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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 13, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable PHIL GINGREY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God of the universe, we praise You and thank You as the 109th Congress gathers to resume its work in serving this Nation. Grant all the Members of this assembly wisdom, prudence and courage as these words of Moses are taken to heart and You pour forth Your spirit upon two new Members as well:

“If you will only obey the Lord your God by diligently observing all the commandments that I enjoin on you today, the Lord your God will raise you high above all the nations of the Earth. Every blessing shall come upon you and overwhelm you, if only you obey the Lord your God.”

With renewed faith, we place all our trust in You, and give You glory, Lord, by our words and deeds 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 Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE 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.

NO SUBSTITUTE FOR VICTORY

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, as the war wages on in the deserts of Iraq, there is talk of a new direction. There are only three options: one, retreat because the fight is a bit rough-going. Two, stalemate. A Vietnam-type politically correct draw. Three, victory.

Mr. Speaker, there is no substitute for victory. Let the generals finish the job, win and bring our troops home. Abandoning Iraq is not in the best interest of the United States. If we sneak out now, who is to say the Iranians and their rogue dictator will not come in and make Iraq a puppet nation of their radicalism.

Confront the armed militias who murder Iraqis in the name of religion, like al-Sa'dr's Mahdi army. The thugs who roam the streets are not engaged in civil war, but terror and anarchy and murder.

The question I was asked when I was in Iraq by Iraqi citizens was, is America going to leave like in 1991 before the war is won? While American politicians are debating that question, turn the U.S. military loose on the enemy and let our troops decide that question with total victory.

And that's just the way it is.

AMERICA'S NEED FOR FUEL INDEPENDENCE

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, at one time the United States of America overwhelmingly was an agrarian country, but today only 2 percent of the population are farmers. Yet those 2 percent feed all 100 percent of us and a great portion of the rest of the world as well.

Now, when it comes to energy, however, we import 60 percent; yet America consumes 25 percent of the world's oil. We need, for the sake of national security, fuel independence. In 2004, we bought over \$100 billion of oil from non-democratic countries, countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Russia, Venezuela, countries that are not always with the United States on a lot of matters and particularly on their votes in the U.N.

When we do this, we are funding both sides in the war on terrorism. We need to move towards alternatives: biofuel, ethanol, hydrogen. These technologies are already out there; we just need to have a national commitment to have fuel independence.

I have proposed a bill, H.R. 4409, which is cosponsored by Mr. ENGEL of New York, that moves us in that direction in 20 years. I urge my colleagues to join us and take a good serious look at fuel independence.

CONGRATULATING THE HOUSTON DYNAMO

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, soccer anyone? Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Houston Dynamo, located in the 18th Congressional District, who are now the 2006

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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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