eliminate the advanced funding for fiscal year 2008. That reversal is an important step to provide certainty and continuity, to give a hint of stability for Public Broadcasting and keeping our commitments.

There will be an amendment to reverse the \$100 million rescission for fiscal 2006, and I strongly support that effort. In the meantime, I would urge my colleagues to become involved with the public broadcasting issues, to join over 100 other Members of Congress who are members of the Public Broadcasting Caucus and engage in its activities. It is important to show the same bipartisan support for public broadcasting as we have in other controversial matters in recent weeks. The American public deserves no less.

RECOGNIZING THE POSITIVE IMPLICATIONS OF CAFTA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 1 minute.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, it is critical for us to recognize the positive, far-reaching implications of CAFTA.

CAFTA is not solely about trade, it is about lives. It is about promoting U.S. national security objectives in our own backyard. By strengthening our allies, our neighboring countries, we are helping to strengthen our own efforts to fight the scourge of terrorism. Free markets and economic development are the best weapons against tyranny, against poverty and against disease.

CAFTA will promote democratic governance, thus advancing stability and consolidating freely-elected governments who are allies in the war against drugs and the War on Terror. Failure to pass CAFTA in Congress will cripple our efforts to freeze out narco-terrorist gangs and others who threaten our national security.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support CAFTA. A vote for CAFTA is a vote for our U.S. national security interests.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 9 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Your love is consistent and deep. You must have a way of remaining in love with us, even when we neglect Your presence or disobey Your commands. Otherwise, how could You forgive us so readily and always hope for our deeper conversion of heart.

Be present to the Members of the House of Representatives and all who work for this noble institution today. Hold out a strong hand to those who are weak or fainthearted. Be patient with the bold and the arrogant.

By Your Spirit, enable all to be patient, forgiving, and understanding to one another so they may be ready to receive the same gracious gifts from You in the same measure they have treated others.

You alone are the lasting judge of all, and the full measure of goodness to which no other can be compared, for You are Lord, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF OUR TROOPS

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, over 9 million innocent human beings were killed in the Nazi death camps. Over 3 million were killed in the Soviet gulags under Joseph Stalin. Over 1.5 million were killed by the Khmer Rouge under Pol Pot in Cambodia.

And how many have been killed at Guantanamo Bay? Zero.

But that has not stopped a Democratic leader, a Democratic Senator, and the Democratic Party from drawing parallels between what is happening in Guantanamo and the horrors of Hitler or Stalin or Pol Pot.

That message belies the suffering of the victims of those terrible atrocities. That message discourages our brave men and women in uniform, when na-

tional leaders compare their actions to those of the Nazis. That kind of rhetoric incites our enemies and hinders our efforts in the war on terror.

I challenge every Democratic leader to denounce these ridiculous comparisons. Show our enemies that we are united in our actions against terror, and show our troops that we honor their service.

CONGRATULATING SECRETARY OF STATE CONDOLEEZA RICE FOR STANDING UP FOR DEMOCRACY

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice for standing up for democratic principle, for finally saying what needed to be said. During a speech in Cairo yesterday, Secretary Rice criticized Middle East leaders for failing to encourage democracy.

My colleagues in this Chamber know well that when I disagree with this administration, I let my opinion be known. I disagree with their proposals for Social Security, their stewardship of the economy, their plan for the Iraq war and occupation, and how they treat critics. Yet, on advocating Middle East Democracy, I do not disagree. I agree with the Secretary of State and her comments.

Unfortunately, when it comes to our allies in the Middle East, America too often turns a blind eye to their failings of leadership. We rightfully denounce countries with repressive regimes like those in Iran and Syria, but others such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia receive a pass.

Yesterday, Secretary Rice spoke up on behalf of America; she represented the best of American ideals and our steadfast belief in basic human rights and democracy. This will serve America well as we battle for the hearts and minds of the Muslim world.

Madam Speaker, I do not often agree with this administration, but I know a good thing when I see it. When it comes to democracy and all that comes with democracy, no one gets a pass.

LEAVE A GOOD LEGACY: STOP CLONING NOW

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, every Member of this body is mindful of his or her legacy, and that is good.

There is an issue facing this Nation that should cause us all to consider that legacy carefully. The issue is human cloning, and it is closer to reality than we think. We learned that from Korean scientists last month, but we have the ability to stop it here in America before it is too late.

So Members of this body should ask themselves, Do you want your legacy

to be that we stood by as scientists started cloning human beings in America? Members leaving this body after next year should ask, Do you want to tell your grandkids some day that you had a chance to act to stop cloning but did nothing?

If we do nothing, Madam Speaker, cloning will come, and this Congress will be judged not by job numbers or a national energy plan or highway dollars, but by our failure to stop human cloning. I do not want that on my conscience; no one does, but our lack of action will make us responsible for its arrival.

Let us leave a good legacy, a legacy that guards the uniqueness of life. Let us act to stop human cloning.

UNDERMINING OF AMERICAN VALUES

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, the Bush administration and Republican leaders are engaged in a pathetic attempt to make Senator DICK DURBIN's condemnation of the use of torture at Guantanamo Bay an issue.

As a result of the revelations of conditions at Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib, the Bagram Prison in Afghanistan, the Republicans owe the American people, our soldiers, and veterans an apology for undermining American values such as the rule of law, for putting our troops at greater risk around the world, and for cutting veterans health benefits when they come home, and failing to provide our troops the equipment they need to protect themselves on the battlefield.

Clearly the Republicans are reading the polls and watching their approval as well as the approval for the misguided war plummet. So in a desperate attempt to shift the blame, they want to shoot the messenger.

Everyone knows what Senator DURBIN meant, and he was right. The United States of America stands for the rule of law, not for torture. It is this administration and the Republican leaders, certainly not our soldiers and not Senator DURBIN, who has tarnished the image of our great country.

THE REAL GUANTANAMO BAY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in response to the ill-timed and ill-conceived remarks by the Democratic Senator. The Senator's deplorable comparison of American servicemen and women at Guantanamo Bay to Nazi Soviet gulags and to Pol Pot are injurious to our military and provide a propaganda victory to our enemy.

Sadly, the words of this United States Senator now serve to give aid and comfort to Islamic terrorists. The senior Senator from Illinois seems to

have taken poetic license with whatever document he has failed to produce as evidence of his allegations.

The brave men and women of America's military put their lives on the line each day to meet the demands of Gitmo's prisoners. These al Qaeda and Taliban detainees are being treated consistent with the principles of the Geneva Conventions and, most importantly, yet seemingly overlooked by some Democrats, consistent with military necessity.

Intelligence gained at Gitmo has and will continue to prevent terrorist attacks and help save American lives. I am hopeful that certain Democratic Senators will quit being a part of the problem and start being part of the solution.

Because of Gitmo, the U.S. is learning organizational structure of terrorist groups, the extent of terrorist presence in the world, Al Qaeda's pursuit of WMDs, methods of recruitment and location of centers, terrorist skillsets, and how seemingly legitimate financial operations are used to disguise and fund terrorist operations.

GUANTANAMO BAY

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, recent comments alleging mistreatment of prisoners at Guantanamo are not only insulting, they are wrong.

The 545 prisoners being interrogated at Guantanamo are properly housed and fed, they receive medical care, and have their religious needs met.

A U.S. Senator made statements last week that were clearly imprudent and unwise, comparing treatment of detainees to acts of genocide and repression. Millions of people died in the camp cited by the Senator, and no one has died at Guantanamo. While American troops are busy attacking and defeating terrorism, our tax dollars are providing Korans, prayer rugs, and healthy meals to the terrorist prisoners at Guantanamo. It is not Pol Pot at Guantanamo, it is pot roast. To purport that there is a moral equivalency between the acts of dictatorial madmen of the 20th century and the treatment of detainees at Guantanamo does a disservice to history, to our national honor, and to each member of our military who risk their lives every day preserving the privileges we enjoy.

I call on the Senator to talk to the guards at Guantanamo and get the facts straight. Then he should apologize to them, to the rest of our soldiers, and to the American people.

REPUBLICANS ATTEMPT TO DIVERT ATTENTION AWAY FROM WAR IN IRAQ

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, these attacks against the gentlewoman from California (Leader PELOSI) and Senator DURBIN are nothing more than an attempt by the congressional Republicans to divert attention away from the war in Iraq to comments made by two of our Democratic colleagues.

Republicans know that the war in Iraq is not going well right now. They have an administration that is clearly not leveling with the American people. Earlier this month, Vice President CHENEY told a national audience that the insurgency in Iraq was in its last throes. Well, we all know that is not the case.

I think Washington columnist Richard Cohen got it right this morning when he wrote that these partisan attacks are the latest in a series of attacks by Washington Republicans to silence the opposing views. Cohen wrote, "The contempt the Bush administration has shown for world opinion and international law, not to mention American traditions of jurisprudence, is costing us plenty. We are not the Soviet Union, and we are not Nazi Germany, and DICK DURBIN did not intend to say we are. His detractors have to know that. Their intention, however, is not to answer criticism, but to silence a critic."

Democrats will not be silenced.

ONE WEEK LATER AND STILL NO APOLOGY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the people of Illinois and the United States are rightfully concerned about the recent smear and slander made by Democrat Whip Senator DICK DURBIN.

After Democrat Whip DURBIN likened U.S. troops to murderous dictators, columnist John Kass of the Chicago Tribune called on Senator DURBIN to apologize to the Nation for his irresponsible and dangerous comments. Kass wrote, "Hitler, Stalin and Pol Pot murdered roughly 50 million people. At Guantanamo, suspected terrorists have been made uncomfortable, including a minion of Osama bin Laden's, but I haven't heard of anyone being killed there. We're at war, Senator."

The people of Illinois deserve a Senator who accurately represents their strong appreciation for the men and women who bravely serve our country at home and abroad. Democrat Whip DURBIN made his reckless comments almost a week ago, and he has still not apologized for his comments. As the second ranking Democrat in the U.S. Senate, DURBIN should take responsibility for his comments and immediately apologize to the U.S. troops and American families. I am grateful my son served in Iraq.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.