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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Father of us all, You feed Your people from the fruit of this land. You protect Your children from war and from disaster both by government and by military. You are ever faithful and always ready to forgive.

Bless all fathers of this assembly and across this Nation. May they prove their strength in their gentleness and understanding of their children. May they teach by example and be God-fearing men who are strong in virtue, and faithful in marriage and in prayer.

Reward them for the sacrifice of their labor and the time offered to the enjoyment of their families.

May they, their children and their children's children come to know Your everlasting love for them both now and for all eternity. 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 Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LATOURETTE 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five 1-minute speeches on each side.

DELTA AIRLINES CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST PASSENGER FLIGHT

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

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning on behalf of the entire United States Congress to commend and give special recognition to Delta Airlines on the celebration of its 75th anniversary. Exactly 75 years ago on June 17, 1929 at 8 a.m., Delta's very first passenger flight took off from Dallas Airport in Dallas, Texas, heading for Jackson, Mississippi with intermediate stops in Shreveport and Monroe, Louisiana.

That initial passenger service trip took 5 hours to cover those 471 miles. And today, 75 years later, Delta now has 2,000 flights all across this country and carries a daily load of passengers of 300,000. What a remarkable story of American free enterprise. Delta Airlines, with 75 years of distinguished service, has grown the reputation of being the world's leading airline, but they did not get that way easily. They had to go through many challenges.

Mr. Speaker, to all of the 100,000 individuals that work at Delta, we in the Congress of the United States want to say congratulations on your 75th anniversary.

UNDECLARED DRAFT

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in all of the confusion of transition in Iraq, it is easy to forget that people are still dying there. Our troops are dying on a daily basis, and this President has instituted an undeclared draft, but he will not tell Members unless he is reelected.

Do Members think they need proof, last month 20,000 U.S. soldiers were told, not asked, they were not going home after a year in Iraq. Mr. Rumsfeld liked something called the stop-loss policy because the military can conscript soldiers to just keep fighting. More soldiers are staying behind because there are not enough in Iraq to begin with.

From the beginning, professionals in the Armed Forces told this President and the civilians that 300,000 soldiers would be needed in Iraq. The President and his civilians denied it, and they fired anyone who dared to disagree. So now the administration calls the draft a stop-loss order, and they are using it because they need more soldiers.

Mr. Speaker, make no mistake, a draft arrives in 2005 if this President remains in office. They just deny, deny, deny, just another day in the Bush administration.

BUSH ADMINISTRATION CONSISTENTLY WRONG

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, just yesterday President Bush in the cabinet room said, ''This administration never said that the 9/11 attacks were orchestrated between Saddam Hussein and al Qaeda.'' Really?

Let me read what National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice said in September, 2002, ''We clearly know that there were in the past and have been contacts between senior Iraqi officials and members of al Qaeda going back for actually quite a long time.''

Mr. Speaker, 1 year later the National Security Adviser in September 2003 said, ''We have never claimed that Saddam Hussein had either direction or control on 9/11.''

On Monday night, Vice President CHENEY, who has long maintained and

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repeatedly has asserted that a collaborative relationship existed between Iraq and al Qaeda said he, Saddam Hussein, ''was a patron of terrorism'' and that he had ''long-established ties with al Qaeda.'' This is the fourth or fifth time he has asserted this relationship, or members of the administration have. There is at least one thing we know about the Vice President: He is consistent, he is wrong, and he has been consistently wrong on this subject.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, 139 years ago tomorrow, the sin of human bondage was ended in the United States. It has been said that the Civil War was the last battle of the American Revolution, and so it was. More than 600,000 Americans died in that conflict to save the Union, preserve the democratic ideals of the Founding, and make those ideals a reality for 4 million slaves.

If it is that the Civil War was indeed the last battle of the Revolution, then so it is that Gordon Granger fired its last shot. On his arrival in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, Granger, a major general in the United States Army, issued General Order No. 3 to the people of Texas informing them of the end of the war and the emancipation of the slaves. ''This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former slaves and masters, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer,'' he said, and in an instant the world changed.

The United States, the first Nation in history ''conceived in liberty and founded on the proposition that all men are created equal,'' was, for the first time, seeing to it that liberty and equality were extended to all its citizens.

Juneteeth, then, reminds us of the first principles of our Nation and of our Nation's special commission in the affairs of men. While Texas may be the only State in the Union that celebrates the anniversary of Juneteenth, the entire country, and indeed all of the civilized world, celebrates its legacy.

Man is born to be free. That is not an idea, it is the truth, absolute and without exception. But like all truths, freedom is almost never easy. It took wars to extricate ourselves from Britain, to free the slaves, to rid the world of fascism, and 40 years on the brink of nuclear holocaust to defeat Soviet communism.

So it takes war now to free the civilized world from the threat of international terror. The price of freedom is internal vigilance, and even a cursory survey of American history shows that price is a bargain.

DEEPLY PARTISAN BIAS ON SUPREME COURT

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am moved this week after the death of President Reagan to quote him, ''There they go again.''

The ''they'' in question are the three extremely conservative members of the U.S. Supreme Court who are, of course, entitled to their extreme conservatism, Justices Scalia, Thomas and Rehnquist; but, they are really not entitled to partisanship. Despite that, they have shown it.

The Colorado Supreme Court, acting in accordance with wrong, uncontroversial constitutional doctrine, interpreted the Colorado Constitution to mean that the Colorado legislature could not reopen redistricting for partisan advantage 2 years after they had originally had redistricting in the State. It is a very strongly held doctrine in America that a State Supreme Court is the final arbiter of its own State Constitution.

The Colorado Republicans, looking for the kind of partisan advantage that the Texas counties were able to get, appealed that decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. No one thought it was much of a serious appeal. Fortunately, six members of the Court held true to constitutional doctrine and voted not to take the case so it was not taken. But three members of that Court, defying long-standing constitutional tradition, voted to take the case. It was a case brought by Colorado Republicans to try to gain partisan political advantage; and surprise, surprise, they got the votes of Scalia, Rehnquist and Thomas.

Mr. Speaker, the worst of it is I am not sure they were being consciously partisan. I think the bias, the deeply partisan bias that has crept into those three is so strong that they, in fact, can do this without realizing it.

Once again we have seen from those three justices a hypocritical preference for partisan advantage over the kind of constitutional purity that they claim to follow but rarely do.

Mr. Speaker, I will include for the RECORD in the Extensions of Remarks an editorial from the New York Times on this subject.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the further consideration of H.R. 4567, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 675 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4567.

□ 0913

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4567) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, with Mr. GILLMOR in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole House rose on the legislative day of Thursday, June 17, 2004, amendment No. 3 by the gentleman from New York (Mr. SWEENEY) had been disposed of and the bill was open for amendment from page 22, line 22, through page 25, line 20.

Are there further amendments to this portion of the bill?

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

Page 22, line 25, after the dollar amount in each place, insert ''(increased by $20,000,000)''.

Page 29, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $20,000,000)''.

□ 0915

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I am proposing an opportunity for really securing the homeland and, that is, my amendment proposes to re-fund the Citizen Corps where H.R. 4568 purported to create a shortfall in the amount of almost $19 million. The President of the United States proposed that that amount would be at least $40 million. In order to account for this proposed shortfall, I have increased this appropriation by $20 million.

The Citizen Corps program was launched by President George W. Bush during the 2002 State of the Union address as part of the USA Freedom Corps Initiative to engage Americans in volunteer service. In only 2 years, nearly 1,000 communities around the country encompassing 40 percent of the U.S. population established Citizen Corps Councils to help inform and train citizens in emergency preparedness and to coordinate and expand opportunities for citizen volunteers to participate in homeland security efforts and to make our communities safe. Fifty-two States and territories also formed state-level Citizen Corps Councils to support local efforts.

I would say, Mr. Chairman, that that is not enough. Supporting the Citizen