

Tauzin	Udall (NM)	Weller
Taylor (MS)	Upton	Wexler
Taylor (NC)	Van Hollen	Whitfield
Terry	Velazquez	Wicker
Thomas	Visclosky	Wilson (NM)
Thompson (CA)	Vitter	Wilson (SC)
Thompson (MS)	Walden (OR)	Wolf
Tiahrt	Walsh	Woolsey
Tiberi	Wamp	Wu
Tierney	Waxman	Wynn
Toomey	Weiner	Young (AK)
Turner (OH)	Weldon (FL)	Young (FL)
Turner (TX)	Weldon (PA)	

NAYS—11

Conyers	McDermott	Towns
Honda	Rangel	Waters
Jones (OH)	Scott (VA)	Watson
Lee	Stark	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—22

Brown (OH)	Jackson (IL)	Owens
Brown, Corrine	Jackson-Lee	Paul
Carson (IN)	(TX)	Payne
Clay	Johnson, E. B.	Rush
Cummings	Kilpatrick	Sabo
Davis (IL)	Kucinich	Schakowsky
Doggett	Lewis (GA)	Watt
Farr	Meeks (NY)	

NOT VOTING—10

Buyer	McCarthy (MO)	Thornberry
Gordon	Rogers (MI)	Udall (CO)
Lantos	Saxton	
Lipinski	Snyder	

□ 0302

Mr. PAYNE changed his vote from "nay" to "present."
So the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING H.R. 1104, CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION ACT

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of March 24 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 1104, the Child Abduction Prevention Act of 2003.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and 1 copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in Room H-312 of the Capitol by noon on Tuesday, March 25, 2003. Members should draft their amendments to the bill as reported by the Committee on the Judiciary on March 18, 2003, which is expected to be filed on Tuesday, March 25, 2003.

Members are also advised that the text should be available for their review on the Websites of the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Rules by Friday, March 21, 2003.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate form. Members also should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inquire of the majority leader the schedule for the balance of the week and next week.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I would be glad to yield to the distinguished majority leader who worked just a little too hard tonight.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I have to say that I no longer have to whip these folks like the gentleman does, and our whip was really working hard tonight and did a great job.

I appreciate the gentleman from Maryland yielding to me, Mr. Speaker.

If the gentleman would continue to yield, the House will convene on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules. A final list of those bills will be sent to Members' offices early next week. Any votes called on these bills will be rolled until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, we expect to consider several additional bills under suspension of the rules before moving to legislation to create a compensation fund for first responders who receive the smallpox vaccine. While this legislation has not yet been introduced, I tell my friend from Maryland the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Education and the Workforce have been working diligently to arrive at a compromise that I believe all Members will be able to support.

On Thursday, we will consider two bills addressing child abuse, as we head into April, which is designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month. H.R. 1104, the Child Abduction Prevention Act, would extend the Justice Department's Amber Alert system to a nationwide program. It also eliminates the statute of limitations for child abduction and sex crimes, prohibits pretrial release in cases of rape and child kidnapping, provides for a mandatory minimum sentence for child kidnapping, and establishes a two strikes and you are out requirement for child sex offenders.

H.R. 14, the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act, will reauthorize and modify the Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act and related programs to prevent child abuse and family violence, and to protect and treat abused and neglected children and victims of family violence.

I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. I will be happy to answer any of his questions.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished leader for that information.

First, Mr. Leader, I presume we have concluded all of our work this week; is that correct?

Mr. DELAY. If the gentleman would yield, the gentleman is correct. I failed to say that we have completed the work of the House for the week and will not return until Tuesday.

Mr. HOYER. I know all the Members thank the gentleman for that information.

I will ask the gentleman, next Friday, does the gentleman expect to be in session next Friday, or could the Members expect not to be in session next Friday?

Mr. DELAY. No, we do not expect to be in session on next Friday.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

Does the gentleman anticipate that the tax bill will be marked up by the Committee on Ways and Means next week, and then can we anticipate it on the floor the following week?

Mr. DELAY. If the gentleman would continue to yield, the Committee on Ways and Means, as the gentleman knows, has held a series of hearings on various components of the President's economic growth package. Now that the House has passed the budget resolution, I expect that the committee will move forward very soon in this important legislation, and I would certainly like to have it considered by the House before the Easter recess.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman talked about the committees, but the energy bill, when can we expect the full committee to take action on that bill, and when does the gentleman expect it to come to the floor?

Mr. DELAY. If the gentleman would continue to yield, as the distinguished minority whip knows, the proposal that the House passed in the last Congress had provisions from more than half a dozen committees. We are again working to coordinate the work of various committees to ensure that we can quickly get a bill through the House. At least one committee began the markup process for that bill last week, and I know the others are moving forward as fast as they can, and many of them are marking up next week. I would hope that all the committees involved in this important legislation on energy would complete their work in time so that we can have the bill on the floor prior to the Easter recess.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments, and, Mr. Speaker, I have no further questions of the leader, and I appreciate his giving us the schedule.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2003

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 24, 2003.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2003

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 24, that it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday,

March 25, 2003, for morning hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

CONFISCATING AND VESTING CERTAIN IRAQI PROPERTY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-51)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b) (IEEPA), and section 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1631, I hereby report that I have taken additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12722 of August 2, 1990, by exercising my statutory authority to confiscate and vest certain property of the Government of Iraq and its agencies, instrumentalities, or controlled entities.

Consistent with section 203(a)(1)(C) of IEEPA, 50 U.S.C. 1702(a)(1)(C), as added by section 106 of the USA PATRIOT ACT, Public Law 107-56, I have ordered that certain blocked funds held in the United States in accounts in the name of the Government of Iraq, the Central Bank of Iraq, Rafidain Bank, Rasheed Bank, or the State Organization for Marketing Oil are hereby confiscated and vested in the Department of the Treasury. I have made exceptions for any such funds that are subject to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations or the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, or that enjoy equivalent privileges and immunities under the laws of the United States, and are or have been used for diplomatic or consular purposes. In addition, such amounts that, as of the date of the order, are subject to post-judgment writs of execution or attachment in aid of execution of judgments pursuant to section 201 of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-297) are not being vested, provided that, upon satisfaction of the judgments on which such writs are based,

any remainder of such excepted amounts shall, without further action, be confiscated and vested.

I have delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury authority to undertake all other action of the President and all functions of the President set forth in section 203(a)(1)(C) of IEEPA with respect to any and all property of the Government of Iraq, including its agencies, instrumentalities, or controlled entities, and to take additional steps, including the promulgation of rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this order.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued, which is effective immediately.

I have exercised these authorities in furtherance of Executive Orders 12722 and 12724 with respect to the unusual and extraordinary threat to our national security and foreign policy posed by the policies and actions of the Government of Iraq. I intend that such vested property should be used to assist the Iraqi people and to assist in the reconstruction of Iraq, and have determined that such use would be in the interest of and for the benefit of the United States.

The power to vest assets of a foreign government with which the United States is engaged in armed hostilities is one that has been recognized for many decades. This power is being used here because it is clearly in the interests of the United States to have these funds available for use in rebuilding Iraq and launching that country on the path to speedy economic recovery. In addition, this authority is being invoked in a limited way, designed to minimize harm to third parties and to respect existing court orders as much as possible.

GEROGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 20, 2003.

RECONSTRUCTION

(Mr. MCDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include therein extraneous material.)

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, as the Bush-Cheney-Rumsfeld war has begun, we must now turn our attention to the reconstruction. As we discuss the budget today, we must keep some facts in mind.

In a country where 60 percent of the people are entirely dependent on the Oil-for-Food Program run by the United Nations, which was ended 2 days ago, we are preparing to spend \$12 billion a month bombing and \$65 million for food, water, sanitation, shelter and health.

We have accepted full responsibility for the people of Iraq as of this day. We did the same for Afghanistan. We promised back in October of 2001, Bush and Blair said the conflict will not end, we will not walk away as the outside world has done before. The fact is we spent \$6.5 billion bombing Afghanistan,

and \$300 million was all we would commit for the first year. Mr. Karzai was in this country the other day begging for aid. He got \$50 million, and we told him \$35 million has to go to build a hospital.

I will include in the RECORD an article by George Monbiot.

A SCAR ON THE CONSCIENCE OF THE WORLD LEFT BEHIND TO STARVE—A HUMANITARIAN DISASTER IS ENGULFING AFRICA AS CASH IS POURED INTO THE WAR WITH IRAQ AND ITS AFTERMATH

(By George Monbiot)

There is surely no more obvious symptom of the corruption of western politics than the disproportion between the money available for sustaining life and the money available for terminating it. We could, I think, expect that, if they were asked to vote on the matter, most of the citizens of the rich world would demand that their governments spend as much on humanitarian aid as they spend on developing new means of killing people. But the military-industrial complex is a beast which becomes both fiercer and greedier the more it is fed.

As the United States prepares to spend some \$12 billion a month on bombing the Iraqis, it has so far offered only \$65 million to provide them with food, water, sanitation, shelter and treatment for the injuries they are likely to receive. A confidential U.N. contingency plan for Iraq, which was leaked in January, suggests that the war could expose around one million children to "risk of death from malnutrition." It warns that "the collapse of essential services in Iraq could lead to a humanitarian emergency of proportions well beyond the capacity of U.N. agencies and other aid organizations." Around 60 percent of the population is entirely dependent on the oil for food programme, administered by the Iraqi government. This scheme was suspended by the U.N. yesterday, leaving the Iraqis reliant on foreign aid. The money pledged so far is enough to sustain the Iraqis for less than a fortnight.

It is hard to believe, however, that the U.S. Government will leave them to starve once it has captured their country. For the weeks or months during which Iraq dominates the news, the U.S. will be obliged to defend them from the most immediate impacts of the institutional collapse its war will cause. Afterwards, like the people of Afghanistan, the Iraqis will be first forgotten by the media and then deserted by those who promised to support them.

But even before the first troops cross the border, the impending war has caused a global humanitarian crisis. As donor countries set aside their aid budgets to save both themselves and the United States from embarrassment under the camera lights in Baghdad, they have all but ceased to provide money to other nations. The world, as a result, could soon be confronted by a humanitarian funding crisis graver than any since the end of the Second World War.

Every year, in November, the U.N. agencies which deal with disasters launch what they call a "consolidated appeal" for each of the countries suffering a "complex emergency". They expect to receive the money they request by May of the following year. The payments and promises they have extracted so far chart the collapse of international concern for the people of almost every nation except Iraq.

In Eritrea, for example, the drought is so severe that the water table has fallen by ten metres. Most of the nation's crops have failed and grain prices have doubled. Seventy percent of its 3.3 million people are now classified as vulnerable to famine. The United