

who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me.'"

On this 241st year of our Army's founding, I want to be one of the first to wish our United States Army the best and to say thank you and happy birthday. If you see a soldier anywhere today, wish the Army a happy birthday.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 22 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Al Riddley, The Springs of Bonita Church, Bonita Springs, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, grant us the wisdom and vision to comprehend the common belief that all people shall know peace as well as justice, righteousness, freedom, and security, with equity for every culture, color, and commitment.

Remind us of the past victories while recognizing the present challenges so as to strengthen our future as a country.

Lord, on this Flag Day, as it is honored and displayed around the world, may we take pride as Americans in being reminded of the significance of our democracy.

Give guidance to us as we are diligent in our responsibilities as citizens to guarantee that freedom is enjoyed by all who claim this country as home.

In our Allegiance, we witness to "one nation under God" as a promise of what others in this world can yet become. For this, we Americans stand together today, proud and strong, 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 his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LANGEVIN 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND AL RIDDLEY

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, during morning-hour debate, I spoke about Al Riddley, who is from Springfield, Illinois, which is my hometown. He also is my brother-in-law. My sister from Springfield, Illinois, Lynn Callahan Riddley is also here. I want to welcome them to the Nation's Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for your courteousness to my sister and brother-in-law. I am grateful to you.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE FATHER OF FLAG DAY

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the father of Flag Day, Illinois' own Dr. Bernard Cigrand, on its 100th anniversary.

An immigrant and a teacher, Dr. Cigrand believed his students needed a symbol to instill a sense of national identity. He first celebrated our flag's birthday with his students on June 14, 1885, 108 years after its official adoption by Congress.

Thus began his life's work to create a National Flag Day. He wrote articles for magazines and newspapers. He gave lectures and wrote a book on the flag's importance. Soon, schools caught on, and more than 100,000 children participated in an Illinois celebration in 1894. Eventually, Dr. Cigrand moved to Batavia, Illinois, opened a dental practice and remained passionate in his efforts.

Finally, in 1916, President Wilson called for a nationwide observance. Seventeen years after Dr. Cigrand's 1932 passing, President Truman signed a law cementing June 14 as National Flag Day.

This 14th of June, the 14th Congressional District of Illinois celebrates Dr. Cigrand's dedication to our Nation's symbol, which gives hope and moves hearts throughout the world.

ORLANDO NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the tragic events over the weekend in Or-

lando defy comprehension. There is no way that reason can underlie this staggering loss of life, for the act itself flies in the face of reason.

My thoughts and prayers are with those who lost their lives and their families, and my thoughts and prayers are with those who were injured and are recovering from their wounds. This attack is the truest example of senseless violence and pure evil.

Today, we mourn as a Nation because we will not allow hate to invade our own hearts and minds. America is better than that.

But tomorrow, tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, and in the days and months to come, we can do something. We must do something. We must ensure that our LGBT brothers and sisters are welcomed by their communities, not subjected to discrimination. We must ensure that access to deadly weapons are sensibly controlled, and we must ensure that Congress no longer sits idly by while hate and violence continue to take innocent lives.

But, today, Mr. Speaker, we pray for Orlando, though we know our prayers, our thoughts, our moments of silence, they are not enough.

NAVAL STATION AT GUANTANAMO BAY

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

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, last week, The Washington Post reported that at least 12 former Guantanamo detainees, after being released, had gone on to lead and participate in attacks against Americans and allied forces in Afghanistan. And most troubling, Mr. Speaker, the report noted that these attacks cost American lives.

Mr. Speaker, the Obama administration's plan to shutter our detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and accelerate the transfer of detainees to foreign nations or even the United States is both misguided and extremely dangerous.

I am committed to preventing the closure of Guantanamo and the further transfer of detainees. Mr. Speaker, even one detainee returning to the battlefield is too many.

This administration needs to acknowledge the reality of the threat posed by these detainees and abandon their ill-advised attempt to close Guantanamo Bay.

KEEP DANGEROUS WEAPONS OUT OF THE HANDS OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, our hearts are broken, and we are angry. The deadliest mass shooting in our history, 49 young lives ended in a place that served as a refuge from hate, a place of love and safety and community.