Mr. HOYER. That would be my question. Your anticipation would be that they would be agreed upon, that they would be on the suspension calendar?

Mr. DELAY. That is correct.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the leader for his information.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, June 21, for morning hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3973, SPENDING CONTROL ACT OF 2004

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of June 21 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 3973, the Spending Control Act of 2004. The Committee on the Budget ordered the bill reported on March 17 and filed its report with the House on March 19.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in room H–312 of the Capitol by 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 22. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on the Budget.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4548, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of June 21 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 4548, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005. The Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence ordered the bill reported on June 16, 2004, and is expected to file the report in the House on Monday, June 21.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in room H–312 of the Capitol by 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 22.

Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, which is available for their review on the Web site of both the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Committee on Rules.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to make sure their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO CANADA-UNITED STATES INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the United States Delegation of the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. HOUGHTON, New York, chairman;
Mr. DREIER, California;
Mr. SHAW, Florida;
Mr. STEARNS, Florida;
Mr. MANZULLO, Illinois;
Mr. SMITH, Michigan;
Mr. ENGLISH, Pennsylvania;
Mr. SOUDER, Indiana;
Mr. TANCREDO, Colorado.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SMART SECURITY AND FIRST RESPONDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about a group of Americans that we do not always take the time to recognize, our Nation's first responders.

This group of brave men and women are our first line of defense against terrorist attacks and disasters. They are our dedicated firefighters, police, emergency technicians, and health care workers who are the first on the scene when disaster strikes.

First responders work around the clock to protect their communities. Unlike most working folks, they are always on call in case of emergency. In fact, many of these dedicated individuals died in the World Trade Center on September 11 because response was so effective they arrived at the scene and were scattered throughout the buildings when the buildings collapsed.

As we know, disaster requires the highest level of cooperation between different agencies, meaning the difference between lives lost and lives saved. Because conditions during major disasters are unpredictable, Mr. Speaker, first responders require the most advanced equipment to ensure that they are well protected: equipment including self-contained breathing units, protective clothing for hazardous situation, interoperable radio units so different groups and communities can communicate during a crisis, thermal imaging units so we can determine if people are stuck in buildings or trapped under falling debris, and trained, available health care workers and technicians adequately supplied with vaccines, medicines and provisions.

One would think that in a post-September 11 world, Congress would fully fund these response efforts; but that is simply not happening. In fact, the homeland security appropriations bill that came before this House today actually reduces funds for first responders.

Despite the majority party's rhetoric, their rhetoric of supporting first responders, most Republicans fully supported President Bush's 2005 budget proposal which would cut $800 million in grants to first responders. Talk about misplaced priorities. We are spending $5 billion every month for the war in Iraq, but cannot find the funds to provide $3 billion this year for our first responders in the homeland security bill; $3 billion is the amount needed to fully fund the programs that are necessary to keep them safe.

These are people who safeguard our most precious landmarks like the Capitol Building and the Golden Gate Bridge. Clearly our budget priorities are way out of whack when we cannot provide for those who selflessly protect their communities every single day. This, I believe, is travesty.

Every year we lose an average of 100 first responders to terrorist incidents and disasters. With better equipment,

more detailed interagency coordination, and more frequent practice exercises to prepare first responders for the real thing, many of these deaths could be prevented. But this requires adequate funding.

Mr. Speaker, there has to be a better way, a more intelligent way, a way to prevent the needless deaths of the men and women who are our first line of defense. And there is. I have introduced H. Con. Res. 392, legislation to create a SMART security platform for the 21st century. SMART stand for Sensible Multi-lateral American Response to Terrorism.

Instead of spending billions on new bunker buster nuclear weapons and the President's beloved missile defense system, which would not provide an effective defense against a full frontal missile attack, SMART security calls for stronger and smarter investment abroad in peacekeeping and conflict prevention programs, and at home a homeland security program that provides first responders with the equipment and tools they need to provide security to their community.

SMART security means supplying adequate funds for first responders. We should be providing them with the exact equipment they need, the exact equipment and tools they are requesting. The Bush doctrine of misplaced priorities has been tried, and it has failed miserably. It is time for a new national security strategy.

SMART security defends America by relying on the very best of America, including the brave men and women who offer their time, their bravery, sometimes their very lives, to provide the first line of defense in times of catastrophe. Being smart about our Nation's security means recognizing that real security starts at home with our first responders.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GINGREY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER).

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

There was no objection.

THE BIG LIE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, this administration is out of control. They have made obeying the law a thing of the past.

They have implemented ''the big lie'' theory of communications. This theory takes propaganda to a whole new level.

Under the big lie, you fabricate a story and call it the truth. You disseminate the story as widely as possible. You wrap the propaganda in the mantle of national symbols, and you prey upon the fears and emotions of your citizens. You repeat the propaganda every day in every way. You say it over and over and over again, knowing if you say it long enough people will believe it.

Anyone who dares to question the propaganda becomes the enemy. Any evidence to the contrary is hidden, called tainted or dismissed as the work of your enemies.

This is a portrait of America today painted by this administration. In the face of overwhelming evidence presented by members of its own party, the administration keeps reporting the same old false story. They say anything, and they have.

War Secretary Don Rumsfeld first told the American people, we do not have to abide by the Geneva Conventions. Then after Abu Ghraib he said, America supports the Geneva Conventions.

Now the truth emerges. Rumsfeld personally ordered an Iraqi suspect held in solitary confinement at a secret location for 7 months. The inmate was hidden from the International Red Cross and any other human rights organization. Rumsfeld made someone disappear. Rumsfeld personally committed a violation of the Geneva Conventions that is so egregious, it could qualify as a war crime.

Rumsfeld has not had time yet to blame some soldiers and throw them overboard like he continues to do with the soldiers in Abu Ghraib. And the blame game is in full swing over at the White House.

Now even members of the President's own Republican Party are joining me on the enemies list. The bipartisan 9/11 Commission issued a key finding: there is no credible evidence linking Iraq and al Qaeda to attacks on America. It is not there. Saddam was a thug, but not a bin Laden pal. The 9/11 Commission finding proves without any doubt that the President misled the American people about the war in Iraq. Instead of accepting the finding, the President went into full frontal denial today.

Presented with conclusive and compelling evidence, the President simply announced that he knows there was a link, so there is a link. A bipartisan commission of distinguished U.S. leaders whose only mission is to find out the truth on behalf of America is about to be neutered by the administration.

Facts? Forget them. The President knows the truth. He must have seen it in a vision. Evidence? Who needs evidence when you have a President who is all knowing? Undeniable conclusion? Deny it.

Then what do you do when you are this President and this administration? Next, and you can count on this, Republican storm troopers come into the House, will step to the microphone and denounce the commission. The Republican leaders in the House will denounce the members of the 9/11 Commission as partisan, even the Republicans on the commission.

In the big lie theory of communication you never let the facts get in the way of the propaganda.

□ 1700

So less than 4 hours after the 9/11 Commission tells America that there was no link between Iraq and the attacks, the President says otherwise. The charade goes on.

Over a year ago the President misled the American people and the world about Iraq, and he continues to do the same thing today. The President retreated from the war on terror and the hunt for Osama bin Laden to settle an old score against a family enemy in Iraq, but America has lost 800 U.S. soldiers in Iraq. America has seen thousands of U.S. soldiers wounded in Iraq. We have spent $200 billion.

The death, destruction and mayhem never had to happen. There are ways of dealing with Saddam, but the administration wanted blood from an old family nemesis.

The President has made the world more dangerous. The administration has made America look and act like a lawless thug. The War Secretary has made the world shudder with the awful truth seen in prisoner abuse pictures that no amount of rhetoric can deny. The big lie can make people afraid. The big lie cannot stop the truth.

America has seen and now America has heard. The President misled the American people about Iraq. The American people will respond in November. The 2nd of November is coming.

SPINNING 9/11

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, like most of America, we grieve today the loss of Paul Johnson, apparently beheaded by an al Qaeda-linked Saudi militant group. He was found today in the Saudi Arabian capital. He was an American contractor living in Saudi Arabia since 1980, a Floridian who was beheaded by these terrorists: immoral, barbaric, and demonic.

I know most Muslims, Christians and Jews would join me in the feeling that