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House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Eternal Source of life and human freedom, unite those here present with all the Members of the United States House of Representatives in this moment of prayer.

Help them to be fully engaged in their work today as they shape laws that will make this country stronger in integrity and solidarity.

Inspire them to reach out with policies of compassion to those most in need of society's concern.

May our military sons and daughters be protected from harm and remain focused on doing what is right and just.

Assist the poor and the sick, especially those who are disabled or uninsured.

By Your love and presence, claim us as Your very own, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) come

forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DENT 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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE BRAVE AND FALLEN MEMBERS OF THE U.S. MILITARY

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, as we prepare to mark the 5-year anniversary of the war in Iraq, I would like to take a moment and offer a moment of silence for the brave and the fallen, including 19 members of my unit, the 82nd Airborne Division, who never made it home.

On this somber occasion, we are united behind our troops. We honor the memories of thousands, and we pledge our support for those still fighting for our freedom.

The SPEAKER. All Members will stand and observe a moment of silence.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3547

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 3547.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 10 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF AN AMERICAN HERO, MR. JAMES W. MURDY OF ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 90th birthday of an American hero, my constituent, Mr. James W. Murdy.

James Murdy wanted to serve his country in the United States military and learn a trade. He joined the Navy in 1940 and soon thereafter served as an electrician aboard the USS *Helena*, a St. Louis-class light cruiser stationed at Pearl Harbor. On December 7, 1941, shortly after James began serving on the *Helena*, the ship was hit by a torpedo dropped by a lone Japanese torpedo plane. Thankfully, James Murdy survived the attack that killed 20 of his fellow sailors.

James Murdy then attended the Naval Mine Warfare School and worked as a minesweeper for the next 3 years. He was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1946 after achieving the rank of chief electrician's mate, the highest rank he could obtain as an enlisted man.

Shortly after being discharged from the Navy, James wed Mary Robb, with whom he had three children; James Murdy, Rosemary Murdy-Haber, and Patricia Murdy-Cressman. He still lives in Allentown, Pennsylvania and loves rebuilding or constructing items from scratch and being called upon to speak about his experiences at Pearl Harbor. He is an ardent fan of the Philadelphia Phillies and Eagles and loves spending time with his family, including his granddaughter and step-granddaughter.

Mr. Murdy served our county with valor and distinction, and we should honor his service, his dedication, and his allegiance to our great Nation. It is my honor to join with his many friends

□ 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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