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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

### PRAYER

Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, Chief Rabbi of Israel, offered the following prayer:

Our Father in Heaven, bless and grace the House of Representatives of the United States of America, and lead them in the right way to bring peace in the United States of America and in the entire universe, for the benefit of all mankind.

I am very happy to be here and to thank you for the declaration and proclamation offering the Congressional Golden Medal and tribute in honor of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, spiritual leader not only for the Jewish people but for all mankind, leading us as a scholar, as a guide, in the period, in the age of the end of the Second World War, out of the Holocaust, from the darkness of the Holocaust, which I was personally very lucky to be one of its survivors, to show us there is a light in the edge of the tunnel. He showed us the way of spirit, of hope, of faith, of education, to all the good and the best it can be.

His colleagues, his students, his followers, the Chabad Movement of Lubavitch, in its over 2,000 educational and social institutions, bring to a world which will be improved in peace, in health, in happiness.

So I appreciate on behalf of the State of Israel, of the people of Israel, of the people, the Jewish people all over the world, your brilliant idea, the House of Representatives of the leaders of the free world, United States of America, for this contribution to peace all over the world.

Let us say, all of us, He, the Almighty who makes peace in His heights, will make peace upon us, upon the entire universe.

And let us say: 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. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by the gentleman from Florida [Mr. STEARNS].

Mr. STEARNS 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.

### OPENING PRAYER BY ISRAELI CHIEF RABBI YISRAEL MEIR LAU

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I join our colleagues in welcoming to the House this morning the Chief Rabbi of Israel, Yisrael Meir Lau, who today led our opening prayer in Congress.

We are very honored to have Israel's Chief Rabbi, Rabbi Lau, present with us as we commemorate the awarding of a Congressional Gold Medal to the late leader of the Lubavitch Chassidim, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, of blessed memory.

Rabbi Lau has come to the United States because of his admiration for the late Rabbi Schneerson, and because of his commitment to the Jewish people as a child survivor of the Holocaust.

Prior to his becoming Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Lau served as the Chief Rabbi for the cities of Netanya and Tel Aviv.

I know my colleagues join in extending our heartiest good wishes upon his visit to the United States, and look forward to being with him at today's historic events.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN). The Chair will announce that there will be 10 1-minute periods per side starting at this time by previous order of the Speaker and with agreement of the minority leader.

### HONORING THE LUBAVITCHER REBBE

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

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, today the President will fulfill a congressional mandate to honor a lifetime of good words and good deeds by the late Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, by presenting a Congressional Gold Medal in his memory.

I am honored this morning to speak about a very extraordinary American.

Born in Russia in 1902, educated at Sorbonne University in Paris, Rabbi Schneerson emigrated to America and built a worldwide organization dedicated to goodness out of the ashes of the Holocaust.

The Rebbe exemplified the meaning of Chabad—an acronym that stands for wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. The Chabad movement he led became the world's largest Jewish education and outreach organization, active in 42 countries and almost every State in our Union.

We honor his memory today because the Rebbe's work on behalf of morality, education, and charity and his essential goodness made him a respected and

□ 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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