The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there any objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 29, 1999, for morning hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. BLUNT. 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 Missouri?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection and pursuant to the provisions of 22 U.S.C. 276h and clause 10 of rule I, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group, in addition to Mr. KOLBE Arizona, Chairman, appointed on February 11, 1999:

Mr. GILMAN of New York, Vice Chairman,

Mr. DREIER of California,

Mr. BARTON of Texas,

Mr. BALLENGER of North Carolina,

Mr. STENHOLM of Texas,

Mr. FILNER of California,

Mr. REYES of Texas, and

Mrs. NAPOLITANO of California.

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MORE DEBATE ON GUN SAFETY AND INSTANT CHECKS REQUIRED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, some might read the headline in The Washington Post as another attempt to blame the FBI. The headline reads, ''Delays in FBI Checks Put 1,700 Guns in the Wrong Hands.'' What the headline means is that guns, 1,700 of them, 1,700 persons or maybe a little less, 1,700 criminals or people who may be with other problems that would suggest they should not have guns, have gotten guns.

The reason why this is an extremely important announcement, and I am wondering what happened with this report in the debate last week, is that last week this House attempted to even lower the time frame for the instant check on gun shows to 24 hours, and it is clear that this loophole is an enormous loophole to give guns to criminals, guns to criminals.

This article indicates that the process is that after 3 days, if there has been no determination on the individual trying to seek the gun, then it automatically goes to that person. So, 1,700 guns got in the hands of criminals. And the real element is what would we have done with a 24-hour check when that allows for the very problem that we are talking about.

Just this morning a tragedy was reported about someone who got a gun and killed their three children, three daughters, because the restraining order that had been issued against this father did not get on the computer in time. And in the State of Colorado he was able to get the gun and shoot his three daughters.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that we would not let the gun lobby take this issue from us because of all the money that they have. It is reasonable, it is rational, and the American people see the basis in it.

We cannot fight technological problems. We hope the FBI fixes its system, but glaringly we can tell that the fact that there is a 3-day instant check is not even enough. There are problems with the system to the extent that even if we had 3 days we are not getting all of the guns out of the hands of criminals. What would happen if we had a 24-hour instant check; and after the 24 hours expired, the individual could get a gun?

Mr. Speaker, I would simply hope that this House would take up again gun safety legislation to keep the guns out of the hands of criminals. Does this headline need to be even more glaring by showing us the tragedies and loss of life because criminals have guns? Criminals have guns.

I hope that we will come to our senses and stand up for the American people.

NATO GOT IT RIGHT

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday one of the newspapers in my home State of New Jersey, the Newark Star-Ledger summed up the outcome of the Kosovo conflict in an insightful editorial. The headline of the editorial says it all, in my opinion: ''NATO Got It Right.''

I would like to read a few passages from the editorial. It begins, and I quote,

> The case for our intervention in Kosovo is still being made. The evidence turns up daily corpse by corpse, mass grave by mass grave, massacre by massacre. Claims of ethnic cleansing were treated with a certain skepticism when the bombing went on. Were the atrocities really that bad or was this just a case of war-time exaggeration? We now have our answer.

The editorial goes on to cite an estimate by the British Foreign Office that 10,000 Kosovars were the victims of mass executions by the Serbs. Then the editorial poses perhaps the most important question of all, and I quote, ''Still, how much worse would it have been if NATO had not intervened? The dimensions of unchecked genocides are a matter of guesswork.''

What we have seen, Mr. Speaker, in Kosovo is a genocidal campaign by the Serb forces that was halted by NATO's intervention. Moreover, the success of our military intervention resulting in the quick withdrawal of the Serb forces has allowed for the genocide to be documented essentially in real time. Yes, there were some crude efforts by the Serbs to conceal the evidence of the atrocities that they had committed, but the grizzly discoveries being made every day by the allied troops offer compelling proof, irrefutable testimony of what happened. It will be difficult for future revisionist historians to deny what happened in the villages and fields of Kosovo.

Mr. Speaker, this is an extremely important development. Throughout the 20th century genocide has occurred while the world looked the other way. It is, of course, impossible to conceal all evidence of the mass murders of thousands or millions of people. But in past cases of genocide, the world only found out what happened after the fact. For example, in the years during and after World War I, 1.5 million Armenians were massacred by the Ottoman Turkish Empire. At that time the term genocide had not yet been coined to describe mass murder of a civilian population as part of a government policy.

During the Armenian genocide, word started to filter out about mass atrocities and a flood of refugees into neighboring countries offered firsthand testimony. Relief operations were set up, but the Ottoman forces were able to cover up much of the evidence, not only while the genocide was occurring but also after the fact. After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, there