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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Monsignor Michael J. Bransfield, Rector, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

God, our Creator, You formed us in Your own image and likeness and call on us to act in righteousness and faith.

Bless our Nation and sustain it by Your grace.

Make it an example and promoter of harmony and goodwill.

Give the Members of this legislative body wisdom, prudence, and courage in conducting its affairs in service to the American people.

Let its actions today and always be inclined toward true justice and marked by diligent, noble initiative.

Preserve our troops at home and abroad, keep them safe from harm in their efforts to protect our freedom and welfare.

Grant peace and mutual respect to the peoples of the Middle East; may they enjoy both security in their lands and serenity in their hearts.

Finally, we thank You for Your merciful attention to the supplications offered throughout the United States on this national day of prayer.

We are grateful for Your continuing sustenance and desirous of fulfilling Your will for peace and prosperity in our Nation and the world. 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 Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BEREUTER 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 CANADA'S PRIME MINISTER

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, America is blessed to have in Canada not only a neighbor but also a steadfast ally and true friend. While our geographic bonds are obvious, it is our deep cultural, political, and economic ties that will forever bind us. Therefore, it is my distinct honor to welcome to Washington today the Honorable Peter Milliken, the Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I remind Members that this past October, only 1 month after the fateful September day, parliamentarians from all NATO nations met in Ottawa, Canada, for the fall meeting of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. At that meeting, the assembly endorsed the use of force responsible for the horrific attacks on America. Our Canadian hosts that day, as all parliamentarians, knew the significant risk associated with the endeavor.

So it is with great sadness that we stand here today following the deaths of four Canadian soldiers, killed while on a mission to fight terror in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I say to Speaker Milliken and to all Canadians, we remain deeply saddened by their loss and America thanks them for their steadfast partnership.

### EXPRESSING DEMOCRATIC WELCOME TO SPEAKER OF THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT

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

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my good friend on the Republican side, Mr. BEREUTER, to express to the distinguished Speaker of the Canadian Parliament Democratic support and appreciation of the generations-long friendship and solidarity the Canadian people have shown to us.

There is no nation on the face of this planet which is a more dependable and a more solid and a more persistent ally and friend of the United States than is Canada. Through many wars we have stood together, and we have prevailed as we shall in this war on global terrorism.

War inevitably entails losses. No losses are more tragic and more heart rending than the ones we call losses related to "friendly fire." This means we kill our own by mistake, by error, through a tragedy. That is what happened, in Afghanistan, to four Canadian soldiers, and the American people are as one in expressing our heartfelt condolences to the families of these four heroes and to all of the Canadian people.

We want to assure Speaker Milliken that Canada and the United States will stand together forever on behalf of defending freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, the right of civilized societies to live in peace and security. We appreciate the friendship of our Canadian friends, and we want to assure them of our solidarity and respect.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain further 1-minutes at the end of business today.

□ 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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