

crushing al Qaeda in al Anbar." So we won. You won. Everybody that wears the uniform of the United States, whether you carried a base plate for mortars, drove a truck in those difficult convoy runs, were a nurse in one of the many medical clinics and facilities we had, if you were a medic in some of the difficult battles, maybe you were a support troop, maybe you flew aircraft or a crew in aircraft, whether it was a C-130 or a tactical fighter, what you did was of enormous value to the United States of America.

You know, I'm reminded of great stories that have emanated from Iraq. I'm reminded of the battle of Fallujah when General John Kelley was the assistant division commander, and at the same time his son, Robert, was a private first class in a rifle squad fighting door-to-door at close range. And when it was over, Robert was the only one in his platoon who had not been wounded.

I'm reminded of Jason Fry, Captain Jason Fry who, going up through the Nassiriyah choke-point was hit by an RPG that took off his right arm; and when the medics were working on him and one of them asked, "Are you right handed or left handed," he said, "I'm left handed now. You tell my men I'm okay." That was the spirit of the American service personnel who served in Iraq.

And remember when they went into Iraq, we had intelligence to the effect that they would use poison gas against our troops because we'd seen them use poison gas against their own people killing thousands of them. And yet the American service personnel persevered and moved ahead into that storm of unknown quality.

And because of them, we have won in Iraq. Yes, we have won in Iraq. And don't let any left-wing journalist come up and tell you that we haven't won. It's true that there's no surrender on the Battleship Missouri. There's not going to be one in this war against terror. But if you look at the military missions that we have—and it's also true we haven't turned Iraq into Iowa. That was never the mission. And if somebody says the other guys won, you tell them to produce Saddam Hussein.

But what we have done, we've taken out the dictator and his forces, we've installed an elected government, and we've now installed a security apparatus, including an army built from scratch by the Americans capable of protecting that government. Nobody is guaranteed freedom and perpetuity, including this country.

But the American military mission in Iraq has been accomplished. You

brought us victory. You, the more than 1 million Americans who served in uniform in that theater. And for that, Mr. Speaker, I think the American people owe a huge "thank you" to those great men and women, to their families who endured those separations, for all of the difficult burdens that they've carried ever since March of 2003 when we took that first unit across the line into that country known as Iraq.

Thank you to everyone who wears the uniform in that operation. Thank you for winning.

Mr. Speaker, I would yield back the balance of my time.

#### CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2008 AT PAGE H10678

#### APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 491 of the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1098), amended by section 494C of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (P.L. 110-315), and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for a term of 4 years:

Upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader:

Ms. Helen Benjamin, Vallejo, California

Upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader:

Mr. Anthony Guida, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

#### CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2008, AT PAGE H10860

#### APPOINTMENTS TO CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT PANEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 125(c)(1) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-343), and the order of the House of January 4, 2008, the Chair announces the November 14, 2008, joint appointment by the Speaker and the Majority Leader of the Senate and appointment by the Speaker on the part of the House to the Congressional Oversight Panel:

Joint appointment:

Mr. Damon Silvers, Maryland

Speaker's appointment:

Mr. Richard H. Neiman, New York

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ELLISON (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of medical reasons.

#### 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. CUMMINGS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCGOVERN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LAMPSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, December 11 and 12.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, today, December 11 and 12.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, today, December 11 and 12.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today and December 11.

Mr. DREIER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HUNTER, 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. 3731. An act to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (division A of Public Law 110-343) to provide the Special Inspector General with additional authorities and responsibilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 440, 110th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until Saturday, January 3, 2009, at 11 a.m.

#### EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for speaker-authorized official travel during the first, second and third quarters of 2008, pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows: