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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOWENTHAL).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 25, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ALAN S. LOWENTHAL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

SOCIALISTS' BIG LIE PROPAGANDA EXPOSED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, a "big lie" is a political propaganda technique made famous by Germany's National Socialist German Workers' Party. But more on that later.

For more than 2 years, Socialist Democrats and their fake news media allies, CNN, MSNBC, The New York Times, Washington Post, and countless others, have perpetrated the biggest

political lie, con, scam, and fraud in American history.

Attorney General Barr's executive summary of Mueller's report has publicly confirmed what many of us have known for a long time. The accusations of collusion between President Trump and Russia in the 2016 elections are nothing but a big lie.

The Mueller investigation was massive. It "employed 19 lawyers who were assisted by a team of approximately 40 FBI agents, intelligence forensic accountants, and other professional staff. The special counsel issued more than 2,800 subpoenas, executed nearly 500 search warrants, obtained more than 230 orders for communication records . . . and interviewed approximately 500 witnesses."

After tens of millions of wasted American tax dollars, the finding is succinct: "The report does not recommend any further indictments, nor did the special counsel obtain any sealed indictments that have yet to be made public. . . ."

The investigation "did not establish that members of the Trump campaign conspired or coordinated with the Russian Government in its election interference activities."

The Mueller report vindicates President Trump and his 2016 campaign from the Socialists' baseless, reckless, and false big lie charges of Russian election collusion.

Equally important, there is a converse to President Trump's vindication.

Mueller's report confirms that Socialist Democrats and their fake news media allies made up nonexistent allegations and engaged in the most sordid of fake news, big lie propaganda, scam, fraud, and smear campaign in American history.

Socialist Democrats and their fake news media allies were shameless, shameless in their big lie scam that has inspired hatred against President

Trump and violence against Americans who support America's foundational principles.

If Socialists and the fake news media had any honor, they would cleanse their souls and atone for their sins by uttering mea culpas and apologizing to the American people for the fraud and scam committed.

More likely, however, they will double down and propagate even more big lies, because doubling down is essential to big lie theory. In that vein, I quote from another Socialist who mastered big lie propaganda to a maximum and deadly effect.

"In the big lie, there is always a certain force of credibility; because the broad masses of a nation are always more easily corrupted in the deeper strata of their emotional nature than consciously or voluntarily; and thus in the primitive simplicity of their minds they more readily fall victims to the big lie than the small lie, since they themselves often tell small lies in little matters but would be ashamed to resort to large-scale falsehoods.

"It would never come into their heads to fabricate colossal untruths, and they would not believe that others could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously. Even though the facts which prove this to be so may be brought clearly to their minds, they will still doubt and waver and will continue to think that there may be some other explanation."

Who is this big lie master? That quote was in 1925 by a member of Germany's National Socialist German Workers' Party. That is right, Germany's Socialist Party, more commonly known as the Nazis. The author was Socialist Adolph Hitler in his book, "Mein Kampf".

Mr. Speaker, America can either learn from history or be doomed to repeat it.

When it comes to big lie political propaganda in America, as the Mueller

□ 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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report confirms, America's Socialists and their fake news media allies are experts and have no peers.

Regardless, America must reject their big lies or succumb to the danger that lurks and horrific damage that results.

NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on National Medal of Honor Day to recognize the recipients of our Nation's highest military distinction for acts above and beyond the call of duty.

Twenty-five Medal of Honor recipients hail from Arkansas. Their stories of self-sacrifice are not forgotten.

Today, we pay tribute to those individuals for their meticulous service, sacrifice, and heroism.

I would like to also recognize and thank Arkansas Boy Scout Donald J. Fitzgerald for his outstanding work to preserve the legacy of Medal of Honor recipients and their stories.

Over the last 3 years, Donald has visited the graves of over 160 Medal of Honor recipients, documenting several Medal of Honor recipients' stories and lives.

He chose to share with the world what he learned, and wrote a book about his travels titled, "Our Missions of Honor".

I applaud Donald for his initiative, his efforts, and dedication to all Medal of Honor recipients past and present.

We pray that their efforts may be long remembered by our citizens.

GULF WAR MEMORIAL

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two fellow Arkansans, Jeff Kurczek and Brenten Byrd, for their valiant efforts to memorialize the bravery and legacy of veterans who served in Operation Desert Storm.

Operation Desert Storm was one of the most successful operations in American military history. Over 700,000 Americans were deployed overseas to liberate Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's invasion. 383 Americans lost their lives in that conflict, including four Arkansans.

Last month, former Vice President Dick Cheney and others took part in the dedication of the future site for the National Operation Desert Storm Memorial located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Jeff, a Sherwood, Arkansas, accountant, served our country for the duration of the Gulf war and acts as the organization's treasurer and CFO.

Brent lives in Elm Springs, Arkansas, where he works with the Veteran's Affairs Department on the mental well-being of our veterans. He served honorably in the U.S. Marines and later in the U.S. Army during Desert Storm. He now acts as the organization's communications director.

I thank them for their service to our Nation and commend their good work and efforts to honor the brave men and women who took part in Operation Desert Storm.

VAN BUREN COUNTY WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the efforts of the committed professionals at Van Buren County and their determination to improve that community's health and well-being.

The Van Buren County Wellness Committee, founded by former County Judge Roger Hooper in 2017, seeks to create a bridge between local health resources, information, and initiatives to improve the health and well-being of the residents.

At present, three grant-funded health-awareness kiosks have been installed across the county featuring asset mapping of community health resources and county health initiatives.

These kiosks allow residents to find the best doctors and healthcare services within their communities, connecting individuals with the services they need, from food insecurity to mental health support and recovery.

I would like to extend a hand of gratitude and congratulations to Roger and the entire Van Buren County Wellness Committee for their worthwhile investment in the health of our citizens in that county.

WE MUST STAND WITH OUR FRIENDS IN ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, this past week, President Trump and Secretary Pompeo took a bold step to affirm Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights. I support this administration and our long-time friend and ally, Israel, in this fight to protect their homeland.

I have stood on the mountains of the Golan where Abraham and his nephew Lot parted ways some 4,000 years ago. I could hear the cannons and the missiles and the tanks just miles away in war-stricken Syria. We learned how, in a matter of hours during the Yom Kippur war of 1974, Syrian forces overran the Golan, jeopardizing both Israeli and American security.

This small range of mountains, less than 125 miles from Jerusalem, serves as a buffer from Israel and its many foes who desire nothing more than to wipe them off of the face of the Earth.

From the 3rd millennium B.C., the occupants of the Golan Heights have included the Amorites, Arameans, Israelites, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, the Israelites again, Alexander the Great, and the Roman Empire. In later centuries, Christians crusaded, Mongols ruled, and the Ottomans conquered the land.

Starting in 1885, Jewish families bought and lived on the land in the Golan Heights, and stayed there until

1920, when riots drove them out. For the next 40 years, the boundaries of this area were debated and defined by the French and the British.

We all know the State of Israel was born in 1948, and the Golan was mutually shared with neighboring countries. This, however, led to constant raids and civil unrest in the region and debate over a scarce item in the area, water.

Finally, in the 1960s, Syria ignored previous water agreements and attempted to divert water from Israel. This led to the armed War over Water, which was won by Israel in 1967, and pushed the Syrians out of the Golan, leaving Israel in control once again.

This is where most leftist naysayers will begin their history, as if Israel had no claim to the land in the first place or as if it never had been contested.

This matters for America for a variety of reasons. Set aside the fact that Israel is our most loyal and strategically vital ally in the Middle East. Let's look at Russia. Americans are rightly concerned about the cyber and geopolitical moves of that adversarial nation. The Golan, however, is an example of where those on the left are turning a blind eye.

Since the time of Peter the Great and Catherine the Great, Russia has sought a warm-water port in the Mediterranean and to stake their claim to land south of the Black Sea. Not only does Syria provide them both, it also presents an opportunity for Russia and their ally Iran, as the leaders have said, to wipe Israel off the map.

We cannot let this happen. We mustn't let this happen. We must continue to stand up to thugs like Putin and Assad, and with our friends in Israel.

THERE WAS NO COLLUSION

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, no collusion, no collusion, no collusion.

That is right. After 2 years, Mr. Speaker, let me say that again: there is no collusion.

After 2 years and a cost of more than \$25 million, that is \$50,000 a day spent on this witch hunt of taxpayer money, there was no collusion.

And indeed, there was no pot of gold at the end of the media's rainbow; nothing besides fool's gold yet again.

Mr. Speaker, how can you spend \$50,000 a day on an investigation?

As I think back, I may have been the first person in the Chamber to call this investigation for what it was: a witch hunt.

Now, I am not a lawyer, but Kansas common sense would suggest if there was no collusion, no corrupt intent by the President, and no crime committed, there would be absolutely no case for an obstruction of justice charge. But I am sure Kansas common sense is the last thing on the minds of some Members of Congress.

So now, during every waking hour for 675 straight days, Democrats and the media have had a field day smearing the President, his friends, and his family.