

express my appreciation to Mr. CARTER, to Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. BURGESS for joining us during this hour.

Mr. MURPHY. Actually, I think we are out of time, so I yield back the floor here and thank the gentleman for leading this.

Mr. GINGREY. I thank my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield back whatever remaining time we have and look forward to the next session.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. INGLES of South Carolina). The Chair would remind all members to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to the television audience.

#### 30-SOMETHING WORKING GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for half of the remaining time until midnight.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We appreciate the opportunity to be here again representing the 30-Something Working Group. I want to thank Leader PELOSI for the opportunity, our favorite uncle, BILL DELAHUNT, who is here from Massachusetts, also KENDRICK MEEK from Florida, DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ from Florida, who are also members of the working group and will be here in just a few minutes.

We want to welcome, Mr. Speaker, everyone to the first-ever 30-Something Live, in which we will be interacting not only with other Members of Congress here, not only with the audience, C-SPAN audience, but also with our friends in the blogosphere. And we will be interacting with them, reading e-mails that they will be sending to us, as we have been receiving e-mails from our constituents in our offices for years on Capitol Hill.

But this is the first time ever that there will be interaction between Members of Congress on the House floor and at the same time constituents and citizens of the United States of America having direct access to this Chamber. So we are very, very excited about introducing 30-Something Live. Being the 30-Something Group, we are trying to take our communications to the next level, trying to reach out to the American people, because we have said for quite some time that if we are going to solve problems in this country, that we have to engage the best and brightest talent that is out in the country in order to do this.

So we are not only going to answer your questions, Mr. Speaker. We are going to take suggestions as to issues that need to be addressed, ideas that folks may have at home. And this is a pretty exciting time for all of us.

We have been joined here with our friend from Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN

SCHULTZ. And this is going to be the first ever. So this is pretty exciting stuff.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. This is really amazing, and I guess, you know, it would not be a surprise. It was an excellent suggestion on your part, Mr. RYAN; and we, I think, are trying to make our generational working group here innovative. I mean, I think we all, as individual Members of Congress basically make our highest priority the ability and desire for us to interact directly with our constituents. And the one place that we are generally not able to do that is on the floor when we are here debating the very issues that impact everyone in this country.

We can interact fairly well with constituents in committee because they can obviously testify in front of us in committee meetings. We obviously interact with constituents in our offices. But once we are here, this is a very insular environment. This opportunity tonight for us to kick this off, 30-something Live, and interact with people who will be submitting questions to us online will be historic and exciting.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Now, you and I, we are ready to rock and roll on this. And when Mr. MEEK gets here, he is going to be ready to rock and roll. But we may have to break it down for our favorite uncle.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Maybe we need a glossary for Mr. DELAHUNT.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. We can break it down.

Mr. DELAHUNT. If I can just interrupt, I heard that in my absence the other night that there were some comments that were made about my lack of, well, made about my absence. Could you explain that to me?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. I cannot remember exactly which one of us said something, but it was to the effect that we had to tuck you in bed and make sure that you were getting your proper amount of rest.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Well, I am part of the 30-Something Working Group. I might be a two-fer, though. You know, I mean, I would suggest that in my case you get two for one.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. The only difference in your definition of 30-something is maybe it is 30-something by decade.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Something.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. And we are 30-something by year.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Exactly. It is a very loose term.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. It is very loose. Adaptable. But it is good to see that you got your nap in this afternoon.

Mr. DELAHUNT. I did. I am rested up and looking forward to participating tonight.

□ 2230

I do concur with everything you said and, again, I want to acknowledge your commitment, your creativity, and the fact that this is an effort to allow peo-

ple to participate in our conversation, because we want to know what they are interested in, and my understanding is there has been a number of questions posed. Maybe the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) or the gentleman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) could tell me what the number is.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. I believe over 400 e-mails.

Mr. DELAHUNT. That is going to take some time.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Well, we are not going to be able to get through them all, so we will lay down some basic ground rules here. We will not be able to get through them all, obviously, Mr. Speaker. We are going to have to take a few and maybe expound on them, but we are going to continue, Mr. Speaker, to make our arguments. We are going to lay out the case for what we believe needs to happen in the country, what direction we need to go in, and as we receive information from the public, use that to supplement our arguments that we have been making here.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. This is not the last time we are going to do this. We are kicking this effort off. So even if we do not get to all the questions tonight, which with over 400 we obviously will not be able to in the 60 minutes, we will be doing this again.

Mr. DELAHUNT. This is simply an inaugural effort. It will be interesting.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. I think it is important for us to recognize that we want to make cohesive, coherent arguments, and we are asking, Mr. Speaker, other Members in this chamber and the citizens around the country to help us with that, make points that we feel that maybe they feel need to be made.

Before we get into today, before we get rocking and rolling here, the big issue now is the pre-war intelligence. The President has dusted off this same old speech that he has given hundreds of times already in a hundred different viewing areas regarding the pre-war intelligence. The President has said that anybody accusing the administration of having "manipulated the intelligence and misled the American people was giving aid and comfort to the enemy." So if you question the pre-war intelligence, you are giving aid to the enemy. So it seems like the President is asking us as Members of the United States Congress not to even question any of the intelligence or any of the drum beat leading up to the war.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, if I can, if the gentleman would yield, what I would like to do is try to emphasize that these questions have been posed by Republicans as well as Democrats regarding intelligence, whether it was manipulated, or whether it was used in a selective fashion.

Now, I am going to begin by quoting the former Secretary of State, Colin Powell, who back in June of 2004 in an interview had this to say about the issue of intelligence: In recent weeks, Powell has apologized for at least 2