

gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH).

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 1456, introduced by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODE), would expand the boundary of the Booker T. Washington National Monument in Franklin County, Virginia, through the purchase from willing sellers of 15 acres adjacent to the existing monument.

Mr. Speaker, Booker T. Washington, perhaps the most notable African American educator of his day and founder of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, was born into slavery in 1856 on a 200-acre tobacco farm in southwestern Virginia. Today, the Booker T. Washington National Monument preserves and protects the birthplace and childhood home of Mr. Washington and interprets his life experiences and his significance in American history.

The monument is one-half mile from the rapidly growing commercial crossroads of Westlake Corner and commercial and residential development is visible from the park. Much of the farmland around the park is for sale, including the 15-acre proposed piece of property. If authorized and acquired, the 15-acre parcel of land would be added to the park's agricultural permit program in order to preserve the agricultural setting of the park.

The Park Service estimates the purchase and acquisition cost of the 15-acre parcel will be approximately \$400,000. The Park Service's Northeast Region has determined this project as its top land acquisition funding priority for fiscal year 2003.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is not controversial. It is supported by the majority and minority of the Committee on Resources, the administration and the surrounding communities in southwestern Virginia.

I urge an "aye" vote on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I would first like to associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), his closing remarks on H.R. 1384, establishing the Navajo Long Walk National Historic Trail.

On this bill, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1456, which would modify the boundary of the Booker T. Washington National Monument in southwestern Virginia, we are pleased to also be in a position to manage this bill. H.R. 1456 would include approximately 15 acres of adjacent agricultural land to the monument.

□ 1700

The bill authorizes the Secretary to acquire the property from willing sellers, using donated or appropriated

funds. It is our understanding that while this property has not been available previously, it is currently on the market. Seven of the 15 acres to be added were part of the original plantation on which Booker T. Washington was born, but addition of the entire parcel will protect the area from encroaching commercial development. This boundary adjustment was recommended by the most recent general management plan for the monument.

Mr. Speaker, Booker T. Washington is a significant figure in American history. As you have heard, born into slavery in 1856, he went on to found the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama in 1881 and is recognized as the leading African American educator of his time. He has left a legacy that continues to enrich the African American community and this Nation.

I am proud as a member of the Congressional Black Caucus and ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation, and Public Lands of the Committee on Resources to support the expansion of this national monument as a means to further protect Booker T. Washington's valuable legacy.

I want to thank and commend my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODE), for his work on this bill, and urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODE), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California (Chairman RADANOVICH) and the ranking member, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), for their support, and the support of the Committee on Resources for this legislation.

H.R. 1456 would expand the boundary of the Booker T. Washington National Monument located in Franklin County, Virginia. I am a native and lifelong resident of Franklin County, so I have some personal knowledge and familiarity with the monument and the surrounding area. I can attest to the rapid growth that the area has experienced over the last few years. The proximity of the monument to Smith Mountain Lake poses a real threat to the rural character and pastoral nature of the Booker T. Washington National Monument.

A 15-acre parcel of land adjacent to the monument has been put up for sale by the owner. The legislation would facilitate the purchase of this property and expand the monument boundary. It is important to note that 7 of the 15 acres were part of the original Burrough farm. With the encroaching development, I hope that we can act now to maintain the rural character of the Booker T. Washington National Monument before the opportunity is lost.

If one drives down Route 122 in Franklin County where this monument

is located, you can see the rapid growth and expansion on all sides of it. This 15 acres is in a high area which would preserve a good vista for the monument as it exists today. If we do not act right away, I am afraid the opportunity will be lost.

The 224-acre park is comprised of rolling hills, woodlands, fields, the Burrough homeplace, and two slave cabin sites. The park portrays Washington's rural life on a small tobacco farm and what it was like, and the rural character is critical to the park's interpretation of the life on such farms during the period just prior to the Civil War.

I hope that we can maintain the rural character of the Booker T. Washington National Monument. I believe that this is a worthwhile endeavor for the National Park Service, it is worthwhile for the memory of Booker T. Washington, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCHUGH). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1456.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2385, H.R. 1161, H.R. 1384 and H.R. 1456, the four bills just considered.

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

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2646, FARM SECURITY ACT OF 2001

Mr. DREIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-226) on the resolution (H. Res. 248) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2646) to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2011, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 5:30 p.m.

□ 1730

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON) at 5 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON
H.R. 2904, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2904) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. OLVER

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. OLVER moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 2904 insist on the House position regarding all items included in the House passed bill for overseas military construction.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON) will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER).

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I offer this motion to instruct as a bipartisan effort to help the men and women serving overseas in the defense of our country.

The motion is simple. It tells the House conferees to hold the line and support the overseas requests made by the President and those added in the House.

Mr. Speaker, September 11 has taught us that our men and women must be ready, wherever in the world they are stationed. The President requested almost \$900 million in military construction projects overseas. The committee carefully reviewed those projects, and we have supported them. It meets needs for barracks, for maintenance facilities, for runways for our air forces, for warehousing, family housing, barracks, all of those. It all will make substantial contributions to our readiness.

But the House has added, in addition, several items. Through the leadership of the chairman, he and I have had an opportunity to visit several of the bases that are involved in this. Members of the subcommittee joined us,

and other Members of the House joined us in that. We have directly visited and can bear witness to the severe inadequacy of some of these facilities. The total of that is less than 1 percent of this military construction budget as it was passed through the House. They are all very badly needed projects, as both the chairman and I can attest.

Let me just give a couple of examples.

In Japan, actually in Okinawa, which is where most of our forces in Japan are, there is a what-was-never-adequate facility for the training of our Army Special Forces in urban warfare. It is now utterly worn out and virtually unusable. That is additionally in this legislation.

In Korea, there is a barracks replacement for singles in Korea. The conditions of housing in Korea up and down the line are well known as being abysmal. Families avoid, if at all possible, deployment in Korea, so the vast majority of our deployments are in fact singles, and their housing is anywhere from rundown to positively disgusting. So that has been funded in our bill.

Then, as another example, we have a modernization of the base engineering complex for engineering and maintenance, and all of the operational facilities at our largest Air Force base. In the process of that modernization, which is in Korea at our main air base, which is at the front line of protection for our substantial forces in Korea, that will allow hundreds of housing units to then be brought within the perimeter of the protection of that base.

Those are all extremely important things to be done, and they need to be done in this legislation. Mr. Speaker, they are badly needed. They are in direct support of the missions that we know will come, even if September 11 had not happened.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote in favor of this motion to instruct.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate my ranking member for working with me on this bill, and working with me and the other members of the Committee on this issue.

We have seen what we ask our troops to do. We have asked them to do a lot of things for us, especially at this time. Today, the U.S. is blessed with the most well-trained military forces in our history. Soldiers, sailors, Marines, and airmen are ready and willing to accept any challenge presented by our adversaries.

Yet, for all their training, many of these facilities they work in are decrepit and falling apart. There is an increasing concern that the performance of our troops could be jeopardized by the conditions of the buildings in which they work.

As the Quadrennial Defense Review points out, the defense infrastructure

has suffered from underfunding and neglect. Facility sustainment has been funded at only 75 to 80 percent of the requirement, resulting in a backlog of repair bills estimated at almost \$60 billion. Likewise, the average rate of replacing existing facilities is 192 years, at a rate that is unacceptable, particularly with the technological changes needed to deal with today's security threats.

The result of neglecting the facilities is the decaying infrastructure that is less and less capable of supporting our troops, sailors, Marines, and airmen. The infrastructure needs of the facilities in the U.S. are important, but no less important than the infrastructure needs in bases located overseas.

Like bases in the U.S., there are antiterrorism and force protection measures we must take at all bases overseas. Similarly, housing must be decent, safe, and working conditions must not jeopardize the troops' performance.

One of the things that happened in our committee, for the first time that I can remember, is that three of the CINCs, General Ralston, General Blair, and General Schwartz, all came in and testified that overseas MILCON, and especially housing, was their number one priority on their list of priorities for their troops.

This is a time when we ask young people to go out and put their lives on the line. They should do that, and they will do that, with great honor and dignity for this country. This country owes them the same dignity in the places where they work every day and where they live.

So I want to thank my ranking member for putting up this motion, and I hope every Member of this House supports this motion.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER).

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed until 6 p.m.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 6 p.m.