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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:

In a world filled with noise and confusion it is difficult to be attentive to Your Word, O Lord.

Grant us peace; peace of heart, health in our families and firm purpose to our Nation.

Steady our spirits with Your almighty hand, that we may know You are present and care for us even now.

Help us not to fear Your silence; instead, let us enter into its pure light.

Under Earth's blanket of winter quiet our depths that we may be a source of peace and reconciliation to others.

Keep us attuned to the slightest kindness, the child's prayer, the gentle whisper of understanding and all that signals Your kingdom is near.

Grant Sabbath to our souls that we may recognize Your glory when it appears now and forever. 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 Indiana (Mr. PEASE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PEASE 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 5461. An act to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to eliminate the wasteful and unsportsmanlike practice of shark finning.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 439) ''An Act to amend the National Forest and Public Lands of Nevada Enhancement Act of 1988 to adjust the boundary of the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada.''

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 1694) ''An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the reclamation and reuse of water and wastewater in the State of Hawaii.''

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 1-minute speeches today at the end of business.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 128, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 669 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 669

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes. The joint resolution shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 669 is a closed rule providing for consideration of House Joint Resolution 128, which makes further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2001 through December 11.

House Resolution 669 provides for 1 hour of debate on the joint resolution, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of this joint resolution. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, as is the right of the minority.

Mr. Speaker, the current continuing resolution expires at the end of today, and further continuing resolutions are necessary to keep the government operating while Congress completes the consideration of the remaining appropriations bills. Because the President refuses to sign any of longer duration, the joint resolution covered by this rule simply extends the provisions of our current continuing resolution by 3 days.

Mr. Speaker, after months of hard work, the House has now just a few issues left to resolve. Some of these issues are issues of policy. Others are issues of money. Issues of policy do not belong in our appropriations discussion, they belong in our authorizing committees. The President has always been quick to chastise the Congress for

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such legislation, so I know this is not the proper place or time to be having these discussions.

In contrast, this is now the time to talk about money. We talk so much about money here that it is easy to forget that the money is real and that it really belongs to the taxpayer. It would surprise most Americans to learn that when we here on the floor talk about spending $1 billion in a year, what we are really talking about is spending well over $2.5 million per day, $2.5 million per day.

So I have come to the House floor with a great comfort for each of these continuing resolutions, knowing that every day is another small down payment to the American taxpayer. Each day is another step towards smaller and more efficient government.

Like my Republican colleagues, I am determined to pass fair and fiscally responsible appropriations bills. I will stay here as long as it takes to achieve this goal for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the President will join us in our good-faith efforts to negotiate a fair, bipartisan solution to the disagreements still before us. I am hopeful that the fair, clean continuing resolution covered by this rule will give us the time we need to complete the appropriations process in a thoughtful and judicial manner.

This rule was unanimously approved by the Committee on Rules yesterday. I urge my colleagues to support it so we may proceed with general debate and consideration of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, even though the fiscal year started 69 days ago, my Republican colleagues still have not gotten all the appropriation bills signed into law. So here we are, meeting on December 8 to consider not the first, the second, or the third, but the 18th continuing resolution in this fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, this continuing resolution will keep the Federal government open through this weekend so the negotiations can resume again next week. Once they resume, I hope the Republican leadership will agree to consider the bipartisan spending agreement that makes the improvements to education. Until then, we need to keep the Federal government open for other business.

So although I think it is well past time that these appropriation bills were finished, Mr. Speaker, I will support this continuing resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Joint Resolution 128, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 669, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of House Joint Resolution 128 is as follows:

H.J. RES. 128

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law 106–275, is further amended by striking the date specified in section 106(c) and inserting ''December 11, 2000''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 669, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today we bring to the House another continuing resolution, House Joint Resolution 128.

This one is different than the ones we have been doing. This is a 3-day extension, so this would keep the government functioning until Monday night.

The leadership of the House and Senate are negotiating with the President, and hopefully there will be some kind of breakthrough soon so we as appropriators can finalize the details of the agreement. We have not reached that agreement yet, but we will be working over the weekend.

I spoke yesterday evening with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, as did my counterpart in the Senate. There is movement, but we are not there yet. Anyway, Mr. Speaker, we will be working over the weekend to see if we can have this concluded for the Members to vote on next week.

As I mentioned yesterday, there are several issues that are still outstanding, most of which are not even appropriations items. Nevertheless, they are attached to this bill.

So, by next week, we hope to have more progress to report.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, we are supposed to have our appropriations work done by October 1. We obviously do not have that work done. As I said yesterday, that is not unique. That has happened often in Congress.

But I think something unique is happening which, in my view, no longer justifies voting for these continuing resolutions. I do not intend to vote for this continuing resolution, and I will vote against it.

Continuing resolutions are supposed to be passed to give us more time to get our work done. When they are passed, we are supposed to be resolving our differences. This is now the 19th time that we have had to come to the floor and ask for yet another extension of time.

I would not mind doing that if I thought we really were making progress. I have read several newspaper accounts this morning of the alleged agreements which were reached at the White House yesterday. I have read stories. If I believed that those stories were true, I would then feel fairly optimistic that in fact we could get finished within a few days over the weekend.

But in fact what I know to be going on behind the scenes is at huge variance with the newspaper stories that I have seen this morning, so somebody has fed some information to a number of reporters, information which is simply not accurate. I suspect some of that misinformation has been spread by design, but I suspect that some other of it has been spread simply through honest misunderstandings.

My interpretation of what is going on at the White House is quite different than the optimistic picture painted in the papers this morning.

□ 0915

When I talk to people who are in that meeting, I get wildly varying and differing explanations about what the parties did or thought they were doing.

They all appear to be operating from different financial baselines. So that when they use a specific number, when one party in those discussions uses a specific number, two other parties in the room have an erroneous understanding of what that number means. And as a result, we get the picture when people come out of the White House that everybody has played kissy-face, and it is all nice and wonderful, and we are very close to a deal.

Yet, when you take a look at the actual differences that are being discussed, we are still miles apart; and I do not believe that passage of this or any other continuing resolution is going to lead to a narrowing of those divisions. I think it will lead to a continuation of the drift, and that drift is in no way the responsibility of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) or anyone else on the Committee on Appropriations.

If I may speak institutionally, I believe if the Committee on Appropriations on both sides of the aisle were allowed to work these agreements out,

we could do so in 1 day. But so far as I know, there are no clean signals being given that we can, in fact, do that.

So I will make a flat prediction. This resolution will pass. It will probably have a majority of votes on both sides of the aisle. And come Monday, we will be here having to pass another resolution because people will have peddled baffle-gab over the weekend without doing very much real work.

I compare some of the numbers being discussed in the papers. I see, for instance, that a number of the papers refer to the possibility of reaching agreement for the Labor-Health-Education bill at the level of $107 billion. There is not a chance of a snowball in Hades that you would find a majority of votes in this House for that kind of a bill. And it is important for people on both sides of the aisle to understand that.

I am perfectly willing to participate in an exercise which requires flexibility on both sides of the aisle, but I know from talking to a number of my good friends on the other side of the aisle that they themselves would not be satisfied to vote for a bill which came in here at $107 billion.

Now, people will say, well, that is the number that the President asked for. Well, if you take a look at what this Congress passed so far this year, it increased what the President asked for for agriculture by $1.3 billion.

It increased what the President asked for for Energy and Water, many for Members' projects, by $1 billion.

It increased what the President asked for in the Interior appropriations by $2.5 billion.

It increased what the President asked for in Transportation by $2.4 billion, and Defense by over $5 billion, but when it comes to Education, we are now being told that we should go back to 106.

We just had an election and the standard bearer for the majority party, Mr. Bush, indicated that under Republican governance there would be a bipartisan approach to government, and yet the very first thing that we are being asked to do is to break the bipartisan agreement that was reached on funding levels in the Labor-Health and Education appropriations bill before the election.

When that bill came back to this floor, I do not recall a single significant objection to a dollar number in the bill.

I do recall some quite vivid controversy, as the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) indicated yesterday, about what were nonappropriation items in the bill, language items that wanted to be attached by one side or the other; and yet today after everyone ran on the idea that this Congress was going to provide the biggest increase in education since the days of Lyndon Johnson, now we are being told that we have to abandon that 22 percent increase in education funding.

Well, I would suggest to you that weaknesses in our schools are just as important as weaknesses in national defense. I would suggest that weaknesses in our education system are just as important as weaknesses in our transportation system.

I would suggest that weaknesses in education are just as serious as weaknesses in our farm programs.

I would suggest that weaknesses in our education programs are at least as important as weaknesses in our locks and dams and river reengineering programs. And yet, we are being asked to cut the efforts to reduce class size in our schools.

We are being asked to cut the agreement that was reached on after-school programs so that kids when they leave school have someplace to go besides an empty house, because both parents are working outside of the home. We are being asked to cut back on the promises that we have made in that conference report for special education and for education for disabled children.

We are being asked to cut back on the $500 increase in the Pell grants that everyone claimed to be for earlier and that, in fact, Mr. Bush campaigned on. We are being asked to cut back on teacher quality initiatives so that we can reach the ''startling'' situation under which the people teaching mathematics to our kids will actually be trained in mathematics, and the people teaching science will actually be trained in science, and the people teaching history will actually be trained in history.

Yet, we are being asked to cut back on those initiatives. We are being asked to cut back on a good many others from the levels reached in that agreement. I am willing to sit down and work out some reasonable adjustments in those programs. But I am not willing to vote for instruments that enable anyone on either side to pretend that we are making major progress when, in fact, we are not.

And what is happening is that we are being slow-danced to the end of the session, when we will be given a choice of accepting a simple status quo education budget when, in fact, the situation on the education front demonstrates that is not what we need. We need some imagination. We need some forward progress, and we need a lot more support for some of these initiatives than we have had so far.

I really believe that if that original agreement was put on the floor, the dollar amounts I am talking about, absent the language items that were at issue, I really believe that if the dollar amounts for education and health care and worker programs contained in that conference were allowed to come to the floor by the Republican leadership, it would pass with a significant majority, and we would have a lot of votes from both sides of the aisle.

That bill is not being allowed to come to the floor. Instead, we are being asked to renegotiate a deal that was reached on both sides of the Capitol with both parties. And as I say, in the interests of rational governance, I am willing to help participate to a reasonable degree, but I am not willing to savage these programs in order to get an agreement. I am not willing to pretend that there is major progress when, in fact, there is not.

I want to say again, none of the fault for any of the progress that has not taken place lies at the doorstep of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG). As far as I am concerned, he has been open at all times to suggestions and to requests from everyone regardless of party, regardless of the branch of government.

I think the gentleman has genuinely tried to get us to a resolution of this problem, but there are other people. I will be blunt about this. Every time I was asked by members of the press before the election what I thought was happening to the Labor, Health and Education bill, what I said was that I thought that the Republican leadership was trying to, at all costs, avoid a vote on education until after the election, so that they could hide their long-term intention to cut the amounts in this agreement. Then after the election, they would then feel free 2 years in advance of another election, counting on the public's ability to forget that they would then feel free to make large reductions in the education funding programs that we had agreed to.

Now that is exactly what is now happening. I do not believe that all Members of the majority party agree with that. I think there is a substantial number of Members who do not want to do that, but they have not been allowed to cast a vote on the floor. And until they are or until we can get reasonably rapid progress, I no longer intend to support these CRs. I have supported 18 of them in a row in order to keep negotiations going, but I see no meaningful progress.

I see the leadership of the House and the Senate and the President each trying to compete with each other in public relations terms to show who can be the sweetest in front of the TV cameras or the print press, but I do not see any real decisions being made that reflect the honest view of a majority of people on both sides of the aisle in this House.

And so until I do, I will vote no on this and subsequent continuing resolutions.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT).

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) for yielding the time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) for shepherding through a bill and a process that is unbelievable. And I want to associate my remarks with our fine leader of the Committee on

Appropriations, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), who has stated the facts that the gentleman has done a marvelous job.

I also want to compliment the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) for fighting some of the salient points that are important to many Americans.

I take this time, not to belabor Congress, but I am concerned about the status of the minimum wage. I would hope that both the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), although this is not totally in your province, assert your tremendous influence to include in that final package the minimum wage that we constructed on the House floor, and, if necessary, to even expand it pursuant to the conditions that exist in the country.

□ 0930

I also voted for a commensurate tax reduction for those business people who must take on that additional burden of the increase in minimum wage. But as my colleagues know, my amendment changed the original language from $1 over 3 years to $1 over 2 years. I am asking both of you powerful leaders if you can and, if necessary, to even expand upon that figure considering impoverished areas like mine who desperately depend upon that opportunity. But I know that that is not within your province, but I know that you two have worked so very hard.

If possible, I still support a tax cut for America that would allow those employers the opportunity to raise that wage without laying off our people. But it is very important to me and many Members that represent districts like myself.

So I ask the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) to assert his powerful leadership that he has, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) to continue to asserting his powerful leadership that he has in that regard.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 7 additional minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I really believe that, what is happening both on this Labor, Health, Education bill and on the subject that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) just mentioned is a true test of our priorities, our character, our fairness, and our humanity.

We all sit here in comfortable jobs. We fight like the devil to get them. We sometimes pay a heavy physical and emotional price for occupying these jobs because people are often not very fair in their assessment of public officials, and they will use the slightest weakness in any human being and try to use that weakness to define that individual rather than taking a look at the whole. So sometimes politics can be a very discouraging business and sometimes one wonders why one is in it.

The answer to me, for myself, is that I came here because I thought this was the place to be more than any other—I never wanted to be a Member of the United States Senate, I never wanted to have any job at all except to be a Member of this House—because this is supposed to be the people's House. This is where we are supposed to be, because we have 2-year terms, we are supposed to be closest to the desires and the needs of the American people.

When we come here and cast our votes, these votes are supposed to be about something bigger than just the differences between our parties. There are legitimate reasons to have political parties because we have honest, philosophical, and substantive differences. So we each make a choice about which of those two imperfect vehicles is the best in order to try to put forward the causes we believe in.

To me, the glue that holds this country together is our ability to be concerned about what happens to every individual in this country, not just those who are well connected enough with us to be able to get through on a phone call or to grab us on the street and say, ''Dave'', or ''Clay'', or ''Bill'', how are you. When we come here, our priorities are supposed to represent a judgment about who needs help the most.

The Labor, Health, Education bill is the bill that is supposed to help meet those shortcomings. We live in a capitalist system, and I think that is the best of any economic system that can be devised. We reward initiative. We reward imagination and hard work. Through entrepreneurship, we see people with talent and drive help build economic opportunities for themselves and for a lot of people who come to work for them in their firms or their businesses.

I salute everyone with that talent. But there are a lot of people in this country who need help to get on that train to success. There are a lot of people in this country who need help when they fall off that train, sometimes for bad luck and sometimes for other reasons.

We do not meet our responsibilities to those folks when we define ourselves going out the door at the end of this session as commanding cuts in agreements we have already reached in education and in health care. We certainly do not meet our obligations if we do not pass a significant minimum wage, as the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) has just indicated. We do not meet our obligations if we have not completed action to provide a prescription drug benefit under Medicare. We do not meet our obligations if we do not find ways through a combination of public and private systems to provide decent health care for every person who needs it.

The place where we come the closest to meeting those obligations is in this bill, and this is the bill that we are now being asked to shred so we can all go home early.

I am not going to do that because I do not want to go through a Christmas season enjoying all of the pleasures of that season, being reminded every day of the opportunity that we took away from people in education, of the mercy help that we took away in terms of health care.

I do not think that is what most Members of this House want to do. But if we continue on the course we are going, that is exactly what we will do in the Christmas season. That is exactly opposite of what the Christmas spirit is supposed to lead us all to do. That is why I am voting against this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of the time.

Mr. Speaker, I would respond to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) who mentioned minimum wage increases, and I would say to him that I hope that he knows that our leadership is considering and is willing to consider minimum wage legislation, but they believe that, at the same time, tax relief should be considered; and that is what they are trying to work out.

Now, I am not part of the negotiations there. I do not believe that the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) is. That is a different group of negotiators because those are not appropriations issues. On the appropriations bill negotiations, sometimes we do get sidetracked and get off on tangents that do not relate to appropriations, but that is just part of the appropriations process. But anyway I would say to the gentleman that he raises an important issue that is being considered by our leadership.

We have a very large surplus. At a time of surplus, whether it is in our government life or whether it is in our family life or our business life, when one has a large surplus, one's economy is very good, there are several things one ought to do. One can indulge oneself in some of those things that one has not had but would like to have. Well, the government is doing that as well.

But something else that one should do is pay down some of one's debts. If one's credit card bills are too high, one ought to pay them off. If one's car payments are too high, one ought to pay them off, if one's economy is that good, if one has that extra money available. So that is one of the things that we are trying to do here. We are indulging the government because the spending for this year is increased over last year.

In the area of education, even at the number that the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) objects so strongly to, our investment in education is dramatically larger than it was last year and over the President's budget request. The same thing for medical research, which is over the President's budget request and over last year's amount.

So we are indulging ourselves. Also, we are making a stronger investment in our national security, trying to compensate for the excessive deployments that American troops have been

experiencing in the last 8 years; deployments all over the world that are very, very costly, not only in time and manpower and womanpower, but in personnel costs. We wear out equipment. Spare parts cost. All of these things cost. So we are indulging the government and providing a little extra money.

At the same time, we should be doing something for the taxpayers, the people who make this money available. So paying off that debt becomes important to them, as it should be important to us, because I agree with what the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) said. This is the people's House. We represent the people of America.

I do not know how many realize this, but in the entire huge Federal Government system, there is only one place that one must be elected to serve, and that is here in the House of Representatives. One can be a President by appointment. Remember, Gerald Ford was never elected President, but he served as President. One can be a Vice President by appointment. One can be a United States Senator by appointment. One can be a member of the Supreme Court or anywhere in the judicial system by appointment. And in all of the many, many jobs in the agencies all over this Federal system, one can be appointed to those jobs.

The only place where one will never serve without being elected by the people is in this House of Representatives, and so this is the people's House. That is why we should be paying attention to recognizing that, if the people have contributed a lot more money to the government than the government needs, we ought to give some of it back.

That is why we are so committed to providing tax relief for the American taxpayer, who is substantially overburdened with their tax obligations, and then paying down the debt.

I mentioned that if one has a lot of money, a windfall, one's personal economy is good, one's business economy is good, one's government economy is good, pay down the debt or at least pay down part of it. That is what we have been doing.

We have been paying down the debt. Billions and billions of dollars of national debt, of public debt is being paid down. That has a lot of beneficial effect. One of the beneficial effects is, the smaller that debt becomes, the less interest the American taxpayer has to pay on that debt. The interest payment on our national debt has been over a quarter of a trillion dollars a year.

Now, can one imagine how much we can do for our veterans, how much we can do for our school students, how much we can do for medical research, how much we can do for the military, how much we can do for a renovation of our infrastructure in America if we had that extra quarter of a trillion dollars to use rather than pay interest on the national debt. So that is also an important part of what we do.

But now let us go back to the part where we are going to indulge the government a little bit. One of the bills that is higher than last year, if we ever get it passed, is this bill on Labor, Health, Education and Human Services.

Now, this bill, when it passed the House of Representatives the very first time early in the year, it was right at $100 billion. We have had two sets of negotiations. The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and I have worked with our counterparts in the Senate; and in July, we came up with a conference report that we thought that the House and the Senate would accept and that the President would sign. We really believed that. But higher authority decided on one side that it was too high and higher authority on the other side said it was too low. So we went back to the negotiating table.

In October, we came up with another package. We thought we really had done it this time, and higher authorities again shut it down. But that is why we are here, to work out these negotiations.

Now, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) objects to the agreement that he believes was reached at $107 billion, which is $7 billion more than the House had originally passed.

Mr. OBEY. No. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Sure. Of course I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. No, Mr. Speaker, I do not in any way believe there was an agreement reached at $107 billion. I know absolutely for a fact that there was not an agreement reached. The White House denies that there was an agreement reached at that number. The Democratic leadership denies that there was an agreement reached at that number. There was no agreement at that number. The continuing repetition of the mantra that there was one is one of the things that is going to stand as an obstacle to our getting any progress around here.

□ 0945

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman just got a little ahead of me because I was getting to that point. There was no agreement on the $107 billion figure that the gentleman used.

One area where I do agree with the gentleman is what he said about press reports. The newspapers this morning, which were overly optimistic, did not represent the meeting at the White House yesterday. I agree with him. The information that I have was that there was no reason to be optimistic based on that meeting at the White House yesterday, whether we are talking about $107 billion, which there was no agreement on; there was also no agreement on the $112 billion, which is the high number that is being considered by some; and definitely there is no agreement on the $100 billion, which is what the House passed.

So I say, in as friendly a way as I can to my friend from Wisconsin, that is why we should not communicate through newspapers or media. We ought to communicate with each other directly. And the gentleman from Wisconsin and I do that. Regarding his concern about what might have appeared in the newspaper, he should understand that that is not always necessarily the way that it really is.

Mr. Speaker, we have had a lot of conversation about this continuing resolution that we probably did not need to have, but we have done it; and now we are going to vote on this continuing resolution. It takes us until Monday. I would have preferred that we had a continuing resolution that would take us at least until Wednesday of next week, because I honestly believe that Members could go home this weekend and come back next Wednesday. By then there would be a package that I believe would be acceptable to at least a majority of the Members of the House and the Senate.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. That is the point that I want to raise.

As the gentleman knows, because the gentleman was here last night, and I was here last night, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon all of the leaders on high wanted us to get together last night, first at the staff level so that we understood what each other's proposals were, and then at the Member level. That did not take place, I think largely because there is still such a tremendous lack of clarity coming from the top that it is hard to sit in a room when we are being given three different descriptions of what we are actually expected to do.

My question is this. I will certainly be here every day from now until the cows come home, if necessary, to get an agreement. I feel I have full authority on my side at this point to negotiate. I would like to know whether the gentleman yet feels that he has that authority on his side; and if he does not, or if he knows of any other party that does not in this situation, then is the leadership going to be in town over the weekend so that if they want to again second guess our work that they can do that with some speed so we do not have to waste another 3 days and have to come in here and ruin yet another week before we finally get out of here?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, once again reclaiming my time, the gentleman from Wisconsin, through this entire process, has been here when it was necessary for him to be here. This gentleman from Florida, through this entire process, has been here when this gentleman was required to be here, and that means that neither one of us got home to our districts very much this year because we have been here a lot.

Mr. OBEY. That is why my margin went up.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. That may be true. But anyway, the answer to the gentleman is, I will be here. I do not have the authority to settle on a top number. I think the gentleman understands that. That number is going to be decided by a higher authority than mine or his, and it is going to be decided along with the President of the United States. Now, if that number is agreed upon by that higher authority, then the gentleman from Wisconsin and I can work out the balance along with our counterparts in the Senate without any great difficulty.

Mr. OBEY. If the gentleman will continue to yield, I would like to correct one thing the gentleman said. I do have the authority from my leadership to negotiate all numbers on appropriation items, including the overall amount. And I would respectfully urge the gentleman's leadership to do the same thing on his side. Because the problem I see is that I think the gentleman's leadership and my leadership are starting from different baselines, and so, therefore, they think they are talking to each other but in fact they are talking past each other.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Well, then, I would ask the gentleman this question, and I will yield for his answer. What number is the gentleman prepared to start at?

Mr. OBEY. I am starting at the conference agreement that we reached agreement on and shook hands on and toasted with Merlot, as the gentleman knows. I am willing to come down from that.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. That is my question. How much is the gentleman prepared and authorized to come down.

Mr. OBEY. Let us get in a room in 1 hour and start that process.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, let me get back to my point that we would have been much better served if we could have had a continuing resolution that would take us at least until the middle of next week so that these negotiations that the gentleman from Wisconsin and I are both trying to negotiate here on the floor, which does not work. We need that little extra time, and we need those with that authority to establish that number, whatever it is going to be.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield once again, my concern is that the gentleman has just said he does not have the authority to negotiate the top number; and yet it is not my understanding that his leadership, who evidently is retaining control over that top number, it is not my understanding that they will be here this weekend. Now, are they or are they not?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Well, I would suggest that the gentleman ask them to yield and ask them that question. I do not know what their plans are going to be. But I would say this, throughout this entire process my leadership has been available to me any day, weekend, weekday, night or day. I have no difficulty whatsoever communicating with my leadership because they are committed to completing this job, but they are committed to doing it in a responsible fashion.

We are just not going to sit down and agree to $112 billion, and the gentleman might as well understand that. He can debate about it all he wants to, but we are not going to go to the figure of $112 billion.

Mr. OBEY. I am not asking the gentleman to.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. That is a far greater investment than is required for this legislation. I have made the case that we have already increased education considerably over the President's budget request. We have increased the medical research through NIH dramatically over the President's budget request. But we are not going to go to the $112 billion that this administration wants. We are just not going to do it.

We have a responsibility to the people of America who sent us here to balance the budget, who sent us here to pay down the debt, who sent us here to give a little tax relief to our constituents, the taxpayers who have been overburdened; and, by God, we are going to do that. We have done it, and we are going to continue to do it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a ''yes'' vote on this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). All time for debate has expired.

The joint resolution is considered read for amendment.

Pursuant to House Resolution 669, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on engrossment and third reading of the resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 284, nays 37, not voting 111, as follows:

[Roll No. 602]

YEAS—284

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Bachus
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bass
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Bonilla
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Burr
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clayton
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cook
Cooksey
Cox
Crane
Cummings
Davis (FL)
Davis (VA)
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
English
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Fletcher
Foley
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (TX)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Inslee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jefferson
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kelly
Kildee
Kind (WI)
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
Lampson
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Minge
Moakley
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Ortiz
Ose
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pease
Peterson (MN)
Pickering
Pitts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sandlin
Sawyer
Saxton
Schaffer
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stearns
Stenholm
Stump
Sununu
Sweeney
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thornberry
Thune
Tiahrt
Toomey
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wilson
Wolf
Wu
Wynn
Young (FL)

NAYS—37

Baird
Baldwin
Barton
Bonior
Brown (OH)
Capuano
Conyers
Coyne
DeGette
DeLauro
Dingell
Farr
Ford
Hinchey
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Johnson, E. B.
Kennedy
Kilpatrick
Lowey
McDermott
Mink
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Owens
Paul

Pelosi	Stark	Visclosky
Sanders	Strickland	Waters
Schakowsky	Stupak	Woolsey
Scott	Thurman	

NOT VOTING—111

Ackerman	Forbes	McKinney
Archer	Fossella	Meehan
Baca	Fowler	Miller (FL)
Baker	Gallegly	Miller, Gary
Bartlett	Gejdenson	Miller, George
Becerra	Gillmor	Neal
Berman	Graham	Oxley
Bilbray	Granger	Packard
Blagojevich	Greenwood	Peterson (PA)
Boehner	Hall (OH)	Petri
Bono	Hansen	Phelps
Borski	Hastings (FL)	Pickett
Brady (PA)	Hefley	Pomeroy
Bryant	Hill (MT)	Rogan
Burton	Hinojosa	Rohrabacher
Chenoweth-Hage	Houghton	Ros-Lehtinen
Clay	Hoyer	Rothman
Clement	Hyde	Rush
Coburn	John	Ryan (WI)
Costello	Kaptur	Sanford
Cramer	Kasich	Scarborough
Crowley	King (NY)	Shuster
Cubin	Kingston	Smith (WA)
Cunningham	LaFalce	Talent
Danner	LaHood	Tancredo
Davis (IL)	Lantos	Taylor (NC)
Deal	Largent	Thompson (MS)
DeFazio	Lewis (CA)	Tierney
Delahunt	Lewis (GA)	Towns
Dickey	Lipinski	Wamp
Dixon	Lofgren	Watkins
Ehrlich	Martinez	Waxman
Emerson	McCarthy (NY)	Weiner
Engel	McCollum	Weygand
Eshoo	McCrery	Wicker
Fattah	McInnis	Wise
Filner	McIntosh	Young (AK)

□ 1015

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 602, I was in my Congressional District on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea.''

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 602, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been here I would have voted ''yea.''

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 5 p.m. on Monday next.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. 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 Oregon?

There was no objection.

SUPPORTING AMERICA'S FAMILIES

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, as the 106th Congress comes to a close, we look to the future; and I see great opportunity before us.

Together, we should work to ensure that the 107th Congress meets the needs and fulfills the goals of America's families. For example, currently our families must work until mid May of every year just to pay off their tax bills. Nothing up to that point goes toward savings, investment or other personal expenses. This overbearing tax burden is simply unfair. We need to give American families a break and allow them to keep more of what they earn.

It is my hope that the 107th Congress will grant needed tax relief to America's families as well as pass other necessary legislation, including a Medicare prescription drug benefit and real, local-based education reform. I look forward to continuing to work as we begin this session on these issues, and I encourage all Members to join with me to support America's families in the 107th Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, yesterday December 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained in my district and missed rollcall vote 601.

Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''

CHRISTMAS DAY IS APPROACHING

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a moment at this time of year to recognize that we do have a major holiday approaching. I wore a Christmas tie today for that purpose. This is just an effort to first of all remind my colleagues and our Nation about the great blessings we enjoy in this Nation, that we are true to our religious heritage as individuals, that we recognize the major holiday which is of extreme importance to the majority of our population, and also in a slightly humorous way to remind my colleagues that we really are past the time of adjournment, that we should be at home meeting with our constituents, reminding them of all that we have done, and also to make certain that we spend some time with our families and enjoy our Christmas holiday together.

TIME TO COMPLETE THE BUDGET PROCESS

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I was sitting on the floor of the House as we were debating the continuing resolution. Frankly, I was puzzled. I would like to appeal to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. The budget process should have been completed by October 1. Several weeks ago, our distinguished chair of the Committee on Appropriations, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG); our distinguished chair of the subcommittee, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER), sat with Democrats and worked in a bipartisan way to get a bill completed.

There was a lot of time, my colleagues, on the floor of the House talking about whether it is $107 billion, $110 billion, $113 billion. You get to a point around here where it is a billion here, a billion there and soon we are talking about real money. But I want to make it clear to those who may be watching this process, that every day we wait, children are waiting for moneys for after-school programs, for moneys for smaller class sizes, for moneys for modernization of our schools, for Head Start, for those who are waiting for a Pell grant. We are talking about $500 more for a Pell grant. For those who are desperately waiting for answers for cancer research, we are talking about funding for the National Institutes of Health.

My colleagues, I hope we would take the numbers of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and complete this process now.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded that remarks are to be addressed to the Chair and not to those who may be watching on television or elsewhere.

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 gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF 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 New York (Mr. OWENS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. OWENS 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 Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

TIME TO COMPLETE THE BUDGET PROCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and would ask again that we complete this process and complete a bill that funds education, that funds research at the National Institutes of Health.

I find this time in this session really rather extraordinary. The appropriations process should have been completed, my colleagues, by October 1. We were in the midst of an active campaign where everyone talked about education. Governor Bush talked about being the education President, talked about how important education is. And while we are here, holding up funding for education, talking about a billion more, a billion less, after there was an agreement between the chairs of the Committee on Appropriations on the Republican side and the ranking members on the Democratic side, there was an agreement to fund research at the National Institutes of Health, research for breast cancer, for Alzheimer's, for juvenile diabetes. There was an agreement to invest in education to create smaller class sizes, to modernize our schools, to increase the dollars for Pell grants to invest in education of our young people.

I am really puzzled, my colleagues, how we can continue debating this after an agreement was reached. I do not understand how those who are talking about working together in a bipartisan way can renege on an agreement to help our children. I do not understand why Governor Bush does not call up his friends, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), and say, ''Let's get together, work in a bipartisan way, Democrats and Republicans, and pass that bill that the Republican chairs and the Democratic ranking member agreed on.''

My colleagues, this is the time to complete our work. It is already 2 months after the appropriations process should have been completed. I would ask my friends on the other side of the aisle to go to the leadership and say, the time is now, we cannot delay any longer, there is an agreement on the table, we did agree to invest in after-school programs, modernizing our schools, smaller class sizes, expanding Head Start, expanding child care. There was an agreement.

I just want to say one other thing. As a Democrat, we are happy to reach across the aisle working with our colleagues in the appropriations process. No one gets everything they want, so let us get to work, complete this agreement, let us go home to our families and move on.

ANNOUNCING THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE JULIAN DIXON

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

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I wish at this time to make an announcement that is very tough for me to make. We just received word that our colleague JULIAN DIXON of California has passed. I wish at this time for the House to stand at ease and for all of us to stand in silence and in our own way pray for him and his family and this body.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I just want to tell my colleagues that from this side of the aisle, the message that we just heard is accepted with profound grief.

I came to Congress with JULIAN DIXON. JULIAN DIXON was born here and was from California. He encompassed the Nation in terms of his personality, his politics and his way of dealing with people. We all have to face these very difficult life experiences, but this one is profoundly significant on this House.

JULIAN was a friend of all of ours and represents what was finest in this institution. I am just very sorry to hear it.

□ 1030

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, before yielding to the senior member from the California delegation, let me at this moment yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman mentioned, he will be yielding to the gentleman from California (Mr. STARK), the senior member of the California delegation, for a resolution. I know our distinguished Democratic leader is on the floor and will be yielded to as well.

But as the senior Member on the floor at this time when the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) is breaking this very sad news to us, I want to join my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), as a fellow Californian and say on behalf of our delegation what a tragedy this is for us.

JULIAN DIXON has been a magnificent Member of Congress. He served in the State legislature before coming here. He has done some heavy lifting for this Congress. On the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, and now as the ranking member on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and all of his work as a member of the Committee on Appropriations, he represented the values of our country in the struggle over budget priorities. On the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence he represented the strength of our country in the important work of that committee.

Most importantly though, he was a beautiful, lovely man. His work was imbued with a sense of fairness, a sense of great intellect, great balance, great willingness to be bipartisan, and everything on behalf of people in our country, so everyone would have an opportunity. We will say more in our California remarks.

I just want to close by saying that this is really what is known as a tragedy, a very unexpected loss to this House and to this Congress and to our great country. So, as a Californian, as his colleague on the Committee on Appropriations, as a colleague on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I know the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) speaks from the standpoint of many capacities, including the Black Caucus, but my point is that everyone who came in contact with him in every way admired him, loved him, respected him.

I hope it is a comfort to his family that so many people share their loss and are mourning with them at this time and are praying with them.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The Chair will recognize the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) under a 5 minute special order until the privileged resolution is ready.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HONORABLE JULIAN C. DIXON

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

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MATSUI).

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, Mr. DIXON and I came in together in 1978, as the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) mentioned. Eleven Members from California came in 1978, new Members; and on the Democratic side it was Mr. DIXON, Tony Coehlo, Vic Fazio, and myself.

I have to tell you, this is a shocking moment for all of us in this body. JULIAN DIXON was the type of individual that was about the calmest person that I have ever come across. He is an individual that obviously Members looked to in terms of seeking advice. He was somebody that all of us in the California delegation saw as a moral compass of our State, and certainly in this body, the House of Representatives.

As long as there will be such an institution, JULIAN DIXON will be part of that, because his memory is in all of us, and it will be forever.

I obviously express my regards to his family and indicate how much we will miss him.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JULIAN C. DIXON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 671) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 671

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Julian C. Dixon, a Representative from the State of California.

Resolved, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of applicable accounts of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California (Mr. STARK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 minutes to control to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN).

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the minority leader.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, as the leader of the Democrats in the House and as a Member of the House, I rise to express our collective grief and sadness at the suddenness of this very, very, very negative event that has happened to all of us.

I have served here nearly my entire time with JULIAN DIXON, and, as others have said, I have never known a more gentle, conciliatory, wonderful human being as we have known in JULIAN DIXON. He served in this body in the most sensitive and difficult positions. He served as chairman of the Committee on Ethics in some of the stormiest and most difficult times in our past; he has been ranking member on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; he has been a subcommittee chairman and then ranking member on the Committee on Appropriations.

All of that is important, but I guess what is most important to me, and I think all of us, is that he embodied to us the best in public life. He was a beautiful human being. He loved others, he cared for others. Everything that he did was with grace and excellence. He typified what it means in this country and in this world to be a public servant.

We are deeply saddened by this unexpected tragedy. Our hearts and our prayers go out to his family, go out to his constituents, go out to all of his beloved friends, in California and around the country.

To the members of the California delegation, all of us give our deepest sympathy, and all of us will pray in the days ahead for the comfort and understanding on behalf of his family and his loved ones.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, JULIAN DIXON, as many have said, was a gentleman and a very caring person. He was 20 miles from my district. We worked together on a lot of different projects, especially in the defense area, and also in economic development.

JULIAN was the type of person that could get everybody that was warring over something into the room, around the table, and work out something; and he did that with the Metropolitan Transit Authority, which was in deep trouble in Los Angeles County 6 years ago. JULIAN would get us all together, and the result was we became cohesive.

JULIAN was the type of legislator that was for the Nation, for the State, for the county, as well as for his district, and we certainly will miss JULIAN DIXON.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am stunned; I am saddened. It is very difficult to understand how one day you have your colleague here with you, and, in a few days, he is gone.

JULIAN DIXON is a man and a Member of Congress that is respected by all. I have known him since before he ran for the California State Assembly. When JULIAN DIXON was elected to the California State Assembly, he immediately established himself as a brilliant, credible, dependable human being. He gained a lot of friends in the California State Assembly, friends that he still has until today.

He went on to be elected to the Congress of the United States, where he developed the same kind of reputation, steady as a rock, dependable, friendly, gets along with everybody, even mediates when there are problems between other Members. You could always go to him for help.

He is loved in California. He is highly respected. This comes as a great blow. He is in the district immediately adjacent to mine; and so we share venues, we share all kinds of operations. We have held joint town-halls together.

I am going to miss him, and my heart goes out to Bettye and to his family. I am certain that this Congress will show its deepest respect and sympathy in every way that we possibly can. We have lost a great legislator and a great friend.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I only knew Mr. DIXON for a few years; but after a vote on the House floor, we would often walk back to our offices together. As a much younger Member, Mr. DIXON and I would discuss the usual things you might suspect Members of Congress would talk about, the international community, the domestic situation, doing the Nation's business, the recent vote that we just took, the very volatile nature of a democratic process. But the most heartfelt things that I would remember that Mr. DIXON and I would discuss would be our families and the things that mattered most to the heart back home in our respective districts, with our family members, with our children, with our friends, and the nature of what it meant to be a Member of Congress.

So we often think about the icons of America who are most in the news, who are most spoken of on a daily basis. But Mr. DIXON was that gentle, kind, most profound icon that this Nation can have, because he did the Nation's business in the most honest way. This place, the House floor, has lost the friendly presence of Mr. DIXON; but his spirit, I am sure, will dwell within each of us. So our heart goes out to lessen the sorrow that those who loved him most dear are feeling at this time.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, before recognizing the gentleman from New York, the ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means, I just want to point out to my colleagues that JULIAN had really two constituencies for almost 20 years. I served on the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia at the same time that JULIAN was chairing that subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, and the District of Columbia owes a great deal of gratitude over the years for the number of times that he came to the defense of home rule, to the aid of their schools, their health care, their police and fire departments, all at times where he was able to bring aid to a concern that was never, I hate to admit, the most popular committee in concern in this House, and that was dealing with some of the problems of the District of Columbia. But he felt a real responsibility, and he discharged that responsibility with great humanity. I think, in addition to his district in California, he had that added responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL).

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, not too long ago we had elections in the Congressional Black Caucus, and JULIAN DIXON sent in his absentee ballot. All I can remember about it was that the chairman had indicated that JULIAN DIXON had said that he was undergoing ''minor surgery.'' But the key word and the key

thing about JULIAN is he also said, ''and don't worry about me, I will see you next week.''

□ 1045

I guess that shows us the type of person that JULIAN was, that he even at that time, when he was facing some type of a health setback, he was more concerned about the feelings of his colleagues.

In this great body of Members of Congress, in this great body of politics, there are just some of us, and I am included in that number, who cannot resist the temptation to have press conferences and get on television. But all of us know in the bottom of our hearts that the real warriors of politics in this House are those who go about their business every day, wrestling with the difficult questions and not seeking the attention or the credit for the good that they do.

JULIAN DIXON had to be the epitome of the selfless, hard-working legislator who, whether one is liberal or conservative, Republican or Democrat, we felt that he was one of our best friends.

With all of the problems that I have stumbled across in the House of Representatives, there has been no Member who I have felt more comfortable in talking to than JULIAN DIXON. As a matter of fact, even if it was a personal problem, I would know that it would be well-kept within the heart of JULIAN DIXON.

I hope that we can find some way in the days ahead, as we go through the most polarized period, I would suspect, in recent history that our country and this Congress will go through, that somehow we will remember that perhaps there will be the Rangels and the DeLays out there fighting, but the most important thing that our country really has as its treasures are not those who are out fighting but those who are out mending, and keeping this Congress and this country so great.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot tell the Members how shocked and saddened I am to hear of the news of JULIAN DIXON's passing. One of the main reasons is that, as the gentleman from California (Mr. MATSUI) and I were just talking about a few minutes ago, JULIAN DIXON seemed to be one of those indestructible human beings. He was such a bulwark of strength for his friends, for this institution.

Sitting behind me is the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS), who served with JULIAN DIXON on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. I remember so well the tremendous, nonpartisan approach that he took to that very important task here in the House. I had the privilege of working with him as a fellow Angelino on a wide range of issues that affected Southern California. We were always able to come together in a bipartisan way.

I will say that when I think about the trips that we have taken together, the time that we have spent, he always did offer that very, very level-headed approach when it came to providing advice to all of us. He was a model Member of the United States Congress, and I will miss him greatly. My thoughts and prayers are with Bettye and with his family.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me, and for taking this special order.

Mr. Speaker, as a Californian, I say to my colleagues, they have to know that our entire State will be in mourning over the loss of JULIAN DIXON. He served so well in the State legislature. The gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) mentioned the words ''model Member of Congress''.

He was a model public servant, indeed, imbued with a sense of great intellect, as I mentioned earlier; with a sense of fairness, whether it was on the ethics Committee, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Appropriations, the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia of the Committee on Appropriations where he served; he served appropriating and authorizing there. He cared about people.

As I say, as a member of the State assembly, he was a fixture of our State. It is a terrible, terrible loss for us. Really, he was a giant of a man and a real teacher and mentor to so many of us.

So to Bettye and his family, again, I hope it is a comfort to them that so many people share their loss, are grieving with them at this terribly difficult time, and are praying that they have the strength to get through it. Think of our State as crying at this time. California cries over the loss of the great JULIAN DIXON.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

I, like my colleagues, express my shock and sadness at the passing of our good friend and colleague who did great service to this House and to the people of America.

It was on Monday, just this past Monday, that I was involved with the dedication of the Martin Luther King, Junior memorial here in Washington, D.C. As emcee, I mentioned in my comments the fact that JULIAN DIXON was my colleague who joined with me in several pieces of legislation in moving this opportunity for a memorial in the Nation's Capitol for Martin Luther King, Jr. This is a memorial that will be paid for by the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity to which Martin Luther King, Jr., belonged.

It was very interesting, JULIAN worked so very hard on this memorial, step-by-step with me, and it reflected what everybody has said and will continue to say about the fact that he worked in a bipartisan manner for what he believed was right.

In so doing, as well as the site being in the District of Columbia, where mention has been made of his dedication to the Nation's Capitol as reflecting what is best in America on the authorizing committee, and then subsequently on the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia of the Committee on Appropriations, I think he reflected so much of what Martin Luther King stood for, the concept of justice, justice arrived at in a peaceful manner by working with people, by espousing a philosophy and acting on it at the same time, too.

So I think that as we look in the future to the memorial for Martin Luther King, Jr., there, as well as in this Chamber, will be a memorial also for our good friend, JULIAN DIXON. It will be a reminder of Dr. King's struggle, but JULIAN DIXON's struggle, also, to eliminate injustice and prejudice, be it here in Congress, be it in the Nation, wherever it may be.

So I express also my sympathy to his wife, Bettye, and to his son and other family members, and to all of the friends who share this sense that he has left a legacy, but he will indeed be missed.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD).

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I am shocked over the death of my friend, JULIAN DIXON . The only thing that I can say is that he was a gentleman's gentleman, one who served this country very well. He will be sorely missed. I, for one, will miss him dearly.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS), the chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence on which Mr. DIXON served.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding time to me.

I obviously am as stunned as everybody else, and I am sorry beyond belief. I send my deepest sympathy to his colleagues, and to his family, of course.

I will say that I had the privilege and pleasure of working with JULIAN, both on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and out of that came a very easy, comfortable friendship. It was very genuine and very deep. I think the candor and trust between us is as far as ever goes between human beings. I will miss him more than I can say. I am truly in shock.

I think, if I could find a legacy to talk about briefly, it was the model working relationship. I think we had to deal with problems that had to rise above partisanship or other interests where we had to focus on issues.

JULIAN brought, as everybody knows here who worked with him, a great deal of perception to whatever he was doing, and an incredible persistence. He was a very pragmatic man. But the things that stood out as hallmarks when all the hard questions were asked and all the hard work was done, he had a wonderful sense of humor and he was very fair. I trusted JULIAN's judgment completely, as did everybody else, because we knew it was a fair deal when he got through examining the issue. What a wonderful thing to be able to say about somebody.

I think my last memory of JULIAN is what I will cherish. It was in Frager's Department Store. He was trying to buy a light switch and I was trying to buy a light bulb, and we were both having troubles. I think that maybe says something about us both, worrying about the world's problems, and sometimes the details get to us.

Often as we go through life we hear people, we as Members of Congress hear people say things about Congressmen. I would hold JULIAN DIXON up as a Congressman that I am very, very proud of. I do not know how one does better. When somebody talks about United States Congressmen, I think of JULIAN DIXON . He was the best.

We will remember him that way, but boy, I am sorry we have to remember him at all. I wish he was with us.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY).

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the shock, the deep grief, the sadness which has been expressed by the colleagues of JULIAN DIXON.

As a Member of the Committee on Appropriations, I have always, always stood in awe of JULIAN DIXON. He is a person who would rise and only rise when he had something substantive to say. He would rise with elegance, authority, with grace, with respect.

JULIAN DIXON has earned the respect of all of us in this Congress, and he exemplifies the very best of what a public servant should be. To his family, we just want them to know that our thoughts and prayers will always be with them. We will miss you, JULIAN.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR).

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, we are all here in absolute shock of this news that is less than a half-hour old that our colleague, JULIAN DIXON, died.

JULIAN was such a presence around here. When we think that this body operates with people who are in key positions, positions of incredible respect and importance, serving on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and his role on the Committee on Appropriations, and many of us recall that in that role, it was pointed out by his colleague and friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. STARK), that when he was Chair of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia of the Committee on Appropriations he was like the ad hoc mayor of Washington, D.C., because he had a passion for this city and for it being the Nation's Capitol.

I want to share with the Members just a moment, I was a young staffer in the California State legislature when JULIAN DIXON became elected. He was a magnificent human being: tall, handsome, smart. He was elected as caucus chair, Democratic Caucus chair in the California State legislature, and had incredible respect. Obviously, when a seat opened here in Congress, he was a natural to run for that seat, win, and serve in Congress with distinction.

We are at a loss because we sometimes know that people are ill or in the hospital, but it is a shock when we learn that immediately someone is gone, and particularly those of us from California, if we look at the very short time in the last few years that we lost George Brown, we lost Sonny Bono, we lost Walter Capps. We have had an incredible loss of California Members of Congress.

□ 1100

JULIAN was a champion among them all. I am chair of the delegation, and some people are already going back to California, and I am sure they will hear on the airplane or the minute they get off, and we will share this shock of great loss, not only to the State of California, to his family, but to this Nation.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK).

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this Congress has suffered a great loss in the death of JULIAN DIXON. God called JULIAN home; and he said to him well done, my good and faithful servant. Well done. JULIAN was outstanding. He was a consummate legislator, a consummate gentleman. I served with him on the Committee on Appropriations. I will never forget how fearless he was, when he stood before many times, not a very agreeing committee, to speak up for D.C. and to speak up for all of the people.

Mr. Speaker, I served with him on the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's board. He was a voice of wisdom. He was a voice of calm. He was a very, very bright and smart man; but the other side of JULIAN was a very funny humorous side. He used to call me back there where he sat and he would tell me nice, little grandmotherly jokes, and I would laugh. Sometimes they were not even funny; but I laughed, because they came from JULIAN.

I always teased him about JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and we always had a running joke about JUANITA. JULIAN loved her. He loved me. He loved all of us in Congress. So it is with great humility that I say God called home a soldier. Well done, JULIAN.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS).

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in extending my condolences to JULIAN's family. We are all shocked and saddened. As a young freshman coming to Congress, I found JULIAN DIXON, who was not that many years ahead of me in seniority, to be the most nuturing, the guy who showed us around and gave us the details and cared a great deal, wise beyond his years of service in the Congress.

JULIAN was the kind of person that always did his homework as a chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, as the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. I admired the way in which JULIAN worked, always thorough, always conciliatory, always willing to be the reconciler. Everybody trusted JULIAN because he was that thorough and basic.

JULIAN did not run like a firefly to the cameras. JULIAN was not a peacock seeking headlines, but you knew JULIAN would get the job done. I think that the trust that we felt as freshmen coming in and experiencing JULIAN's leadership was also obviously the kind of trust that the leadership felt about JULIAN.

He was appointed head of the Committee on Ethics. He was on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. And whenever there was an ad hoc committee that had a difficult job to do, I noticed that the leadership, three speakers, would lean on JULIAN DIXON; and I think that the trust extended across party lines. It was not just the Democrats, but also the Members of the other party on the other side of the aisle seemed to have the same kind of trust in JULIAN DIXON.

If you had to take a poll, probably the individual who was trusted most in the last 20 years, 30 years, JULIAN would be high on that list in terms of being the most trusted among us. And I am very saddened by his departure.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding the time to me.

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep regret and sadness that I join our colleagues today in expressing our sorrow over the passing of our good colleague and friend, the gentleman from California (JULIAN DIXON).

JULIAN's contributions to this body and to our Nation are incalculable. First coming to the House some 22 years ago, JULIAN immediately made an impact upon arrival.

He had previously served as a staff member to State Senator Mervyn M. Dymally, who was later a Member of

this body. And JULIAN then served with distinction in the California State Assembly succeeding Congresswoman Burke. His popularity in his home district in California never diminished throughout his 22 years of public service.

JULIAN came to personify the people of the Los Angeles district. In him, they had an articulate, compassionate spokesperson. The fact that he never once received less than 75 percent of their votes at home is an indication of the reverence and gratitude that his constituents had for him.

Congressman JULIAN DIXON's contributions came in great part through his role on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a committee reflecting a patriotism of its members.

Congressman DIXON has also been an articulate and active member of the Committee on Appropriations, where he was a spokesperson for the needs, not only of his own district, but for all of urban America.

In the loss of Congressman JULIAN DIXON, our Nation's Capital has lost a champion. As a member of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia, he was a defender of home rule for the District, for adequate education in the District of Columbia, and for the enfranchisement of the District's residents.

JULIAN served in the Army from 1957 through 1960, and as one of a dwindling number of Members who were veterans in the Armed Services, he was a continual spokesperson for the needs of our military and for the importance of maintaining a strong defense posture as we negotiate for peace.

His knowledge and understanding of the needs of our military never ceased to amaze and impress all of us. His was a voice which compelled the rest of us to listen carefully.

Mr. Speaker, JULIAN was a good and respected friend to all of us on both sides of the aisle. He earned our respect and admiration; his shoes are going to be difficult to fill. I join with all of our colleagues today in expressing condolences to his widow, Bettye Lee, to their child and to the many people who considered him a role model and a hero.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, join with my colleagues in expressing our profound sorrow in the loss of our colleague, JULIAN DIXON. JULIAN was special to all of us; but he was particularly special to me because, when I came to this body some 8 years ago, I identified him quickly as a mentor. I talked with him.

Mr. Speaker, I would seek his advice and his counsel. When I decided that I was interested in becoming a member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I immediately sought out JULIAN DIXON, calling him long-distance from South Africa to get his advice and counsel on how to make that happen.

I had the opportunity to work with JULIAN and to observe him in his relationship with the majority on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, to see his relationship with his staff and the profound respect in which they held him.

JULIAN could be summed up by saying he had character, honesty. He was hard working. He was diplomatic, but he was tough. He was a friend to so many of us. He has made a profound impact on this Congress, on the United States, and on the world. He carried the load for a lot of the dirty work.

And I guess I must at this moment just remember JULIAN in the words of one of my favorite poems called ''A Bag of Tools'':

Isn't it strange how princes and kings, and clowns that caper and sawdust rings, and common people, like you and me, are builders for eternity?

Each is given a bag of tools, a shapeless mass, a book of rules. And each must fashion, ere life is flown, a stumbling block, or a Stepping-Stone.

On behalf of all of my colleagues of all of those who knew JULIAN, and particularly the Democratic staff on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence who feel this loss so profoundly, I say we are so happy and America is happy and the world is better because JULIAN was not a stumbling block. He was indeed a stepping-stone for a better life for human kind in this world.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), chairman of the Subcommittee on Defense, and who worked with JULIAN on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN), for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, to my friends, many know that this has been a year of crisis for me personally. It is the tragedy of human life that causes us to focus and refocus on those things that are important. We talk often about crises around here, issues come and go, and it kind of makes up our life and our day. And we take too little time to think about the importance of the humankind who make up this body.

This tragedy should remind all of us that there are many, many more important things about the work that we do than a single issue or a single day or a single crisis. We will be talking a lot about the need for our coming together; and perhaps this horrible tragedy will serve as a beginning point for us to once again try to reach out to each other and express that love that really makes this body what it can be and should be.

Mr. Speaker, I have not had a closer friend in the House than JULIAN DIXON. We go back to the legislature together in California. We came here as classmates. We have served for years on the Committee on Appropriations together. As STEVE indicated, he was a member of my Subcommittee on Defense. He did marvelous work in the Committee on Ethics.

He served on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in a way that few could begin to appreciate unless you watched him day in and day out.

JULIAN DIXON is one of the great men of the House, a legislator who cares about people; and indeed, he and Bettye over the years became Arlene and my closest friends in terms of social contact. We traveled together. We loved one another.

I would close my remarks by telling a story that relates much of what we did together. Many years ago as a young Member of the House on the minority side, I got used to staffers who think they run our life. And I talked to a young staffer on the Committee on Banking and Financial Services about the fact that there had been many, many years since we had had a gold coin in this country.

I was concerned about the fact that that was symbolizing our trade deficits, et cetera; and I introduced a bill to create a new gold coin. And that staffer of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, when I took the idea to him, he literally mocked and said, Congressman, that bill will never get a hearing. And you know what, it did not through that Congress.

The following year, I introduced a bill again and then I sat down with my friend, JULIAN DIXON, and talked about the trade deficit in gold with South Africa. And JULIAN DIXON cosponsored that bill, the entire Black Caucus sponsored that bill, almost the whole House did.

You know what? When I hold up that gold eagle coin, forever now, I will always remember our friend, JULIAN DIXON, and what he meant to our potential on both sides of the aisle as human beings working together. Let us use this as a symbol of the work we must do together.

God bless JULIAN and Bettye Dixon.

□ 1115

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues very much. The loss of Congressman JULIAN DIXON is a catastrophic loss. It is a catastrophic loss for this Nation and for this body.

When others spoke of bipartisanship, JULIAN DIXON practiced it. When others spoke of congeniality and friendship and fellowship, JULIAN DIXON exemplified it. When others spoke of kindness and outreach, JULIAN DIXON embraced you. When there was a hard task, an unpopular task, a challenging task, this House turned to JULIAN DIXON.

I did not have the honor and pleasure of serving with Mr. DIXON on a committee of this House, but I had the

honor of serving with him in the Congressional Black Caucus and knowing him through my predecessors who served in this House in the 18th Congressional District in Texas.

I heard of JULIAN DIXON before I arrived in this place, and the words were sweet and melodious. They were words that were uplifting. They were friendly words describing him.

To his wife Bettye and to his family, I know that he is at this point missing in your heart, your mind and your souls. But be forever reminded that the Nation mourns with you.

Those of us who JULIAN DIXON endeared himself to because he was that kind of man and that kind of American, our hearts are torn, our hearts are deep with a loss. I can only say to my colleagues that I remain in shock, but I remain bolstered by the fact that JULIAN DIXON lived, he walked this Earth, he served this Nation. But most of all, he has shown himself to be the kind of person that the world will be reminded of, selfless, committed, self-sacrificing, loving, and special.

God bless this Nation, God bless JULIAN as he flies among the eagles, and God bless his family.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), chairman of the Majority Policy Committee.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, in a way, it is nice to be here on the floor and to listen to all of these things being said about JULIAN DIXON, because my southern California colleague, even now that he is gone, is going to be a powerful force among us.

All of us in our spiritual lives have aspirational goals that we try to reach, something greater than us that we try to be. But it is also important in life to have real human beings that one can look at and say that is a person I would like to be like. That is someone who, if I strive, I work, I could be like that person. JULIAN DIXON is such a model for all of us, and is not just now in death, but was while he walked among us such a person.

He and I were facilitators together at Hershey at the bipartisan retreat. We spent a lot of time talking on airplanes flying to and from Southern California and discussing important national security business on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence where he bore so much responsibility.

But it is with respect to the efforts that we have made over a period of many Congresses at Hershey that I think I will think best of JULIAN DIXON, because in a time when so many people are talking about the need for bipartisanship, JULIAN DIXON can remind us of what that really is.

Bipartisanship, as he showed us, is not lacking convictions. It is not being a political hermaphrodite, half Republican, half Democrat. But JULIAN believed passionately about the things he did, and he was a great leader for our country. But, rather, it was transcending that conviction and recognizing that many of the things that we believe so deeply divide us are transitory, they are products of the time and the place in which we live, and focusing instead on our essential humanity, on our respective worth and dignity.

I think that, in the year and years ahead, there can be no better model for every Member of this body than our good friend who we will so deeply miss, the Honorable JULIAN DIXON.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to observe for the House that we have received a phone call from former Member Vic Fazio of California who came to Congress with JULIAN in that class, I think, in 1978, who wanted me to express to my colleagues and to Bettye Vic's condolences.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. KILPATRICK).

(Ms. KILPATRICK asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, giving honor to God who is the head of my life, I join with my colleagues to really stand here and say what a giant we have lost. As was mentioned earlier, Congressman DIXON said, ''See you next week,'' and he will, because his spirit lives, and it will always live as long as we remember him.

Congressman DIXON supported me before coming to this House of Representatives. Every day as we served as a member of the Committee on Appropriations for this House, his strength, his intelligence, and his endurance was a light for all of us to follow.

Over the rostrum here, it says ''In God we trust.'' Our Nation, this House, and the world is in perilous times at this moment. Let the spirit of Congressman JULIAN DIXON guide us through these troubled waters. If we should use his spirit and his strength to get us through these difficult times, God will bless us, this country will be a better place, and the world will be a safer place.

So, Mr. Speaker, as we honor his memory today, let us not forget who he was and what he stood for, fighting injustice wherever it reared its ugly head, racism, sexism. This is a great country, and the best homage we can pay to Congressman JULIAN DIXON is to honor that memory and instill those principles in this House.

My love goes out to Bettye and the family, always know that we are here to support you. JULIAN DIXON, through this House of Representatives, can lead us the way into the future.

God bless you, my brother, and may you rest in peace.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, many of the Members are not even aware of this announcement, so I ask unanimous consent to yield the time we have remaining to the gentleman from California (Mr. STARK).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Without objection, the time allocated to the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) will be controlled by the gentleman from California (Mr. STARK).

There was no objection.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. HORN), and we appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. HILLIARD).

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in expressing sympathy to the family of Congressman DIXON.

Every now and then in every profession, on every job, there is recognition of a person who can give advice. That person among his colleagues is sought out for advice; and he is sought out because of his talent, because of his perseverance, because of his sincerity and because of the good advice he gives. JULIAN DIXON was such a person.

If he had been a doctor, he would have been known as a doctor's doctor. If he had been a lawyer, he would have been known as a lawyer's lawyer. He was a congressman; and because of the advice that he gave me and many of our colleagues, I consider him as a congressman's congressman.

But I knew him also in another capacity. We both are brothers in the fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated. Because of the effort of brother JULIAN DIXON, members of Alpha now can pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, our most famous brother here in this district because of the monument that he helped Congress create.

So on behalf of the more than hundred brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, I express my sympathy to his family. We lost a good brother, this Congress lost a good Member, and this Nation lost a good servant.

I wish to express my deepest sympathy today for a dear friend and colleague who dedicated his entire life to serving his family, his District in California, and this United States Congress. He served with determination and an unwavering spirit of dedication. This void cannot be filled. He was a native son of Washington, D.C., and he made his home in Los Angeles California, where he planted the seeds of faith and overcoming. JULIAN overcame obstacles with a sense of grace and dignity. Now we can embrace the harvest he has left behind. We must not forget the abundance of that harvest when we continue our good works on the different committees upon which he served. I want to express my deepest sympathy to his dear wife Betty and his son Cary. I shall remember both of you in my prayers. JULIAN was truly on loan from God.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I add my voice to those who have already spoken to express my heartfelt sympathy for the family of JULIAN DIXON. When I decided to run for chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, among the

first persons that I sought advice from was JULIAN DIXON. He had a way of sorting out the issues, trying to ensure that the purposes of the Congressional Black Caucus were definitely on the agenda that I was going to propose and gave me tremendous advice. That was just the way that he was.

I think the committees that he served on sort of said it all. He was a member of the Committee on Appropriations. He would not only appropriate formally on the committee as his responsibilities said he should and fought for the District of Columbia when there was a lot of adversity; but he in his own private way was a giver, he was an appropriator, he gave advice.

He gave a wonderful event at the Democratic National Convention where he had a beautiful dinner just for friends, because that was the type of person he was. He was on the Committee on Ethics. He is a person of high ethics. Everyone knows that. I think the committees that he served on said it all.

Finally, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, one could not find a person more intelligent, more noble, more thorough and efficient than JULIAN DIXON.

We traveled recently, and he and his wife just complimented one another.

So as I conclude, I think that we can simply remember that old Negro spiritual that said that ''Let the work that I have done speak for me.''

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON).

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, all of us are in shock, and I join with my colleagues in saying that I am in shock, too. But I also join my colleagues in saying I am in profound appreciation for the example and the life that JULIAN DIXON led. All of us knew him for unique features, but just listening to the remarks, one understands all of us had tremendous respect for him.

Some of us knew him as a person who, indeed, could feather out conflicts. He had friends on both sides of the issues. Whether he agreed with one or not, he would give one his advice.

I serve on the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and serve currently as chair, and he knew I was kind of a reluctant chair of that committee. Part of his admonition to me was that the greatest thing one can do is bring about stability, understanding, and working together. JULIAN certainly was not one to run away from thorny issues. So I will remember him for that.

I thank him for the life he leaves for us. I hope that we can use it as a challenge that we, too, can bring that calmness, that respect, and the loving care in being a public servant. God bless you.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER).

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, JULIAN DIXON was a giant and a gentleman. I, first of all, want to extend my prayers to his family, to Bettye Lee, and to his son, to his staff and the staff in the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and to the people of the 32nd District of California, and especially thank them for sending to us this giant and gentleman who I served with on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

He was a giant in that the tough jobs that demanded bipartisanship and fairness and ethics and intelligence, like the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and like the Committee on Ethics, were given to JULIAN.

We have a saying, Mr. Speaker, around here when we refer to people as the gentleman from California. JULIAN DIXON was a gentleman in every sense of the word, kind and compassionate to everybody he met, and he was a gentleman with a soothing voice.

□ 1130

He served the country in the military. He served the country as a public servant. He served all of us. And now the good Lord has called him home to do even more important work.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON).

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in expressing my deepest sympathy to JULIAN DIXON's wife and family. I met JULIAN DIXON the year that he was elected to Congress through mutual friends. I had a lot of relatives in his district who told me that he was going to be the best. I considered him and Bettye my dear friends. He was quiet, dignified, professional, dependable, thorough, hard working, and, as we hear, respected by all.

JULIAN was fair and knowledgeable of his work. I will miss him. We will all miss him; but I will miss him as a role model, I will miss him as a friend, and Bettye and family will have my deepest sympathy.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me this time.

I, like my colleagues, am trying to deal with the shock of our loss, and all of us who have had the privilege of knowing and working with JULIAN grieve at his death. I want to extend on behalf of the all of the people of the Virgin Islands to his beloved wife Bettye and his family our sincere condolences.

It was truly a privilege for me to have been able to serve with JULIAN and to benefit, as so many others, from his wisdom and his experience, as the whole Nation and indeed the world has from his service. JULIAN was also my landlord; and my family and I are deeply appreciative of the great generosity that he showed to us when we rented from him.

Our love and our prayers go out to Bettye and his family, and we hope that they are comforted not only by the fact that so many share in the burden of his loss but by knowing that his living and his service have not been in vain.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), who, for a long time, was the chairman and now ranking member under whom JULIAN served on the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, JULIAN DIXON was one of those people who almost reveled in functioning anonymously in this House. He took jobs that were behind the scenes. Chairing the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence was not a publicity-seeking job; serving as chairman of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct was a job that required discretion and, for the most part, silence while judgments were being made. There are so many Members of this place who would almost kill to get to a microphone ahead of some other Member. JULIAN was never one of that type.

I served with him for every day that he served in this institution and had the privilege to serve with him on the Committee on Appropriations. Above all else, what was driven home to me on a daily basis was how much he loved and how much he knew this city. I venture to say he knows as much about this city as the mayor. He would, for years, undertake the thankless job of representing those American citizens who have virtually no recourse in the face of grievances. Because while they are taxed, they are not represented to the point where they have an actual vote on this floor, and so he saw that as his special responsibility and special duty to tend to the needs of this city.

In our Committee on Appropriations we have a head table at the front, and then we have four or five tables that go down from the head table, and there is a gap between the committee rostrum and the seats where most Members sit. JULIAN sat at the end of that table nearest the rostrum. When he felt especially passionate, he would stand. And he would not stand at his microphone, as most Members do. When he felt strongly about an issue, he would speak truth with passion to his adversaries in that room and he would roam. He would roam that well and drive home his points with an attitude and a demeanor that said ''Don't mess with me,'' and ''Don't bafflegab.''

He knew what the facts were. He defended truth. He defended the defenseless. He had guts. He had judgment. He had balance. He had passion. He was everything a public servant should be,

and this country has lost an incredible amount when they have lost JULIAN DIXON.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER).

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me this time. I wanted to add my voice to those of my California colleagues who dealt with JULIAN and knew JULIAN over the years and appreciated so much his comity, his ability to reach across the aisle in his friendship and his warmth.

In California, we are sometimes different from other States. I remember coming in as a freshman in 1980, and while sometimes in Texas it is tough to tell a Texan apart in terms of philosophy, in California we were pretty strongly polarized. And it was guys like JULIAN, and particularly JULIAN, who had that great ability to reach across the aisle and talk to friends.

And we really knew we were JULIAN's friends, because he was so genuine and so good and established that relationship that allowed us to work on lots of projects together. He could look across the wall of contention and combat and competitiveness that marked the election and get together.

So it is interesting. We look back at our colleagues that we have served with, and often we cannot remember all the issues, or we cannot remember all the details; but we always remember the person. We are a people who remember other people. This institution manifests itself not in the walls and the columns but in the people. JULIAN DIXON was a wonderful, wonderful person.

I hope we can all remember him, and sometimes when we are having those fights that may tend to get a little bit bitter, remember JULIAN; and I think we will all be a little better to each other and to the institution.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES of Ohio).

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues this morning to mourn the loss of JULIAN DIXON.

I have the pleasure of succeeding Congressman Louis Stokes, who I called this morning. He was just in shock, as we all are, about that friendship. He said to me, ''Do you remember when I introduced you to JULIAN DIXON?'' I said, ''I can never forget it.'' And I can never forget that the first check I got for my campaign came from JULIAN DIXON.

I was trying to think what else I could say very quickly, and I went back to a speech by Martin Luther King where he was talking about a drum major's instinct, and I will paraphrase this for JULIAN DIXON.

If any of you are around when I have to meet my day, I don't want a long funeral. And if you get somebody to deliver the eulogy, tell them not to talk too long. And tell them not to mention that I was a Member of Congress. That wasn't important. Tell them not to mention that I have 300 or 400 other awards. That is not important. Tell them not to mention where I went to school. I'd like somebody to mention on that day that Julian Dixon tried to give his life serving others. I'd like somebody to say that on that day Julian Dixon tried to love somebody. I want you to say on that day that Julian Dixon tried to be right on the war question. I want you to be able to say that he tried to feed the hungry. I want you to be able to say on that day that I did try in my life to clothe those who were naked; that I did try in my life to visit those who were in prison, and I tried to love and serve humanity. I want you to say that I was a drum major; that I was a drum major for justice; that I was a drum major for peace; a drum major for righteousness, and all of the other shallow things will not matter. I won't have any money to leave behind; I won't have the fine and luxurious things of life to leave; I just want to leave behind that I committed my life to do for others. A drum major for success: Julian Dixon.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS).

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the family of JULIAN DIXON, and certainly to his friends and relatives that they certainly have our sympathy. I also want to say to the staff, who I am sure is looking at this right now, that we thank them for all that they have done to uplift his life and uplift ours.

In these moments it is really difficult to figure out what to say. But sometimes I think when we are going through grieving moments we have to first of all thank God that he allowed our lives to eclipse with JULIAN DIXON's. It was quite possible that we could have been on Earth at another time. We could have been on Earth at the same time and never had a chance to meet or never got a chance to know him.

I got a chance to know him. We worked on the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation board together. Just a few weeks ago we were working on personnel policies, and he said, ''Cummings, when we start off, I want you to be real clear. We are going to be fair. These policies are going to be things where people can look at them 50 years from now and feel good about them.'' That is the kind of guy that JULIAN DIXON was.

So we thank God for his life. We thank God that he allowed our lives to eclipse with his. This whole experience is a reminder that we are all bound by the reality of our mortality. We really are.

So I guess one could sum up his life by that old spiritual that says, ''Peace, like a river, attendeth my way when storm clouds like sea billows roll. Whatever my life, Thou has taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.'' May God bless.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN).

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, this country has lost a leader of depth and integrity. We in this House have lost one of our own. Bettye and Cary have lost a husband and a father, and I have lost a role model and a friend.

We in the California delegation have lost a leader and a mentor, and we have been thunderstruck with the fourth sudden death in our delegation in 4 years.

□ 1145

Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman from Indiana pointed out, we often use the term ''gentleman.'' But no one better exemplified that term than JULIAN DIXON. He showed us honor, he was a conciliator, a wise voice even when others were gripped with emotion. Yet under that calm demeanor was a man of passion who fought for education and civil rights and the dispossessed, a man who cosponsored virtually every civil rights bill of significance over the last 20 years and who obtained funding for the same Simon Wiesenthal Center, Museum of Tolerance, Tools for Tolerance program in Los Angeles, a man who was placed on the Intelligence Committee and the Ethics Committee because of what he could bring in intelligence and in honor to those committees, a man who cared very much for the two cities in which he spent his life, Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles where he did so much to provide transportation for our city.

Mr. Speaker, we have lost a great man. He will be missed.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the sorrow of my colleagues on the loss of our colleague and our friend JULIAN DIXON. I am not a Californian. I have not served the length of time in this body that JULIAN DIXON did. I did sit with him on the Committee on Appropriations. As someone who was senior to me on that committee, I sat and I listened and I observed and I watched him. And when he stood and he spoke, which was not often, he spoke with great authority, he spoke with great dignity, he spoke with great passion and with determination, because he understood, better than most, the potential of this institution and its effect on the lives of people that we represent in this institution.

He was never afraid to stand tall and to speak softly or loudly and with great passion about what this institution can mean in the lives of people in this country. For that, I respected and admired and viewed him as a role model.

But this institution can often be cold and it can be very impersonal, not only for people outside of it but for people inside of it. And if you needed someone to get some advice from, someone to help you build your own confidence, you could go to JULIAN DIXON, and he never said no to the time that you might have needed, and to respond to when you extended your hand. He reached out and took your hand, and he always had time to show you the way.

He did that for me as a newcomer to this great institution. It is something that I will not forget, and it is something that I will share with his family in telling you how much he meant to those of us who serve here.

We send you our thoughts; we send you our prayers. And for those of us who serve, he was someone that we could take heed from, that you should stop and spend a moment of friendship with the people that you serve with and to give to those who do not serve with us the intent that we will stand tall and speak loudly and with determination on your behalf. He will be someone that we sorely miss and someone that I will miss.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I find myself somewhere between shock and disbelief this afternoon. And yet as I sat in this Chamber listening to our colleagues reflect upon our friend JULIAN DIXON, I sat in amazement that even out of the grief and sadness of this moment, such warm and eloquent words could be spoken of someone's life, and I realized that any words I speak would not measure up.

I knew him. He was a colleague. I was on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence with JULIAN DIXON. I worked with him. He was as bright as a tack. Patient. I will repeat that. He was patient. The polestar of his work on that committee as I witnessed it was that of American security. But more than his work on that committee, I witnessed him in leadership positions in this House. He was a true role model. He was someone who gave advice freely and, more than anything, served as a friend. That is how I will remember JULIAN DIXON, as a friend.

I express my sympathy to his wife Bettye, to his family, to his colleagues from his State, and to those who knew him well. He was not only a gentleman, he was a gentle man. We shall long remember him.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the rest of the world will wake up tomorrow morning and read in the obituaries about JULIAN DIXON's leadership on appropriations and on the Intelligence Committee and the Ethics Committee. They may figure out that he had a 100 percent perfect voting record on civil rights, on education, on the environment, on labor issues. They may find out about his funding of the tools for tolerance program at Simon Wiesenthal Center or the Angel Gate Academy for at-risk youth or any number of dozens of other things that he started in his constituency. But they will not get a full flavor for what he meant to this body, his credibility, his courage, his heroism, his decency. That is his legacy.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to express particularly on behalf of one of our colleagues, the Delegate from the District of Columbia, her longtime aide, Donna Brazile, is in the cloakroom here and just told us that Eleanor is on a plane but wishes so much that she could be here to express her sadness, her grief, and her appreciation for all that JULIAN DIXON has meant to the District of Columbia.

D.C. grieves today at having lost one of its strongest, most committed friends, advocates, believers. JULIAN DIXON knew more about the District of Columbia and what needed to be done legislatively than any other Member of this body with the possible exception of its own Delegate. He used his influence thanklessly to advance the cause of people who did not have a sufficient voice within this body. He used his influence to give them that voice.

When I became ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee on D.C., it soon became so apparent that it was JULIAN that had laid the foundation for the most important issues, who understood. His knowledge, his intellectual honesty and his courage had made such a difference. And when there was an issue that no one else was willing to take on, let alone win, it was JULIAN that would take up that issue.

When he realized that more women were dying from AIDS as a result of dirty needle exchange in D.C. than anyplace else in the country, he knew that this was a thankless issue that nobody wanted to take on, but JULIAN did. He stood up in that full Committee on Appropriations. Our ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) described what would happen when Julian stood up. He commanded attention because of his articulation but most importantly because of his credibility, his courage.

He won that issue. Nobody else could have won that issue. But the Members had such deep respect for JULIAN DIXON. That is his legacy. It is a legacy that gives all of us a model, a model personally and professionally. He is what we need to be. JULIAN, we thank you for all you have been to this body and this country.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN).

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute JULIAN DIXON. I believe he represents the very best of this institution. Not because of fiery rhetoric, not because of eloquent words, although he was certainly capable of both, but because of his ability and his skill to work within this institution across the aisle to accomplish things, to get things done for the American people.

In my mind that is the true standard of greatness in Congress. Not to make the most noise but to get the most done. I admire particularly the fact that he could stand in the face of popular trends and tell you the real deal. He could tell you the truth. He could speak the truth in the face of overwhelming odds. It did not matter. JULIAN had something to say. We have all come to respect what he had to say.

He was a wonderful man, a kind man, a gentle man, and he was a very wise man. I think that is important. We do not have enough wise men in this institution, people who are thoughtful and reflective and consider the issues and not just popularity or not just their own political future. I admired JULIAN DIXON greatly. He was one of the Members that I would emulate. But aside from policy, JULIAN DIXON could be a real friend.

When I heard of his passing, the first thing that I thought of was that I did not finish the book because we talked about books on numerous occasions and he had recommended a book to me and I had not finished it. I feel bad about that. But I assure you, JULIAN, that I will finish the book.

In closing, I would just say that we have truly lost a giant in this institution, one who represented the great potential of Congress and one who represented our greatest accomplishments, getting things done on behalf of the American people in a most selfless way. He was a true public servant and a great American.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS).

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, to the family of JULIAN DIXON, what echoes still in my head is the letter that JULIAN sent to the members of the Congressional Black Caucus where he said, ''Rest assured, I'll be okay.'' I would like to say today to the family that he is, in fact, ''okay.''

In this time, you think and you have to say thank you. Thank you to our good Lord for passing JULIAN DIXON this way.

□ 1200

Thank you for sending a servant who had the characteristics that one could look up to.

When I think of JULIAN, I think of a role model, and I oftentimes wish that I could always have his cool and calm demeanor, even in the face of a storm. I wish that I could have his dependability, because you could always depend upon JULIAN in a time of need. I think of him as ''old reliable,'' one who sometimes, you know, you just make the presumption that he is there, because he always had been there for you in time of need, a faithful individual and a servant of this great Nation.

So I can imagine that when JULIAN was called home, our Lord said, ''Job well done, my good and faithful servant.''

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in sharing my deep sense of shock and love for our beloved JULIAN DIXON. Julian was a warrior and a statesman. I met JULIAN in 1975 when I worked as a member of Congressman Ron Dellums' staff, who I know joins

us today in remembering this great human being.

I will always remember how JULIAN treated me as a staff member with dignity and with respect. I know today that his staff would want me to say that JULIAN was a wonderful boss, who demonstrated with them, like he did with us, his tough love, his quiet strength. But that is what really kept many of us centered and focused.

As a new Member, JULIAN counseled me on many of the tips of this trade. Whenever an issue relating to an appropriations project came before the Committee on Appropriations with regard to my district, he always checked with me first. He would never let me get blindsided, and he always made sure that my views and my input with regard to my district were paramount in his negotiations. He never let me get blindsided. He was truly a gentleman.

Some of my most special moments, however, with JULIAN were riding home with him, sometimes late at night. We lived right around the corner from each other, and during these rides he talked about things he really cared about: the issues and the people of his native Washington, D.C., and, of course, of his congressional district, and his family.

But what he always reminded me during these very personal conversations was that I should not let the business of my life here in Washington, D.C. get in the way of my personal friendships. All of us really do need to remember his words of wisdom, and I thank him for this.

I want to thank Bettye and JULIAN's family and his constituents for sharing this great leader with us. I want to wish them God's blessings. May JULIAN's soul rest in peace.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS).

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in deep sorrow at losing a good friend and colleague on the Committee on Appropriations and on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence where we served together, and my heart goes out to his family, to Bettye, and to his staff, both here in Washington, D.C. and back in his district.

JULIAN DIXON was a class act and someone who will be missed. He was a person that the leadership would go to when there was a delicate assignment, either on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, where he also served. For many years he and I served on the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations, and we worked together to really help the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) and our various chairmen over the years strengthen the United States of America and to rebuild our national security.

I can tell you, on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence he sat next to me, and on some of the most delicate issues the gentleman from Florida (Chairman GOSS) and I would turn to him and ask, ''JULIAN, will you take this on? This is something that is so sensitive, but we need your kind of professional, thorough investigative style. Will you do it?'' And he would take on some of these assignments that were highly classified, but so crucial to the country.

There was a story in the San Jose Mercury that was very explosive about possible crack cocaine being supplied to African Americans in our country, one of the most sensitive issues that I can recall since I have been in Congress. JULIAN DIXON was the person on the committee who we asked to take that responsibility, and he helped bring the truth to that issue and helped defuse it.

His service will be missed in this institution. He was, as has been said here today, very quiet. He was not the kind of person who was excitable, but he cared deeply about his responsibilities.

I can still see him standing up in the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia appropriations issue that the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) mentioned, about this free needle exchange and how important it is to protect these people's lives, and even though the committee is overwhelmingly stacked against it, on the basis of votes, he was able to get almost the entire committee to join him in this important endeavor, and he explained why it was so crucial to the lives of so many people here in the District of Columbia.

So I miss him already. There will be a great void here in this House with his loss, but I hope that people will remember the great work that he did as one of our best Members of the House of Representatives.

JULIAN, God bless you and your family. We are going to miss you.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise and to thank JULIAN DIXON on behalf of myself and the community I represent in Tampa, Florida, and also to provide a further glimpse as to this really remarkable man that so many of us served with.

I got to know JULIAN as really a relatively new Member here. He did not really know me from Adam, and I came to him with a very serious national security issue, and he treated me like someone that he had known for years and who had earned his respect, which I had not. I will never forget that. That is rare around here. It is rare most everywhere. I got a chance to watch him in action working with the Attorney General and working with Republicans and Democrats and members of the senior executive branch around here, and it was like a knife through butter. He had earned respect. He knew how to talk to people. He had earned the trust of so many people that depended upon him for his honest judgment.

It is so easy to be cynical today in this particular time as we work through a very difficult presidential election and we begin to work through a very difficult political environment up here, but I think if the people I represent could see people like JULIAN DIXON in action here, making the difficult choices for the right reasons, I think it would reaffirm their faith in this institution and the mere people that serve here.

I am proud to have known JULIAN DIXON and to have served with him. We will not talk about JULIAN DIXON in the past tense for a long time, because he will remind us, and I hope many people who watch us, of the great things we can all do as people and the fine things about this institution we are so privileged to serve in.

Thank you again, JULIAN.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am about to make the usual motion to adjourn, but I would like also to ask that because today's adjournment, at least for JULIAN, will be sine die, that we save the gavel for his family.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, it is my sincerest wish that I would not have the need to stand on the floor of this House and address my colleagues today. My colleagues and I are here today to offer our prayers and condolences to Congressman JULIAN DIXON's constituents, friends, and family upon his sudden passing.

I want to especially extend my prayers to his wife, Bettie, and his son, Cary. If I could take a second to address them personally, I simply say that while we cannot possibly share the sense of loss you are feeling, we can offer our understanding and our support in this trying time.

If we could possibly bear your grief, we would gladly do so. Please know that you are in our thoughts.

Those of us who knew Congressman DIXON understood him to be a tremendous leader, legislator, colleague, and friend. Congressman DIXON, like so many others who have served in this legislative body, had a sacred trust, a sort of covenant, with the people who elected him. In him, they entrusted their voice in government, and the direction of their futures. Congressman DIXON lived up to the trust that was placed in him with an energy and dedication that should serve as a tremendous example of public service to each and every one of us.

In his work in the House of Representatives, he fought against crime in our neighborhoods, against the hopelessness that plagues many of our nation's inner-city youth, against the racial misunderstanding that birthed the Los Angeles riots and against the idea that one should be treated different in America because of the color or their skin. But he also brought his skill as a leader and a legislator to fight for the things that have made our nation great.

He fought for programs that increased the strength of America's Armed Forces, for initiatives that made life a little easier for our men and women in uniform, for policies that protect Americans from terror overseas and for the belief that anyone, with hard work and dedication, can attain the American dream.

While we, as a legislative body, may feel that we are that much more diminished because of his loss, that is not the case. We are

richer because of the idealism he brought to us, because of the professionalism he has shown us, and because of the friendship he shared with us. And, what I think is most troubling to us, is that because of his sudden passing, we were not able to talk to him, to hold his hand one last time and say goodbye to our good friend. And so, I do so today. JULIAN * * * goodbye. We'll miss you.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, only the residents of JULIAN DIXON's own district can feel as deeply about his loss as the citizens of the District of Columbia, the city where he was born and received his early education. JULIAN managed to serve two districts at once with his extraordinary wisdom, excellence and diligence: his own in California, where he owed his first allegiance, and this city. JULIAN became a Californian when his parents took him there as a child, but he never ceased to be a Washingtonian.

I personally owe much to his wise counsel, particularly during my first years in Congress when JULIAN almost singlehandedly guided our appropriations smoothly through tough terrain. I am eternally grateful that he continued to serve on the D.C. Appropriations Subcommittee although it is a post with headaches, but no rewards. Yet all the provincial service to his own district and ours must not obscure JULIAN's singular service to the institution in posts assigned only to members whose balance of justice, compassion and integrity is perfect. JULIAN's service on the Intelligence Committee and the Ethics Committee came because he was regarded as a member's member, the best that we had and the best that there was. We should be so fortunate to ever attract again a member so wise and intelligent, so collegial and so perfect for this House.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today America has lost a champion of human and civil rights, JULIAN C. DIXON of California. I offer my deepest and profound sympathy to his wife, BETTY, his son, Cary, and his other family, friends, and loved ones. JULIAN was serving in his 11th term representing the 32d congressional district, was a friend, a brother, and a patriot. Mr. DIXON was a vigorous, tireless fighter for civil rights, cosponsoring every major civil rights measure during his time in Congress. He lead the fight to protect the U.S. Civil Rights Commission when it was under assault. He was also a tireless advocate of Home Rule for the District of Columbia so that all citizens would have a voice in Congress. He was held in the highest regard by all of his Congressional colleagues.

He was a champion for the youth of Los Angeles, securing funds for anti-crime prevention programs across the city, and was a consistent and effective voice in protecting the poor. In 1983, he wrote the first economic sanctions law against South Africa, and, in 1987, he authored an urgent appropriations bill to provide humanitarian aid to southern Africa, the world's poorest region. JULIAN was a great leader in the Congressional Black Caucus, serving as its chair in 1983–1984. JULIAN more than any CBC member, defined the role that the caucus has played. In 1984, JULIAN said, ''On the floor of the Congress, in committee hearings, before the press and across America, we have spoken out against policies which undermine the enforcement of civil rights and civil liberties, respect for law and order, disregard for personal rights of privacy, and attempts to infringe on the rights of free speech. Whether it was a president's assault on the Civil Rights Commission, a proposal for a youth sub-minimum wage, efforts to weaken federal contract compliance, to lessen the effects of full-employment legislation, or to eliminate minority set-asides, the Caucus was there to respond.''

Today we mourn the loss of the JULIAN DIXON, and send our heartfelt sympathies to all who love this generous and passionate man. He will be sorely missed by the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I add my voice to the chorus of condolences offered to Congressman DIXON's wife Bettye Lee and son Cary. This unexpected loss is such a tragedy to all of his friends, staff, and constituents—but mostly of course to his loved ones and family.

Shocked to learn the news this morning while in Los Angeles, I wish I could be there on the House floor with my colleagues to join in the expressions of sorrow and words of honor. As the heartfelt eulogies flow from Washington D.C. to the rest of the country, many are reflecting on the lifelong contributions and inspirational leadership of Congressman DIXON.

A superb public servant and guiding mentor to so many of us, Congressman DIXON will be greatly missed in the halls of Congress and in the heart of Los Angeles. Again, to his closest family and to all who respected and honored Congressman DIXON, my deepest condolences.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my condolences to the family of JULIAN DIXON. All of us are dismayed at his untimely death. He was a colleague and a friend here in the Congress since my arrival here in 1983. While he will long be remembered for his work with the House Ethics Committee and the Select Committee on Intelligence, his achievements in supporting development assistance to countries in the Caribbean and Africa should not be overlooked. In fact, it was under his leadership that the first South African sanctions bill was enacted by the United States Congress.

His death is a loss not only to his family and the people in his Los Angeles district but to the nation as a whole. I will always feel his loss greatly.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, having heard from JULIAN's colleagues from California and across the Nation, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 671.

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

There was no objection.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2903. An act to reauthorize the Striped Bass Conservation Act, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 128. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BACA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business in the district.

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of illness.

Mr. FOSSELLA (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of his son's hospitalization.

Mr. HILL of Montana (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for December 7 and today on account of medical reasons.

Mr. ROHRABACHER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today through December 13 on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. OLVER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. THORNBERRY) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GOSS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. LOWEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CLYBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 3048. An act to amend section 879 of title 18, United States Code, to provide clearer coverage over threats against former Presidents and members of their families, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3514. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a system of sanctuaries for chimpanzees that have been designated as being no longer needed in research conducted or supported by the Public Health Service, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4281. An act to establish, wherever feasible, guidelines, recommendations, and regulations that promote the regulatory acceptance of new or revised scientifically valid toxicological tests that protect human and animal health and the environment while reducing, refining, or replacing animal tests and ensuring human safety and product effectiveness.

H.R. 4640. An act to make grants to States for carrying out DNA analyses for use in the Combined DNA Index System of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to provide for the collection and analysis of DNA samples from certain violent and sexual offenders for use in such system, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4827. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent the entry by false pretenses to any real property, vessel, or aircraft of the United States or secure area of any airport, to prevent the misuse of genuine and counterfeit police badges by those seeking to commit a crime, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 128. Joint resolution making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1972. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the town of Dolores, Colorado, the current site of the Joe Rowell Park.

S. 2594. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to contract with the Mancos Water Conservancy District to use the Mancos Project facilities for impounding, storage, diverting, and carriage of non-project water for the purpose of irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial, and any other beneficial purposes.

S. 3137. An act to establish a commission to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of James Madison.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 671, I move that the House do now adjourn in memory of the late Honorable JULIAN C. DIXON.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, December 11, 2000, at 5 p.m., in memory of the late Honorable JULIAN C. DIXON of California.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

11246. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Approval of VOC and NOx RACT Determinations for Individual Sources [PA–4096a; FRL–6577–9] received December 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

11247. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Arizona State Implementation Plan Revision, Pinal County Air Quality Control District and Pinal-Gila Counties Air Quality Control District [AZ 063–0020a; FRL–6839–9] received December 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

11248. A letter from the Lieutenant General, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the listing of all outstanding Letters of Offer to sell any major defense equipment for $1 million or more; the listing of all Letters of Offer that were accepted, as of September 30, 2000, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

11249. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a report authorizing the transfer of up to $100M in defense articles and services to the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina, pursuant to Public Law 104–107, section 540(c) (110 Stat. 736); to the Committee on International Relations.

11250. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Export and Import of Nuclear Equipment and Materials (RIN: 3150–AG51) received November 16, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

11251. A letter from the Chair, Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, transmitting a report on the Foundation's Fiscal Year 2000 audit and investigative activities pursuant to the Inspector General Act; to the Committee on Government Reform.

11252. A letter from the Chief Executive Officer, Corporation For National Service, transmitting the Inspector General's Semi-Annual Report to Congress covering the period April 1, 2000 through September 30, 2000 along with the Corporation's Report on Final Action, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

11253. A letter from the Writer/Editor/Webmaster, National Science Foundation, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

11254. A letter from the The Administrator, U.S. Agency For International Development, transmitting the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress for the period ending September 30, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

11255. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone Regulations: Savannah, GA [COTP SAVANNAH–00–098] (RIN: 2115–AA97) received November 30, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11256. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule—Major Capital Investment Projects [Docket No. FTA 99–5474] (RIN: 2132–AA63) received December 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11257. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Class E Airspace; Algona, IA [Airspace Docket No. 00–ACE–34] received December 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11258. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 767 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2000–NM–91–AD; Amendment 39–11936; AD 2000–21–04] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11259. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Turbomeca Arriel 1 Series Turboshaft Engines; Correction [Docket No. 2000–NE–11–AD; Amendment 39–11912; AD 2000–20–01] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11260. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of Class E Airspace; Fayetteville, AR [Airspace Docket No. 2000–ASW–17] received December 8, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11261. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Treatment of Loans with Below-Market Interest Rates—received December 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

11262. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Research Credit-Suspension Period—received December 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

11263. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Administrative, Procedural, and Miscellaneous—received December 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

11264. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Special Rules for Certain Transactions Where Stated Principal Amount Does Not Exceed $2,800,000—received December 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LAMPSON (for himself, Mrs. MORELLA, and Mr. RODRIGUEZ):

H.R. 5647. A bill to establish the Federal Elections Review Commission to study the nature and consequences of the Federal electoral process and make recommendations to ensure the integrity of, and public confidence in, Federal elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LATOURETTE:

H.R. 5648. A bill to delay any legal effect or implementation of a notice of rights and request for disposition form of the Immigration and Naturalization Service if an alien admits to being in the United States illegally, gives up the right to a hearing before departure, and requests to return to his country without a hearing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OBEY (for himself, Mr. KIND, and Ms. BALDWIN):

H.R. 5649. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make emergency market loss payments to dairy producers for any month in which the national average price for Class III milk under Federal milk marketing orders is less than a target price of $11.50 per hundredweight; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO:

H.R. 5650. A bill to declare certain Federal lands in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as excess, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO:

H.R. 5651. A bill to convey certain Federal lands to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.J. Res. 132. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the electoral college and to provide for the direct popular election of the President and Vice President of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STARK:

H. Res. 671. A resolution expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Julian C. Dixon, a Representative from the State of California; considered and agreed to

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H. Res. 672. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the private-sector distributors of the influenza vaccine should give priority to distributing the available vaccine to those people at a high risk of developing complications from an influenza infection; to the Committee on Commerce.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 5642: Mr. MCKEON and Mr. GUTKNECHT.
H.J. Res. 131: Mr. MCNULTY.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

123. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, relative to Resolution No. 604 of 2000 petitioning the United States Congress to condemn the murder of the two Israeli soldiers by a mob while in the custody of the Palestinian Authority at Ramallah, and urges President William Jefferson Clinton to strongly condemn this atrocity and the violence which engendered it and to use all the resources of the United States government to restore a situation of peace and security in the Middle East; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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Senate

(Legislative day of Friday, September 22, 2000)

The Senate met at 10 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, speak to us so that what we speak may have the ring of reality and the tenor of truth. You have granted the Senators the gift of words. May they use this gift wisely today. Help them to speak words that inspire and instruct. Enable them to say what they mean and then mean what they say, so that they are able to stand by their words with integrity. And since the world listens so carefully to what is said and watches how it is said, may the Senators judge each other's ideas but never each other's value. In this way, may the Senate exemplify to the world how to maintain unity in diversity and the bond of patriotism in the search for Your best for America. Help us to listen to You and to each other. In Your all-powerful name. Amen.

f

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CRAIG THOMAS, a Senator from the State of Wyoming, 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.

f

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

f

SCHEDULE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will be in a period for morning business until 10:30 a.m. It is expected the House will vote this morning on a continuing resolution that funds the Government through Monday, December 11. The Senate will have a voice vote on the resolution as soon as it is received from the House. Therefore, no votes will occur during today's session of the Senate. On Monday, an additional CR will be necessary. However, it is hoped that a vote will not be needed on that resolution on Monday. I thank my colleagues for their attention.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

f

STELLER SEA LION BIOLOGICAL OPINION

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I have come to the floor because, as we are considering the final wrapup of the appropriations bills, I face the problem of having to modify a provision that was in a bill as we were ready to send it to the President before the election dealing with Steller sea lions.

It is sort of a long story, but let me start from the beginning.

In 1969, as a new Senator, I flew from Kodiak to the Pribilof Islands in a Navy plane. I observed hundreds—hundreds—of foreign fishing vessels—factory trawlers—between those two islands off our coast. They were catching Alaska's seafood. As a matter of fact, they were beyond the 3-mile limit. They were in international waters at that time.

Subsequently, I asked the Coast Guard, and I think the Fish and Wildlife Service then, to take some photographs of those vessels. We found, after examining photographs, that on the top of the vessels, on the decks, there were pens, literally, where they would toss a fur seal here and a harbor seal there, and a baby sea lion there. And then there was what we called a ''glory hole'' in the center, and they just shoved all of the fish into that hole. And it was ground up and sent back into the world's economy as protein. None of it came ashore in the United States or Alaska.

That appalled me. I came back and we worked with people in the House. We devised a bill and introduced it to claim the 200 miles off our shore for the protection of the marine resources. That did not pass that year.

The next year, I asked my good friend, Senator Warren Magnuson of Washington, and he introduced the bill as chairman of the Commerce Committee. I was cosponsor. But we worked to get that bill passed.

By 1976, that bill was passed. We obtained control over the 200 miles off our shore. In that process we started the concept of Americanizing the 200 mile zone so we could get better control over the vessels that harvested our fish.

The grand story of the whole continuum since 1976 is the pollock and cod of the North Pacific. Pollock and cod were at that time a fairly insignificant fishery. They were taking probably 10–20 million pounds a year—a little bit more—and would bring it ashore here into our country.

But the difficulty with pollock is, it must be fleshed and boned soon after it is caught. It turns into a wonderful, white protein. The Japanese use it as surimi. We use pollock and cod as fillets and in fish sticks. If you go to Long John Silver's or McDonald's, any one of those entities today to buy a fish sandwich, there is a 9 out of 10

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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chance you are going to be eating Alaska pollock.

But here is the beauty of the control mechanism we set up over the 200-mile limit. Pollock in the North Pacific is cannibalistic. I have said that on the floor before. As they mature, they get lazy, do not want to forage for food, and they eat their young. We found that if you harvest the mature fish—take them to market—the biomass expands.

The biomass of Alaskan pollock is about five times the size it was when we created the 200-mile limit. It now sustains the most enormous fishery in the world. It is a vital necessity to the economy of the Pacific Northwest and an absolute necessity to our State.

By virtue of an action taken just recently, the administration has now denied access to Alaskan pollock and cod, to the extent that about 1,000 boats will not fish in January who would otherwise go out and start fishing.

The Department of Commerce released, last Friday, a biological opinion on the relationship between the Steller sea lion and the Alaskan groundfish fleet. This 588-page document contains a massive rewrite of the fishery management plan for the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries.

Mind you, under the Magnuson Act—it is now called the Magnuson-Stevens Act—but under that Act that commenced in 1976, the duty to create fishery management plans for the areas off our shore lies in the regional councils. Alaska is the only State that has its own council—because of the massive area of our State; more than half the coastline of the United States is in Alaska—we have a regional council.

As I mentioned, the duty to prepare fishery management plans under Federal law is in the regional councils. This is a magnificent experiment in terms of government. The councils are created by appointments from the Secretary of Commerce from a list submitted by the Governors of the coastal States. The Federal Government and the States have each delegated some authority to those councils to manage fisheries in those areas.

But this document, filed last Friday, was prepared in secrecy. No one in my State knew what was in it.

It impacts areas inside Alaska state waters. It covers areas in the jurisdiction of other departments. And it was not unveiled until the very last minute. In fact, the National Marine Fisheries Service had an appointment to brief me on it on Thursday, and they asked to put it off until Friday. I changed that appointment for them. The reason was, they wanted to file it in court before they met with me. They had already delivered the document to the Federal judge involved when we met Friday. They prepared this because a Federal judge in Washington had enjoined all fishing because they lacked sound science under their prior biological opinion, prepared under the Endangered Species Act.

I am trying to start a line of reasoning here so people understand what has happened. The way that that biological opinion under the Endangered Species Act has been handled is a direct assault on the 1976 Magnuson Act because it has taken over the jurisdiction of the regional councils to prepare these fishery management plans. In fact, the Magnuson Act contains an emergency clause. The Secretary of Commerce is enabled, under certain circumstances, to issue emergency orders that change or even promulgate a management plan. But this management plan is promulgated in a biological opinion issued under the Endangered Species Act. There is no emergency clause in the Endangered Species Act.

What we did in 1976 was to provide the tools to each region to manage the fisheries in their area. There has never been a more successful effort in terms of Federal-State cooperation, in my opinion. Now, because of a lawsuit filed by Greenpeace in a Federal court, the National Marine Fisheries Service is trying to change the total management of the North Pacific as far as the Steller sea lion and Alaska groundfish are concerned. This is the real emergency here for us, but it is something every coastal State should look at. Because by using the authority of the Magnuson Act emergency clause and taking it into a process under the Endangered Species Act and issuing a management plan that is only outlined by the Magnuson Act, but by issuing it in a biological opinion, what they have done is they have seized from the States, they have seized from the regional councils any management authority over the areas off our shores that the Magnuson Act covered.

I cannot stand by and see this happen. In the first place, as I said, this is a terrible blow to the people of my State who work hard harvesting and processing this fish. The value of the lost harvest alone will be at least $191 million under the biological opinion. But if you look at that stream of economic activity it creates in the national economy, there is over $1 billion a year that comes from groundfish. It is turned into a marketable, salable product and develops these retail entities that are world renowned in terms of providing quality fish and fish products for consumption by our consumers.

The opinion that was filed is an interesting thing. The first five times the National Marine Fisheries Service explored the relationship between pollock and the decline of the Steller sea lion, the opinion said there was no relationship. Dissatisfied with that, the administration dismissed from the area of research the people who had written those first opinions and turned to a new researcher who had done some research off Atka Island, which is about 1,500 miles west of Anchorage, on the relationship of mackerel out there to the fishing efforts.

One man developed what is known as a localized depletion theory. He opined that the reason there was a decline around Atka Island was that factory trawlers were coming and fishing. In the period after they were fishing, there was a localized depletion of the fishery resource. That is not a scientific conclusion. That is a theory. But they brought him in to write the biological opinion on Steller sea lions in relationship to pollock and cod, and he used his new concept of localized depletion. He has now brought forward in this biological opinion, through the Department of Commerce—I wish I had the map to show the Senate—a process which denies access to the groundfish fleet to areas within a 20-mile radius of most Steller sea lion rookeries. The concept of the connection between those rookeries and the pollock is localized depletion. It is not science. It is an assumption. And it has not been accepted by the scientific community.

Their own scientists admit they have no data to support this theory, and that is a direct violation of both the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the Endangered Species Act, which require a sound scientific basis. The difficulty is that the biological opinion, if it becomes operative, will limit the areas and limit the seasons in which fishermen can fish for pollock and cod. That is a limitation that is only authorized under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and it cannot be promulgated except in response to a plan presented by the regional council.

Our regional council denounces this current biological opinion. Our State opposes it violently. As I said, no one knew anything that was in it. It was totally in camera. Nobody had access to it, unless it was the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, Greenpeace. The Commerce Department denied me access to it and demanded I wait 12 hours. And in that 12 hours, they filed it in opinion in court without giving us a chance to examine it.

The Magnuson Act was designed to promote safety at sea. I don't know how many people know about it, but the worst death ratio in any industry in our country is in commercial fishing off our State. As the father of a son who has been out there fishing for 10, 12, 15 years, I can tell the Senate, there is no greater worry for a father than to have a son on one of those boats because the death toll is horrendous. It will be worse because of Government regulations that require closures and require actions that aren't based on common sense. In this biological opinion, they are now going to force our small boats to fish in the dangerous offshore areas in the winter storm season. They say: Fish in the winter storm season. We passed the act so we could enact regulations so we could get out of the winter storm season. I can't understand why they would do that. It is a direct violation of Federal law to do that. They should have at least consulted the regional council and allowed

the regional council to have hearings. They have not done so.

Yesterday in Anchorage the advisory panel to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council voted unanimously to reject this biological opinion. They want to restore the regulations that were in effect prior to its issuance until we can have public hearings and public review and we get the National Academy of Sciences and other qualified scientists to review this theory that has been presented by the National Marine Fisheries Service under the cloak of sound science.

I do have a provision I am going to offer to this bill again. It is a modification of the amendment that is already there. It would allow the fishery to go forward under both the Endangered Species Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Act regulations that were in place before this opinion was issued. People are saying we are emasculating the Endangered Species Act. Nothing is further from the truth. The Endangered Species Act was part of the plan that was followed and was in effect before this new plan was filed in the lawsuit in Seattle. Earlier this year, the Department of Commerce argued in court that these regulations were sufficient under the Endangered Species Act.

Again, I am here to ask the Senators from New England, from the Atlantic area, from the South Atlantic area, from the Gulf coast, from the Pacific council area, to look at what has happened. This is a federalization of fisheries off our shores under the guise of the Endangered Species Act based upon a theory that has not been tested anywhere.

In my opinion, the current act that is before us to close out the Government should not pass and will not have my signature on the final conference report unless something is in there that deals with this very odd biological opinion and restores the capability of our people to continue to fish in a safe and sound way off our shores.

Mr. President, I was given a CD–ROM of this document, the biological opinion. I think it would be nice reading for some people over the weekend. I ask unanimous consent that the executive summary be printed in the RECORD following my remarks. The entire document is available on the National Marine Fisheries Service website.

There being no ojbection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—NOVEMBER 30, 2000

In compliance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has completed this biological opinion consulting on the authorization of groundfish fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands region (BSAI) under the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the BSAI Groundfish, and the authorization of groundfish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) under the FMP for Groundfish of the GOA. This opinion is comprehensive in scope and considers the fisheries and the overall management framework established by the respective FMPs to determine whether that framework contains necessary measures to ensure the protection of listed species and critical habitat. The opinion determines whether the BSAI or GOA groundfish fisheries, as implemented under the respective FMPs, jeopardize the continued existence of listed species in the areas affected by the fisheries (i.e., the action areas) or adversely modify critical habitat of such species.

ACTION AREA

The action area consists of ''all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action, and not merely the immediate area involved in the action'' (50 CFR 402.02(d)). As such, the action area for the Federally managed BSAI groundfish fisheries covers all of the Bering Sea under U.S. jurisdiction, extending southward to include the waters south of the Aleutian Islands west of 170°W longitude to the border of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. The action area covered by the GOA FMP applies to the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the North Pacific Ocean, exclusive of the Bering Sea, between the eastern Aleutian Islands at 170°W longitude and Dixon Entrance. The area encompasses sites that are directly affected by fishing, as well as sites likely to be indirectly affected by the removal of fish at nearby sites. The action area would also, necessarily, include those state waters that are encompassed by critical habitat for Steller sea lions.

The action area includes the Alaska range of both the endangered western and threatened eastern populations of the Steller sea lion. However, the effects of the Federal FMPs on Steller sea lions generally occur within the range of the western population. Therefore, this consultation focuses primarily on areas west of 144 W longitude (the defined boundary of the western population of Steller sea lions).

NMFS has determined that the action being considered in this biological opinion may affect 22 species listed under the ESA, including 7 species of endangered whales, the two distinct populations of Steller sea lions, twelve evolutionarily significant units (ESU) of Pacific salmonids and one species of endangered sea turtle. The action area also includes 4 species of endangered or threatened seabirds, and 1 species of marine mammal, the northern sea otter, that has been proposed as a candidate species under the ESA.

ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE

The environmental baseline for the biological opinion must include the past and present impacts of all state, Federal or private actions and other human activities in the action area, the anticipated impacts of all proposed Federal projects in the action area that have already undergone consultations, and the impact of contemporaneous State or private actions (50 CFR §402.02). The environmental baseline for this biological opinion includes the effects of a wide variety of human activities and natural phenomena that may affect the survival and recovery of threatened and endangered species in the action area. The opinion recognizes that such phenomena and activities have contributed to the current status of populations of those listed species. While some may have occurred in the past but no longer affect these species, others may continue to affect populations of listed species in the study area.

The environmental baseline for this action includes fisheries and other FMP-associated activities that are occurring, and that have occurred prior to January 2000. Other human-related activities discussed that may affect, or have affected, the baseline include the impacts of human growth on the action area and the effects of commercial and subsistence harvests of marine mammals. Alaska managed commercial fisheries are also addressed. Those fisheries and their effects on listed species are expected to continue in the action area and into the future. Herring and salmon are fisheries that are managed entirely by the State of Alaska, or, in the case of pollock and Pacific cod, only a percentage of the fishery is managed by State authority, and are species found year-round in the diet of Steller sea lions.

The environmental baseline also discusses the potential effects of the environmental changes on the carrying capacity of the action area over the past several decades, including the relationship between the dietary needs of Steller sea lions, the regime shift hypothesis, and massive population declines in recent decades. The opinion concludes that it is highly unlikely that natural environmental change has been the sole underlying cause for the decline of Steller sea lion.

The environmental baseline attempts to bring together all of the estimated mortalities of Steller sea lions and a synthesis of the significance of those takes. The best available scientific information on the magnitude and likely impacts of Orca predation on listed species in the action area are analyzed. Other factors, such as disease, ecological effects of commercial whaling through the 1970s, and pollutants, while not entirely excluded as contributing factors, have been considered, but are given lesser importance in explaining the observed pattern of declines.

EFFECTS OF ACTIONS

The scope of the ''effects of actions'' analysis is intended to be comprehensive. As such, the opinion is broad and examines a range of activities conducted pursuant to the FMPs including the manner in which the total allowable catch levels are set, the process that leads to the setting of these levels, the amount of prey biomass taken from sea lion critical habitat. The effects of other activities that are interrelated or interdependent are also analyzed. Indirect effects are those that are caused later in time, but are still reasonably certain to occur. Interrelated actions are those that are part of a larger action and depend upon the larger action for their justification. Interdependent actions are those that have no independent utility apart from the action under consideration (50 CFR 402.02).

The first part of the effects analysis is a description of fishery management as practiced under the FMPs, including an explanation of how ecosystem issues are considered. Particularly important sources of potential ecosystem effects are highlighted in subsequent sections. The second part of the effects analysis focuses on the current exploitation strategy and its potential relevance, both past and present, in shaping changes in the abundance and population structure of groundfish stocks. The present fishery management regime's maximum target fishing reference point of B40% is used as an example to illustrate the potential direction and intensity of direct effects.

The third part of the effects analysis reviews the annual fishery cycle, from surveys through the establishment of Total Allowable Catch (TAC) levels. The effects are evaluated specific to the major stages of the cycle and to explore whether effects can be compounded through subsequent steps in the cycle. Finally, in the fourth part of the effects analysis, the FMPs and their management tools and policies are examined as guiding documents for management of the fisheries and protection of the associated ecosystems. This part also addresses the fisheries as they are prosecuted under the FMPs.

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Cumulative effects include the effects of future State, tribal, local, or private actions

that are reasonably certain to occur in the action area. The State groundfish fisheries are generally smaller than the federal groundfish fisheries but are expected to have marginally more impacts (because of location) on listed species with respect to competition for prey and long term ecosystem impacts. The crab fishery is one of the biggest fisheries managed by the state. However, this fishery is not likely to directly compete for prey with either Steller sea lions or other listed species. Herring, salmon, Pacific cod, pollock, squid, and octopus are items found year-round in the diet of Steller sea lions. Species such as salmon and herring occur much more frequently in the summer as determined by analyses of Steller sea lion prey habits from 1990–1998.

Perhaps the most important interaction between state fisheries and listed species may arise from the pattern of localized removals of spawners. Although the patterns are generally similar from one fishery to the next, the sheer number of distinct fisheries makes it difficult to describe them individually. Likewise, each fishery is distinctly different in either the number of boats, gear used, time of year, length of season, and fish species. Therefore, we present the herring fishery as an example of this type of interaction to demonstrate some of the competitive interactions that may occur.

The impacts of some of the State fisheries on Steller sea lions and, in some cases, humpback whales would be similar to those of the Federal fisheries: cascade effects and competition. Steller sea lions and some of the State fisheries actively demand a common resource and the fisheries reduce the availability of that common resource to Steller sea lions while they satisfy their demand for fish. The State groundfish fisheries may reduce the abundance or alter the distribution of several prey species of listed species.

After reviewing the current status of each listed species in the action area, the environmental baseline for the action area, the effects of the FMPs for Alaska Groundfish in the BSAI and GOA, and the cumulative effects of the federal action, NMFS has determined that the FMPs are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species in the action area except for the endangered western population of Steller sea lions. In addition, after reviewing the current status of critical habitat that has been designated for Steller sea lions, the environmental baseline for the action area, the FMPs for Alaska Groundfish in the BSAI and GOA, and the cumulative effects, it is NMFS' biological opinion that the FMPs are likely to adversely modify this critical habitat designated for Steller sea lions.

REASONABLE AND PRUDENT ALTERNATIVE

Based on the effects discussion and NMFS determination that fishing activity under the FMPs are likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the western population of Steller sea lions and are likely to adversely modify their designated critical habitat, NMFS has developed a reasonable and prudent alternative (RPA) with multiple components for the groundfish fisheries in the BSAI and GOA. The fisheries effects that give rise to these determinations include both large scale removals of Steller sea lion forage over time, and the potential for reduced availability of prey on the fishing grounds at scales of importance to individual foraging Steller sea lions.

The first RPA element addresses the harvest strategy for fish removal at the global or FMP level. This RPA requires the adoption of a new harvest control rule that would decrease the likelihood that the fished biomass for pollock, Pacific cod and Atka mackerel would drop below B40%. The global control rule is a revised, more precautionary fishing strategy (F40% adjustment procedure) for principal prey of Steller sea lions taken by the groundfish fisheries in the BSAI and GOA (pollock, Pacific cod and Atka mackerel) than that which currently exists under the FMP. The effect of using the global control rule is increased likelihood that the stock is maintained at or above the target stock size by reducing the exploitation rate at low stock sizes.

Other RPA elements completely protect sea lions from groundfish fisheries at global and regional scales, and in both temporal and spatial dimensions. The other RPA elements reflect a heirarchy of NMFS concerns about the effects of the groundfish fisheries on Steller sea lions. Those concerns are greatest with respect to critical habitat areas around rookeries and major haulouts, and in special foraging areas designated as critical habitat, and less for areas outside of critical habitat where take levels are not considered to be at a level that would jeopardize Steller sea lions. Significant interactions between sea lions and the fisheries for pollock, Pacific cod and Atka mackerel have been eliminated in critical habitat between November 1 and January 19, or 22% of the year. This level of partitioning is necessary in this period because sea lions at this time are considered extremely sensitive to prey availability. Because fisheries are restricted to the remaining 78% of the year, dispersive actions taken at finer temporal and spatial scales are also necessary to avoid jeopardy and adverse modification. The RPA extends 3 nautical mile (nm) protective zones around rookeries to all haulouts. In the GOA, EBS and AI, a total of 139 no-fishing zones (note: the rookeries are already no-entry zones) are established that will partition all pups and non-pups from disturbances associated with vessel traffic and fishing in close proximity to important terrestrial breeding and resting habitat. The RPA closes many rookeries and haulouts out to 20 nm to directed fishing for pollock, Pacific cod and Atka mackerel. This second spatial partitioning element excludes all fisheries for pollock, Pacific cod, and Atka mackerel from approximately 63% of critical habitat in the GOA, EBS, and Aleutian Islands. These measures significantly increase the amount of critical habitat protected from directed fishing for Steller sea lion prey, greatly reduces the number of potential takes of Steller sea lions through competition for a prey base inside critical habitat, completely protects all pups and non-pups on rookeries and haulouts out to 3 nm from the effects of fishing activity, and greatly reduces the interactions between fisheries and sea lions during winter months.

Fisheries occurring in the remaining 34% of critical habitat and the areas outside critical habitat require further dispersive actions to avoid jeopardy and adverse modification. The temporal concentration of fisheries for pollock, Pacific cod and Atka mackerel may result in high local harvest rates that may reduce the quality of habitat by modifying prey availability. The RPA establishes the following measures to disperse fishing effort at regional and local scales and to reduce the effects of groundfish fisheries on prey availability for sea lions to negligible or background levels.

The RPA separates the fisheries into four seasonal limits inside critical habitat, and two seasonal releases outside of critical habitat, and disperses fishing effort throughout the open portion of the year, January 20–October 31. Season start dates are spaced evenly throughout this period and portions of the TAC is allocated to each season. These actions reduce the proportion of pollock, Pacific cod and Atka mackerel taken inside critical habitat inside the GOA to less than 20% of the total catch. The measure also protects against excessive harvest rates that may rapidly deplete concentrations of prey inside critical habitat. NMFS has concluded that a temporally dispersed fishery would not significantly harm the foraging success of Steller sea lions as the take would be reduced to a level that NMFS believes would not compromise them.

The spatial concentration of current fishing effort for pollock, Pacific cod and Atka mackerel may result in high local harvest rates that reduce the quality of habitat for foraging Steller sea lions. Fishing inside critical habitat may result in takes of Steller sea lions through adverse modification of habitat (i.e, prey availability). Therefore, this RPA reduces the percentage of pollock taken inside critical habitat from 80 to 42% in the GOA, from 45 to 14% in the EBS and from 74 to 2% in the AI compared to 1998. It also reduces the percentage of Pacific cod caught in critical habitat from 48 to 21% in the GOA, from 39 to 17% in the EBS and from 79 to 17% in the AI as compared to 1998. The RPA reduces the percentage of Atka mackerel caught inside critical habitat in the AI from 66 to 8% as compared to 1998.

Finally, the RPA is designed to close adequate portions of critical habitat to commercial fishing for the three primary prey species of groundfish, while imposing restrictions on fishing operations in areas open to fishing to avoid local depletion of prey resources for Steller sea lions. This approach of creating areas open and closed to fishing operations provides contrast between complete closures and restricting fishing areas within critical habitat and forms the basis for monitoring the RPA. Over the past decade the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council has noted the importance of assessing the efficacy of conservation measures intended to promote the recovery of the western population of Steller sea lions. To this end, NMFS has incorporated into its RPA a monitoring program that will allow for such an evaluation.

INCIDENTAL TAKE STATEMENT AND CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

An Incidental Take Statement (ITS) specifies the impact of any incidental taking of endangered or threatened species. It also provides reasonable and prudent measures that are necessary to minimize impacts and sets forth terms and conditions with which NMFS must comply in order to implement the reasonable and prudent measures and to be exempt from the prohibitions of section 9 of the ESA.

In addition to the RPA and ITS, conservation recommendations have been provided within this biological opinion. An example of one of the conservation recommendations that NMFS believes should be implemented is a more comprehensive stock assessment that would provide detailed information on groundfish stocks on spatial and temporal scales and to provide timely review of possible fishery interactions with listed species (and in the future on essential fish habitat). This would allow for better analysis of the possible impacts of target fisheries on listed species and the more proactive development of time/space harvest recommendations at the individual stock assessment level so that fishery interactions with listed species and essential fish habitat can be minimized.

The cumulative effect of the RPA elements contained in this biological opinion successfully removes jeopardy and avoid adverse modification of designated critical habitat. However, the State fisheries in Alaska, particularly those involving salmon, herring, and Pacific cod are likely to result in take of

Steller sea lions and may require modification. As a conservation measure, NMFS also recommends that the State of Alaska request NMFS to assist in the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan (as authorized under section 10 of the ESA). This plan should be designed to mitigate adverse impacts on Steller sea lions and other listed species that might accrue from State managed fisheries. This plan should employ the same standards and principles as used in this biological opinion to prevent completion and minimize take between fisheries and listed species.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the cumulative, direct and indirect effects of the Alaska groundfish fisheries on listed species, NMFS concludes that the fisheries do not jeopardize any listed species other than Steller sea lions. The biological opinion concludes that the fisheries do jeopardize Steller sea lions and adversely modify their critical habitat due to competition for prey and modification of their prey field. The three main species with which Steller sea lions compete for prey are pollock, Pacific cod, and Atka mackerel. The biological opinion provides a reasonable and prudent alternative to modify the fisheries in a way that avoids jeopardy and adverse modification.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the period for morning business be extended, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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SENATE RELATIONSHIPS

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, yesterday morning, without any notice to this Senator, my distinguished colleague from Washington, Senator MURRAY, came to the floor to congratulate me in my career in the Senate in a most generous and gracious fashion and to yield time to other Senators for the same purpose.

Each of them, including the other Senator present, Mr. BURNS, was more than generous and profuse in their praise. The experience of listening to it in my office bore some resemblance to attending one's own wake. But, nonetheless, the many fine things that were stated about my career by Members on both sides of the aisle is deeply appreciated.

I reflected a little bit later on the fact that while our public image—and, for that matter, our public duties—has to deal with profound political and social questions of public policy, our personal relationships among the 100 Members is something really quite different. Each of us leaves the others with strong impressions. Friendships become both broad and deep during the course of a career here in the Senate. When one comes to the end of such a career, it is those personal relationships, in my view, that are the most deep and most profound and that have the greatest effect on one as an individual.

To listen to expressions from people who are not accustomed to speaking emotionally or personally is an extremely moving experience. For that reason, as close as each of those individuals was to me, I don't want to mention them by name but simply express my thanks and my appreciation for all they said. Those friendships, of course, will continue in most cases through a lifetime.

Relationships of necessity are really quite different.

There is, however, one other set of relationships about which I should like to speak very briefly, and that is the relationship between a Member of this body and his or her staff, both present and past. I think I can say unequivocally that quite profoundly I am and have been a creature of my staff over the period of my entire 18 years in this body.

My proudest achievement is that so many young people—almost all from my own State—have worked for a great or shorter period of time on my staff either here or in the State of Washington. The great majority of them, of course, have already gone on to other careers—most of them in the State, a return that I find particularly gratifying.

If I have a legacy—I think in many respects if any of us has a true legacy over the years—the best of all the bills we have gotten passed and almost inevitably amended within a relatively short period of time—that legacy is the young people to whom we have given a start here in highly responsible positions, working on important matters of public policy and dealing with dozens, hundreds, and even thousands of the constituents whom we represent, growing in not only thoughtfulness but responsibility during that period of time.

For me, the great legacy for generations to come will be the new, young, and maturing people who have worked for me during the course of these 18 years. I have every hope that at some time in the not too distant future at least one of them may appear in this body as a Member. And certainly I am of the belief that many of them will appear in my State and other States in positions of increasing responsibility in a lifetime that will have been marked by our association together.

I thank my colleagues. I thank the staff here and of the Senate itself in this Chamber, but most particularly the hundreds of young people who have worked for and with me during the course of the last 18 years.

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. GORTON. Given the presence of the assistant Democratic leader, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now turn to the consideration of H.J. Res. 128.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered read the third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 128) was considered read the third time and passed.

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COMMENDING SENATOR GORTON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, while the Senator from Washington is present. I wish to tell him on a very personal basis, how much I have appreciated his help. SLADE GORTON has called the State of Washington his home for the past 47 years, having moved to Seattle from Chicago in 1953.

He served in the United States Army from 1946 to 1947. He was in the United States Air Force on active duty where he reached the rank of colonel, from 1953 to 1956, and in the Air Force Reserves from 1956 to 1981.

I have worked with Senator GORTON on the Appropriations Committee, particularly on interior issues. Because of his knowledge and experience on interior matters, working closely with him in his role as the Interior Subcommittee chair, we passed the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act and other important environmental legislation for Nevada including restoration of the Lahonton cutthroat trout and stopping the spread of invasive species.

Those of us who have worked with SLADE GORTON have long known his dedication to the ideals of this body and his championing of the State of Washington. I remember when the Senator took over the Interior Subcommittee on Appropriations; he did something unusual. The Senator called members to his office, all the members of the subcommittee, Democrats and Republicans, to sit down and talk about what we thought should be the direction of the subcommittee, which areas should be funded, which areas should be cut back a little bit. I appreciated that very much. It set a great tone for the subcommittee.

I was curious and looked around his office and saw many indications that Senator GORTON had been to the U.S.

Supreme Court presenting cases. I have been in courtrooms many times, at over 100 jury trials, argued before the ninth circuit of our State supreme court, but never had the opportunity to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court, even though I am a member of that bar.

The number of times the Senator from Washington has appeared as an advocate for the State of Washington and other parties in the U.S. Supreme Court is most impressive. It is a rare occasion that a person gets to argue once, but to argue as many cases before the Supreme Court as the Senator from Washington has is extremely impressive.

I also want to say that the people of Nevada have done well as a result of the Senator being the chairman of that subcommittee. The State of Nevada is 87-percent owned by the Federal Government. As a result we have many problems. The Senator from Washington was always very understanding of the very special problems we had in the State of Nevada.

The Senator had a great relationship with the ranking member of that subcommittee, Senator BYRD, and to have Senator BYRD say publicly the things he has on many occasions about his relationship with Senator GORTON speaks volumes. Senator BYRD has been in the Senate 48 years and really understands quality when he sees it.

I want the Senator from Washington to know how much I appreciate his good work. I will always remember his friendship and look forward to our continued association.

I thank SLADE GORTON, his wife Sally, and their three children and seven grandchildren for their years of sacrifice and dedication to our nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mr. GORTON. I thank the Senator from Nevada for his fine comments and compliments. I may tell the Senator, that relationship is perhaps a result of the marvelous biblical statement about casting your bread upon water and having it come back manyfold.

When I was first a member of the Appropriations Committee, I was in the minority. The Senator from Nevada was the chairman of the modest subcommittee on the legislative branch, and I was his ranking minority member. The Senator from Nevada came to my office to consult with me in a way he did not need to about those appropriations. I think it was I who persuaded him to put more benches and trash receptacles on the Capitol grounds, which was denuded of them at the time, so I can believe I actually accomplished something in that modest position.

It was that lesson when we went into the majority that taught me that on the Appropriations Committee and the Senate as a whole, it was best to work with everyone when it was at all possible to do so and that you were far more likely to be successful not only for the people of your own State but the country, if you used the experience and the wisdom of all Members of your committees or of the Senate itself.

So I am particularly grateful for the comments of the Senator from Nevada. But whatever courtesies he was rendered by this Senator he earned by having taught the same lesson.

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PROJECT HOMESAFE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, there is a company in my home State of Michigan which is to be commended for its efforts to reduce gun injuries and deaths. Last month, Meijer Stores paired up with a coalition of law enforcement officials to implement a firearm buyback program in selected counties in Michigan.

The firearm buyback program, called ''Project Homesafe,'' allows gun owners to receive a $50 Meijer cash card in exchange for every functioning firearm. Meijer Stores donated $100,000 worth of these cash cards to promote the disposal of unwanted guns. Guns turned in under this program are expected to be destroyed.

Mr. President, Project Homesafe is a constructive enterprise and the kind of public-private partnership needed to promote safety in Michigan homes and communities. I applaud the initiative of Meijer Stores as well as Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, the Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Ingham County Sheriff Gene Wriggelsworth, and Kent County Sheriff James Dougan, all of whom were instrumental in implementing Project Homesafe.

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ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN HONOR OF MARK LEWIS GILLMING

● Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and honor the two-month anniversary of the death of Mark Lewis Gillming, who passed away Sunday, October 8, 2000, in a car accident in Springfield, Missouri, on his way to church with his cousin, John Lingo.

Mark Gillming grew up in my home town of Springfield, Missouri, and was a senior at Hillcrest High School to be graduated with the class of 2001. As a student, he excelled in both academics and athletics, becoming an honors student and being involved in track and football. Mark exhibited a great presence on the Hillcrest High football team, both in action and in spirit.

Mark's life touched many lives, far beyond his school into his community. He was well liked by his peers and had great influence on those who knew him during his short life. His positive outlook enriched those around him.

Mark was the son of Pastor and Mrs. Kenneth D. Gillming. He was a member of Cherry Street Baptist Church where his father is a pastor. Mark was a leader in their youth ministry. His Christian faith was a central part of his life. He loved his family, friends and most important of all, he loved Christ. Today, I join his family and friends in remembrance of Mark Gillming, whose demeanor and character were a blessing to those who knew him. He will be missed greatly.●

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MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 7, 2000, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2415. An act to enhance security of United States missions and personnel overseas, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes.

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

At 10:26 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Kelaher, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 128. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1898. An act to provide protection against the risks to the public that are inherent in the interstate transportation of violent prisoners.

S. 3045. An act to improve the quality, timeliness, and credibility of forensic science services for criminal justice purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4640) to make grants to States for carrying out DNA analyses for use in the Combined DNA Index System of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to provide for the collection and analysis of DNA samples from certain violent and sexual offenders for use in such system, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5630) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 3048. An act to amend section 879 of title 18, United States Code, to provide clearer coverage over threats against former

Presidents and members of their families, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4281. An act to establish, wherever feasible, guidelines, recommendations, and regulations that promote the regulatory acceptance of new and revised toxicological tests that protect human and animal health and the environment while reducing, refining, or replacing animal tests and ensuring human safety and product effectiveness.

H.R. 4827. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent the entry by false pretenses to any real property, vessel, or aircraft of the United States or secure area of any airport, to prevent the misuse of genuine and counterfeit police badges by those seeking to commit a crime, and for other purposes.

S. 1972. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the town of Dolores, Colorado, the current site of the Joe Rowell Park.

S. 2594. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to contract with the Mancos Water Conservancy District to use the Mancos Project facilities for impounding, storage, diverting, and carriage of non-project water for the purpose of irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial, and any other beneficial purposes.

S. 3137. An act to establish a commission to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of James Madison.

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EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC–11795. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Application of the Anti-Churning Rules for Amortization of Intangibles in Partnerships'' (RIN1545–AX73) (T.D. 8907) received on November 27, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11796. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revenue Procedure 2000–50, Treatment of the Costs of Computer Software'' (Revenue Procedure 2000–50) received on December 4, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11797. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled '''Liable to Tax' Treaty Residence Standard'' (RR–1114511–00) received on December 4, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11798. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Employment Tax Deposits—De Minimis Rule'' (RIN1545–AY46, T.D.8909) received on December 5, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11799. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Notice 2001–2, Research Credit Suspension Period'' received on December 7, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11800. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Year 2001 Section 1274A CPI Adjustments'' (Revenue Ruling 2000–55) received on December 7, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11801. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Rev. Rul. 2001–10—Small Taxpayer Exception to Accrual Method and Inventory Requirements'' (Rev. Rul. 2001–10) received on December 7, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11802. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Year 2001 Section 7872(g) CPI Adjustment'' (Revenue Ruling 2000–56) received on December 7, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11803. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''December 2000 Applicable Federal Rates'' (Revenue Ruling 2000–54) received on November 17, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11804. A communication from the Chair, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to medical savings accounts and payment for care in post recovery care centers; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–11805. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy in concurrence with the Navy Chief of Operations, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Marine Corps intranet contract; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–11806. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the activities during fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–11807. A communication from the Director of the Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Asylum Procedures'' (RIN1115–AE93) received on December 7, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–11808. A communication from the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the Patent and Trademark Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Simplification of Certain Requirements in Paten Interference Practice'' (RIN0651–AB15) received on November 27, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–11809. A communication from the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the Patent and Trademark Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Rules to Implement Optional Inter Partes Reexamination Proceedings'' (RIN0651–AB04) received on November 27, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–11810. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the pay-as-you-go reports numbers 522–526, dated November 16, 2000; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC–11811. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the pay-as-you-go reports numbers 517–521, dated November 16, 2000; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC–11812. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the pay-as-you-go reports numbers 527–531; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC–11813. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Blocked Persons, Specially Designated Nationals, Specially Designated Terrorists, Foreign Terrorist Organizations, and Specially Designated Narcotics Traffickers: Additional Designations and Removals and Supplementary Information on Specially Designated Narcotics Traffickers, Foreign Terrorist Organizations'' (31 CFR chapter V, appendix A) received on November 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11814. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Consumer Protections for Depository Institution Sales of Insurance'' (RIN1550–AB34) received on November 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11815. A communication from the Assistant to the Federal Reserve Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulation H Part 208—Membership of State Banking Institutions in the Federal Reserve System, Regulation Y Part 225—Bank Holding Companies and Change in Bank Control'' (R–1087) received on November 29, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11816. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the final rule ''Consumer Protections for Depository Institution Sales of Insurance''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11817. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Consortia of Public Housing Agencies and Joint Ventures'' (RIN2577–AC00) (FR–4474–F–02) received on November 30, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11818. A communication from the Secretary to the Emergency Loan Guarantee Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Emergency Steel Guarantee Loan Program; Commercial Lending Practices and Re-opening of Period for Applications'' (RIN3003–ZA00) received on December 5, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11819. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the final rule ''Rules of Practice and Procedure''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11820. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the final rule ''Risk-Based Capital Guidelines; Market Risk Measure; Securities Borrowing Transactions''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–11821. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled ''Replacement Fuel and Alternative Fuel Technical and Policy Analysis''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–11822. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled

''Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 1999''; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–11823. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Migratory Bird Hunting; Temporary Approval of Tin Shot as Nontoxic for Hunting Waterfowl and Coots During the 2000–2001 Season'' (RIN1018–AH67) received on November 30, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–11824. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: NAC–UMS Amendment'' (RIN3150–AG57) received on December 5, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–11825. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to the Inspector General Act for the period of April 1, 2000 through September 30, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–11826. A communication from the Manager, Benefits Communications, Farm Credit Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for the plan year ended December 21, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–11827. A communication from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''7 CFR Part 1792, Seismic Safety'' (RIN0572–AB47) received on December 4, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–11828. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety/Security Zone Regulations; 2nd Annual Head to the New River Front Regatta, Hartford, Connecticut (CGD01–00–218)'' (RIN2115–AA97) (2000–0088) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–11829. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety/Security Zone Regulations; Weekly fireworks, Dockside Restaurant, Port Jefferson harbor, NY (CGD01–00–217)'' (RIN2115–AA97) (2000–0089) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–11830. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety/Security Zone Regulations; Oil Spill Recovery, Lower New York and Sandy Hook Bays(CGD01–00–220)'' (RIN2115–AA97) (2000–0090) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–11831. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Drawbridge Regulations; Sacramento River, CA (CGD11–00–011)'' (RIN2115–AE47) (2000–0052) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–11832. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Drawbridge Regulations; Mokelumne River, CA (CGD11–00–009)'' (RIN2115–AE47) (2000–0053) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–11833. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Drawbridge Regulations; Gulf Intracoastal Water, Algiers Alternate Route, Louisiana (CGD08–00–021)'' (RIN2115–AE47) (2000–0054) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–11834. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulated Navigation Areas; San Pedro Bay, California (CGD11–00–007)'' (RIN2115–AE84) (2000–0005) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–11835. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Noxious Liquid Substances, Obsolete Hazardous Materials in Bulk, and Current Hazardous Materials in Bulk (USCG–2000–7079)'' (RIN2115–AF96) (2000–0001) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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REAUTHORIZATION OF THE STRIPED BASS CONSERVATION ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to consideration of H.R. 2903, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2903) to reauthorize the striped bass conservation act and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2903) was read the third time and passed.

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ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2000

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until the hour of 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 11. I further ask consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until the hour of 6 p.m., with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided in the usual form.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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ORDER FOR RECORD TO REMAIN OPEN

Mr. BURNS. I further ask consent that the RECORD remain open until 12 noon for the submission of statements.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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PROGRAM

Mr. BURNS. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene on Monday, December 11, at 5:30 p.m. The House is expected to vote on a continuing resolution on Monday evening. Therefore, the Senate will be in a period of morning business awaiting the receipt of the resolution from the House. Senators should be aware that the resolution is expected to be passed by voice vote, and therefore a rollcall vote is not expected on Monday.

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RECESS UNTIL 5:30 P.M., MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2000

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 10:48 a.m., recessed until Monday, December 11, 2000, at 5:30 p.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WINNERS OF THE OLIN E. TEAGUE AWARD

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, in a ceremony on Wednesday, September 13, 2000, in the House Veterans' Affairs Committee hearing room, the Orientation and Mobility Section, Western Blind Rehabilitation Center, VA Palo Alto Health Care Facility, Palo Alto, California, received an Olin E. Teague Award for their efforts on behalf of disabled veterans.

The Teague Award is presented annually to VA employees whose achievements have been of extraordinary benefit to veterans with service-connected disabilities, and is the highest honor at VA in the field of rehabilitation.

The Section members, Miriam Emanuel, Scott Johnson, Julie Hazan, Richard Ludt, Patrick Ryan, Jennifer C. Smith, Candace Thelen, and Paul Thomas, Blind Rehabilitation Specialists; Charles ''C.T.'' Vasile, Supervisor Blind Rehabilitation Specialist, and Bill Ekstrom, Chief Western Blind Rehabilitation Center, were selected to receive this prestigious award in honor of their work to develop the first power scooter training program for low vision blinded veterans with ambulatory problems.

Realizing that current support items such as canes, walkers, and scooters did not meet the needs of the less mobile, blind veteran, the team determined to find a solution. The team worked with specialists in Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine, and Prosthetics Service to study the various types of power scooters available for sighted individuals. In addition to their full daily schedules, the team members made the time to actually become power scooter travelers to learn to navigate on the scooters as sighted individuals. When they became fully knowledgeable of power scooter travel, they began to develop options to adapt the power scooter for use by blind veterans. Their enthusiasm, persistence, and creativity paid off. Two distinct power scooter programs were developed to meet the differing needs and capabilities of legally blind low vision veterans. These programs offer veterans a higher quality of life and a highly valued commodity—their independence.

Mr. Speaker, the name Olin E. ''Tiger'' Teague is synonymous with exemplary service to the Nation's veterans. The late Congressman Teague served on the House Veterans Affairs Committee for 32 years, 18 of those years as its distinguished chairman. No one who opposed him on veterans' issues ever had to ask why he was called Tiger. He set the standards by which we can best serve all veterans. I know my colleagues join me in offering our deep appreciation to the Orientation and Mobility Section for their concern, dedication, and innovation in meeting the special rehabilitation needs of disabled veterans. We congratulate them for the excellence of their work and for the distinguished award they received.

SECRET AGENT MAN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following articles, which appeared in the Wall Street Journal on December 7, 2000 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

SECRET AGENT MAN—FASHION PHOTOGRAPHER SCORES BIG OFF PALS IN THE NARCOTICS TRADE

BARUCH VEGA MADE MILLIONS AS A FEDERAL INFORMANT, BUT WAS JUSTICE SERVED?—A PRIVATE JET TO PANAMA CITY

By Jose de Cordoba

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—For years, fashion photographer Baruch Vega jetted from Miami to Milan, shooting the industry's top models.

Few knew of Mr. Vega's off-the-books job, one that was far more lucrative—and dangerous. When he wasn't snapping collections for Versace or Valentino, Mr. Vega, a Colombian by birth and an engineer by training, was covertly meeting with some of the world's most-powerful drug traffickers, trying to persuade them to surrender to U.S. lawmen.

By most accounts, he was a star operative. ''We regarded Vega as our principal weapon'' in the battle against Colombia's drug cartels, says one former U.S. agent. ''I think he was very successful,'' agrees retired cocaine kingpin Jorge Luis Ochoa, speaking by cellular phone from Colombia, where he recently completed a six-year prison term. ''A lot of people got into his program and cooperated with him, and he with them.''

So many, in fact, that a meeting brokered by Mr. Vega last year in a Panama hotel drew more than two dozen drug dealers or their representatives, according to Mr. Vega and the lawyer for one of the suspects. Rattled by a new Colombian policy permitting traffickers to be extradited to the U.S., they met in marathon sessions with Drug Enforcement Administration agents, negotiating plea agreements that would potentially net them reduced jail terms in exchange for providing information on drug shipments by other traffickers.

But in March, Mr. Vega's secret life unraveled. As he was unpacking from a photo shoot, agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation burst into his penthouse and arrested him on money-laundering and obstruction-of-justice charges. In a criminal complaint filed in Miami federal court, the government accused him of receiving million-dollar fees from drug lords, in return for promising to use his influence with U.S. agents—and even bribes—to help them with their legal problems. The name he gave the operation, according to the complaint: ''The Narcotics Traffickers Rehabilitation Program.''

Mr. Vega, a trim 53-year-old who favors black T-shirts, readily admits he accepted the traffickers' money, which he says totaled about $4 million, but which others familiar with his midwifery put at as much as $40 million. Mr. Vega says he took the payments as part of his undercover persona, and that his law-enforcement handlers knew it. He also denies paying any bribes. ''The agents I worked with used to joke: 'Baruch, we trained to put people in jail, but with you, we get them out,'" he says.

However the case sorts out, Mr. Vega's story offers a rare look into the twilight world of the narcotics informant—and into the questionable relationships and accommodations. U.S. authorities sometimes enter into as they pursue the global war on drugs. Already, it is proving an acute embarrassment to the DEA, which has placed two agents on paid leave pending an internal investigation of their relationship with Mr. Vega. And it comes at a delicate time, just as the U.S. government begins to implement a $1.3 billion program to fight the narcotics trade underpinning Colombia's bloody civil war.

Because of the highly secretive nature of undercover operations—and law enforcement's reluctance to disclose the details of cooperation agreements with drug suspects—it's impossible to answer the central question of whether traffickers who paid fees to Mr. Vega received special treatment from the U.S. justice system. No evidence has been presented that any agents accepted bribes. But what can be pieced together, through court documents and interviews with Mr. Vega and others involved in his career, suggests at the very least a highly unorthodox operation that took on a life of its own, fueled by piles of underworld cash.

RED FACES AT DEA

In a brief statement, the DEA says it is ''very concerned about the allegations . . . concerning the conduct of certain DEA agents.'' It declines to comment further, citing a continuing investigation. The Justice Department also declines to comment.

Mr. Vega became a law enforcement go-between almost by accident. He was working in New York City in 1976 as a structural engineer when a neighbor and fellow Colombian was arrested in a police raid. The neighbor's wife tearfully sought Mr. Vega's help. Mr. Vega, who was studying law at night, had befriended a fellow student then working at the FBI. According to Mr. Vega, his friend said the case against the neighbor appeared weak, and charges would probably be dropped soon. They were.

The grateful neighbor, who was indeed involved in the cocaine trade, gave Mr. Vega $20,000 for what he believed was a successful intervention. Word of Mr. Vega's supposed clout began to spread, and he soon met many of the future capos of Colombia's drug cartels, most of whom who were then living in New York.

By 1978, Mr. Vega was dividing his time between New York and Miami, which was immersed in the violence and decadence later made famous by the television show ''Miami Vice.'' ''There were the beautiful people, cocaine, models, the fast life,'' says Sgt. June Hawkins, now a supervisor in the homicide unit of the Miami-Dade police department. There were also lots of unsolved murders involving Colombians with false names. ''They were who-isits, not who-dunnits,'' says Sgt. Hawkins.

After finding Mr. Vega's name and number in the phone book of one victim, police discovered he was often able to identify the who-isits. At the time, Mr. Vega was married to the daughter of a real-estate tycoon who counted among his properties the Mutiny Hotel, then a favorite watering hole for many of the city's most-notorious characters.

A YACHT NAMED ABBY SUE

Mr. Vega lived the Miami lifestyle, with a mansion off Miami Beach and a 78-foot yacht named the Abby Sue. ''He was a real charmer,'' remembers Sgt. Hawkins, then a member of Centac 26, a joint federal, state and local police antidrug task force. ''A wheeler-dealer extraordinaire who could sell snow to the Eskimos.''

Mr. Vega's charm was enhanced by his willingness to fund his own activities, a welcome contrast to most informants, whom police tend to view as money-grubbing lowlifes. Former Centac commander Raul Diaz says Mr. Vega aided in one of the unit's biggest cases ever, at great personal risk, and ''didn't get any money from us for his help.''

By 1985, the Miami police introduced Mr. Vega to the FBI, where agents determined to make use of his access to the highest echelons of Colombia's drug circles. Mr. Vega—who prefers to be called a ''mediator'' rather than an informant—was perfect for the job of double agent. He had turned a lifelong interest in photography into a career as a fashion photographer and producer of fashion shows. That gave him access to the beautiful women and glamorous social circles that dazzled drug traffickers.

Meanwhile, a former U.S. official says federal agents helped concoct Mr. Vega's cover: a jet-setting playboy who for a price would exert his influence with U.S. law-enforcement agencies. To aid Mr. Vega's deception, the former official says, agents would make leniency recommendations to prosecuting attorneys and judges in the cases of drug traffickers working with Mr. Vega. The result: Colombia's drug barons believed Mr. Vega could do anything.

APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY

The official insists that defendants received no special favors, but that they truly rendered assistance in investigations and that prosecutors, using their broad discretion, argued for sentence reductions commensurate with the level of cooperation. This official and Mr. Vega add that the appearance of impropriety was part of the act—that hardened criminals were much more likely to take the first step toward cooperating if they thought the U.S. system was rigged in their favor.

Nevertheless, a senior federal agent familiar with the case says such an arrangement would likely have violated Justice Department guidelines. Allowing Mr. Vega to represent himself as someone with influence over U.S. prosecutors and other officials ''is totally unacceptable,'' he says. He adds that informants shouldn't be in a position to accept cash from drug traffickers without supervision—although he allows that such oversight is hard to maintain when the case involves work in dangerous foreign countries.

Among the people Mr. Vega says he helped is Luis Javier Castano Ochoa, now a federal deputy in Colombia's Congress. In 1988, Mr. Castano Ochoa pleaded guilty to U.S. money laundering and drug charges and was sentenced to 16 years. But three years later, the same Miami judge who sentenced him let him off with time served. Mr. Vega says he met with Mr. Castano Ochoa in prison, charging him $40,000 to help him work out a cooperation agreement with the government.

Reached by telephone in Bogota, Mr. Castano Ochoa says he never paid Mr. Vega a cent, but knew him as a lawyer who visited prison ''to ask Colombians for money to advise us.'' Mr. Castano Ochoa says he never cooperated with the U.S. government, and says he was freed because the judge ''realized there was nothing against me.''

That the drug dealers were paying Mr. Vega for his purported services was an open secret among the U.S. agents working with him, says one former official. Indeed, some saw it as a plus, given their tight budget. ''The drug traffickers paid him to be their representative,'' say the former official. ''We didn't have to spend any government funds; we never could have afforded the level he was spending.''

In any case, Mr. Vega's results seem to have outweighted any misgiving. In 1987, when cartel hit men almost killed a former Colombian attorney general, Mr. Vega was able to learn the names of the would-be assassins, says the former official. In 1989, the FBI asked Mr. Vega to look into reports that drug dealers were planning to blow up President George Bush's plane during a trip to Colombia, says the former U.S. official. The feedback: The hit was off.

PLAYING A HORSE RANCHER

Mr. Vega even lived the life of a country squire, courtesy of the U.S. government, which set him up from 1988 to 1991 in a fancy ranch in Eustis, Fla., that had been confiscated from a drug dealer. Renamed ''El Lago,'' the ranch boasted Paso Fino show horses, highly prized as status symbols among Colombian drug dealers. In fact, the operation was really an undercover sting conducted by a task force composed of members of the Internal Revenue Service, the FBI and the Lake County Police Department.

During those years, Mr. Vega entertained a long stream of drug capos at El Lago. ''Drug dealers used to drop off their horses and say, ''Train them for me, Baruch,''' says an active U.S. law-enforcement official. The task force mostly gathered intelligence, and Mr. Vega helped induce an importance money launderer to cooperate with U.S. authorities, says a federal law-enforcement official.

''Baruch is a brave man,'' says retired Lake County Police Capt. Fred Johnson. ''I think the world of this guy.''

He was also industrious. Under Mr. Vega's management, the El Lago facility became one of the largest Paso Fino ranches in the U.S. The ranch remained government property, but Mr. Vega says he paid for numerous capital improvements, including new corrals and stables. During this time, Mr. Vega says he did receive about $70,000 as his percentage of the haul from money-laundering stings, but added that he also continued to receive fees from drug traffickers.

In 1997, Mr. Vega's work came to the attention of David Tinsley, a senior supervisor at the DEA's Miami office. People who know Mr. Tinsley describe the 27-year veteran of law enforcement to be a hyperkinetic, dedicated and sometimes zealous agent. With Mr. Tinsley, an expert on drug-money laundering. Mr. Vega's work picked up considerably—especially so after a Miami federal grand jury indicted 31 Columbian drug traffickers in October last year.

A STAMPEDE OF COLOMBIANS

Billed as an enormous blow to Colombia's drug cartels, the so-called Millennium indictment came at a time of great confusion in the narcotics trade. Colombia's congress had recently changed the law to allow drug traffickers to be extradited to the U.S., where they couldn't readily pay off judges. A stampede of Colombians arrived at Mr. Vega's door; some had already been indicted and others feared they could be next. All sought the sort of edge that Mr. Vega purported to offer.

''There were 200 drug dealers who wanted to surrender to American justice and make a deal,'' says Mr. Vega.

For the DEA's Mr. Tinsley, the panic was a one-in-a-lifetime opportunity to strike a crushing blow against the drug trade, says Richard Sharpstein, his lawyer. ''Tinsley believed they had the highest-level drug dealers in the world willing to cooperate at a level never seen before,'' says Mr. Sharpstein.

In the following months, Mr. Vega was constantly on an airplane, shuttling between Panama and Miami, brokering meetings between DEA agents and drug traffickers anxious to make their peace with the U.S., according to interviews with meeting participants and statements by lawyers for drug dealers submitted to the FBI. He was such a frequent flier that last November, he plunked down $250,000 toward the lease-purchase of a seven-passenger Hawker jet, Mr. Vega says.

Panamanian flight manifests show that on many occasions he was accompanied on his jet by DEA agent Larry Castillo of the agency's Miami office. Mr. Castillo has been placed on administrative leave with pay, pending the result of an internal DEA probe, along with Mr. Tinsley. Mr. Castillo's lawyer declines to comment.

The FBI complaint says that soon after the Millennium indictment, Mr. Vega orchestrated a meeting at Panama's Miramar Intercontinental Hotel between an alleged drug dealer and U.S. agents. ''Vega told the CW [confidential witness] that he had U.S. officials in the hotel room next door and arranged for the CW to meet with them. The CW then met with four DEA agents and a Miami police officer.''

During the meeting, the confidential witness—whom Mr. Vega and several other individuals familiar with the case say is Carlos Ramon, an alleged drug trafficker known as ''the Doctor''—discussed with the agents the procedures for his possible surrender, the complaint says.

Mr. Ramon, under indictment in Miami for conspiracy to import and distribute cocaine, wasn't alone. More than two dozen Colombian traffickers or their representatives were locked in similar marathon meetings in a suite of rooms rented by Mr. Vega on various floors of the Miramar, according to meeting participants.

Four months later, Mr. Ramon surrendered to authorities in Miami, but only after a farewell dinner at the trendy China Grill, for which Mr. Vega says he picked up the $1,000 tab. After spending a month in jail, Mr. Ramon, who is cooperating with U.S. authorities, posted bail. He now lives in Miami Beach's luxury Portofino Tower, according to court papers.

Federal investigators are now trying to trace the path of the money Mr. Vega generated from traffickers. Mr. Vega says more than $5 million wound up with Daniel Forman, a well-respected Miami defense lawyer, as legal fees to represent Mr. Ramon and 18 other accused traffickers.

Mr. Forman appears to have played an important role in Mr. Vega's final months as an informant. The defense attorney was brought into the case at the insistence of the DEA's Mr. Tinsley, who needed someone who would move the plea negotiations along without raising a lot of objections, according to Mr. Vega. The informant says he quickly became ''50–50 partners'' with the defense attorney, with Mr. Vega herding in clients and splitting the fees with Mr. Forman. Flight manifests show that Mr. Forman flew several times from Panama to Florida in the company of Messrs. Vega and Castillo.

Mr. Forman, in an e-mail, strongly denied that Mr. Vega relayed legal fees to him, adding that ''Mr. Vega is not, and has never

been, my partner in any sense of the word.'' He declines to comment on his clients, except to say that the government didn't attempt to interfere with his representation of them.

Mr. Tinsley's lawyer, Mr. Sharpstein, says his client brought Mr. Forman into the case because he had worked with Mr. Forman when the latter was a federal prosecutor and then as a defense attorney. ''He trusts Forman and still believes in him,'' says Mr. Sharpstein.

As for the financial arrangements, Mr. Sharpstein says Mr. Tinsley had no idea Mr. Vega was receiving money from traffickers, and wouldn't have allowed it had he known. Mr. Tinsley's understanding was that Mr. Vega would receive a percentage of the value of assets seized by law enforcement, a more-traditional method of compensating informants, says Mr. Sharpstein. ''Unfortunately,'' he adds, ''it's not in writing.''

Apart from the controversy over money, Mr. Vega's wheeling and dealing caused rising tension in the law-enforcement community. Under a 10-year-old program, all cooperation agreements with major drug traffickers are supposed to be cleared through the Justice Department's secretive ''Blitz Committee'' to ensure that criminals don't pit one agency or prosecutor against another in search of the best deal. A senior committee member declines to comment on Mr. Vega.

But federal agents outside Mr. Tinsley's small DEA group grew increasingly upset as Mr. Vega breezed through their turf. One was Ed Kacerosky, a driven and highly decorated U.S. Customs agent known for his work leading to the 1997 indictment of the Cali cocaine cartel.

$60 MILLION FOR VISAS

Now a supervisor in the agency's Miami office, Mr. Kacerosky didn't take it well when Mr. Vega tried to help the daughter of late Cali drug load Jose Santacruz obtain U.S. resident visas for her family. At a meeting brokered by Mr. Vega and attended by Mr. Kacerosky and other U.S. officials, Sandra Santacruz offered to give the U.S. half of some $120 million her family held in accounts around the world in exchange for the visas, say U.S. officials. The U.S. turned down the offer.

Last year, Mr. Kacerosky became enraged upon learning that Mr. Vega had approached Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela, a former leader of the Cali cartel, in a Colombian prison. People familiar with the matter say Mr. Vega offered to help Mr. Rodriguez Orejuela's son William—under indictment in Miami on U.S. drug charges—in return for information on possible high-level Colombian police corruption.

Mr. Kacerosky, these people say, blames William Rodriguez for the brutal 1995 torture and killing of the wife of a key informant. After the prison meeting, these people say, Mr. Kacerosky wrote an eight-page memo to his superiors sparking the investigation of Mr. Vega.

Mr. Vega's activities also played into a growing feud between the DEA's Bogota detachment and Mr. Tinsley's Miami-based crew. The Colombia-based agents largely responsible for last year's Millennium indictment were unhappy that the alleged criminals they had long been stalking were working out deals with Miami-based agents appearing to poach on their turf with Mr. Vega's help.

Hearing on Oct. 21, 1999, that Bogota-based DEA agents were heading for Panama to crash the Miramar dealer summit, Mr. Vega says he and Mr. Tinsley cleared the traffickers out of the hotel for fear of their arrest.

''There's a common distrust between DEA Bogota and DEA Miami,'' says Mr. Sharpstein, Mr. Tinsley's lawyer. ''The Bogota agents were jealous of Miami agents racking up these cases.''

Today, Mr. Vega is officially off limits to U.S. law enforcement. When the FBI charged him in March, authorities froze a Miami bank account in his name containing $1.5 million. Though most condemn Mr. Vega's alleged illegal enrichment some agents believe his fall is undeserved after such a long career in a world whose common coin is often a violent death.

As fear and controversy swirl around him, Mr. Vega sits in his Miami Beach penthouse, wearing an ankle monitoring device and fielding phone calls from models in Greece and designers in Paris. ''I will be in Miami for the rest of the season. Same place, same apartment,'' he tells a model who calls to commiserate, ''I have a bunch of pictures for you. They used the one with the bathing suit. It looks very nice.''

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S CHILLING WINTER FORECAST

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, as we enter the winter months, the Energy Information Agency of the U.S. Department of Energy (EIA) delivered the cold facts on December 6th in its ''Short-Term Energy Outlook for December 2000.'' The bottom line is that prices for home heating oil and natural gas will rise this winter—considerably.

While the EIA's report is written in approximations, averages, and technical language, its message resonates loud and clear with our constituents and those residing in the Northeast—that their heating oil bills may increase by more than 33 percent from last winter. Furthermore, it is predicted that those whose homes and businesses are heated by natural gas are likely to see an increase of 50 percent in their utility bills this winter over last winter's.

The reasons EIA give for the projected increases are: lower than average heating oil and natural gas reserves, an increase in demand versus available supply, and the onset of colder weather, earlier in the season. The American Gas Association reports that while exploratory drilling for natural gas has tripled over the past year, it will take another year or more before that gas will make its way into the marketplace. Another factor effecting home heating oil prices, a distillate of crude oil, is the relatively high price per barrel of crude. In this regard, our dependency on foreign oil, specifically from the OPEC nations, hurts us.

Mr. Speaker, the situation with OPEC is not any new issue. Our House International Relations Committee as well as the Government Reform Committee have held hearings on OPEC and their affecting the exorbitant costs of energy. I have called upon President Clinton, Secretaries Albright and Richardson, and to OPEC Ministers before their meeting last September urging their assistance. The theme was the same, the price of energy is too high and is hurting our nation and others, and it must come down.

While OPEC has agreed to increase production, it is difficult to ascertain by how much and what effect that increase will make on the price of oil. Thus far, the price of imported crude oil remains over $30 per barrel, and OPEC's increase in production has done little or nothing to stabilize the prices for heating oil, or significantly reduce the price per barrel of imported crude oil to an acceptable level for both consumers and producers. The oil market remains volatile and prolonged cold weather could easily result in prices soaring to the $40 per barrel, ten-year highs of a few months ago. This is substantiated by EIA's following statement.

The EIA states: ''unless the winter in the Northeast is unusually mild or world crude oil prices drop significantly, the projected high prices for heating oil will continue until next spring.'' The EIA further reports that, ''a risk exists this winter for distillate fuel (home heating oil and diesel fuel) price spikes similar to what happened last February, especially if the weather stays unusually cold in the Northeast for more than a few days.'' The EIA once again underscores that mother nature plays a significant role in determining the price of energy.

Mr. Speaker, the next Administration must create and implement a strategic, coherent, forward looking short and long-term energy policy that takes winter weather into consideration when formulating a national policy. Notwithstanding the current Administration's failure to enact an energy policy that makes sense for the American people, there are short-term measures that we can take to make our homes more energy efficient this winter.

Regardless of how our houses are heated, there are certain steps that can lower the cost of our heating bills: checking doors and windows for leaks and drafts; wrapping the hot water boiler with insulated material; clean filters on forced air furnaces; making sure that fireplaces are clean and working efficiently, and if they are not being used, making sure that the flues are sealed; installing a programmable thermostat, and caulking and adding weather stripping where needed.

Mr. Speaker, as the price of energy continues to rise, no one should have to decide whether to feed their family or to heat their home. There are programs such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), for which I have been a strong advocate. LIHEAP is designed to assist our low income families with the costs of energy. As the Department of Health and Human Services states, depending on the LIHEAP grantee, LIHEAP can be used for: heating assistance, cooling assistance, energy crisis intervention, and weatherization and other energy-related home repairs. If constituents are having trouble paying for the high costs of energy, they should not hesitate to contact their Member of Congress to find out if they qualify for LIHEAP assistance.

While the EIA projects that the price of energy this winter may rise by as much as 50 percent, it is important for our constituents to know that no one should have to choose between eating or heating.

IN MEMORY OF FRANK HEBROCK

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay special tribute to Frank Hebrock, a Leesburg High School teacher and former Lake County Schools Superintendent candidate, who passed away on October 14, 2000. He leaves his wife, Bernie Hebrock, his son Scott and his brother Bill. Mr. Hebrock was a talented and committed teacher and was greatly loved and respected by his family, friends, students, and colleagues.

Born in Cambridge, OH, where he attended high school, Mr. Hebrock later went on to major in education at the University of Ohio. After leaving Cambridge, he taught in Tallahassee and for the past five years in Leesburg, FL, he taught American and world history. Revered for his dedication, Mr. Hebrock exhibited a selfless commitment to his students both in and out of the classroom. He was devoted to actively involving students in their history lessons, and at the same time, equally devoted to fostering the students' physical well-being through his work as assistant football coach and junior varsity baseball coach at Leesburg High School. In addition, Mr. Hebrock combined his interest in government with his conviction in providing the highest quality of education to our area's schools by running for superintendent of the Lake County school system.

Mr. Speaker, our community has truly suffered a great loss. We will all remember his outstanding contributions and are forever grateful for his shining leadership in the field of education. I would like to express my deepest condolences to his family, coworkers, and all of the students whose lives he so profoundly touched.

HONORING ANGELO TOMASSO, JR.

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize a milestone in the life of one of Connecticut's most treasured citizens. After serving for over 40 years in virtually every officer position and on every committee of New Britain General Hospital, Angelo Tomasso, Jr., has decided to retire from the Hospital's Board of Directors.

To read a list of Angelo's accomplishments and activities is to bear witness to a life spent in the service of others. Whether it was as a soldier, entrepreneur, parent, philanthropist, or dedicated volunteer, Angelo has brought to every phase of his life the caring and understanding of a man who embraces his responsibility to better the lives of his neighbors, community, and State.

Angelo's impact on New Britain General Hospital goes far beyond the work he did as a member of the Board of Directors. As the president of one of Connecticut's largest construction firms, Angelo set an example of the sense of responsibility business owners should have in keeping healthy the communities they serve. In being so generous with his time, Angelo has always showed that there is no one who can honestly say they are ''too busy'' to serve.

When we say that Angelo Tomasso helped build New Britain General Hospital, we mean so much more than the bricks and mortar of a new wing. Through his generosity, commitment and fine example of civic service, Angelo has proven himself to be a man who helped create the reputation of New Britain General as one of the finest hospitals in the area. I feel privileged to call him my friend and I thank him for all he continues to do for our hospital and city.

H.R. 4828

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues my understanding of the land exchanges regarding the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (H.R. 4828) that was debated on the House Floor on October 4, 2000.

I would like the record to indicate that the cash payments to the ranchers were designed to compensate the payees for severance damages to their remaining property. I want it to be clear that these payments are being made for economic losses that the ranchers are suffering from their dislocation as a result of the creation of this Wilderness.

H.R. 4828 was supported by the entire Oregon congressional delegation and is the product of a long and hard-fought battle to ensure that there was an Oregon solution to an Oregon issue.

THE MONOCLE RESTAURANT

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor and recognize The Monocle restaurant in Washington, DC. The Monocle was founded in 1960 by ''Connie'' Valanos and his father, veteran restauranteur George Valanos. Today, the restaurant is owned and operated by Connie's son, John Valanos. This year The Monocle celebrates its 40th anniversary.

The Monocle is one of our nation's Capital's finest dining establishments. It has been one of the few restaurants that, year after year, helps set the standard for fine dining in Washington, DC. The food, ambience, and courteous staff all contribute to make a visit to The Monocle one to remember and cherish, as have so many of our nation's political leaders for 40 years.

The Monocle's location and building are further reminders of the unique history of which the restaurant has become a significant part.

I join many of my colleagues in recognizing the owners and the employees of The Monocle, as it celebrates 40 years of culinary excellence in Washington, DC.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROSLYN GLANTZ TROJAN

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, my friend and former constituent, Colonel Roslyn Glantz Trojan, is retiring after 29 years of exemplary active federal service in the United States Army. She has served our country with dignity, honor, and integrity.

Colonel Glantz Trojan, a native of Annapolis, Maryland, is a 1971 graduate of Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in History and a 1981 graduate of George Washington University with a Masters of Business Administration. In 1972, she entered the Army through the Officer Direct Commission Program. After Officer Basic Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, she was assigned to the Combat Surveillance and Electronics School at Fort Huachuca, Arizona as a administrative officer.

Soon thereafter, Colonel Glantz Trojan was selected to serve as an Operations Officer and Officer Recruiter at the Army District Recruiting Command in New Orleans, Louisiana. From 1976 to 1979, Colonel Glantz Trojan served in the 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, first as a division logistician and then as a Company Commander in the Division Support Command.

Following her advanced military and civilian schooling, she was nominated to the Army Staff in 1981, where she served as Team Chief, Tactical and Non-Tactical Wheeled Vehicle Program. Colonel Glantz Trojan left the Pentagon in 1984 to join the staff of the 2nd Infantry Division in Camp Casey, Korea. She left Korea to attend the Armed Forces Staff College.

From 1986 to 1987, Colonel Glantz Trojan served a joint duty assignment at the United States Readiness Command, MacDill Air Force Base. As the first J–4 for a newly formed Joint Task Force, she planned the deployment of forces and the employment of logistics for the CINC's operational plan. Colonel Glantz Trojan served in Germany in the Army's legendary 3rd Armored Division. She first served as the Executive Officer of the 503rd Forward Support Battalion in Kirchgoens, later commanding the 54th Forward Support Battalion (FSB) in Friedberg, Germany. As Battalion Commander of the 54th FSB Colonel Glantz Trojan deployed her battalion to Desert Storm in support of the 3rd Armored Division. Her support of this Division during the Gulf War was truly outstanding. Following the War, Colonel Glantz Trojan attended the U.S. Army War College and after graduation was assigned to the Supreme Allied Command, Atlantic as the Logistics Plans and Operations Officer.

It was during her assignment as the Deputy Installation Commander and Garrison Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), Maryland, that I personally came to know of Colonel Roslyn Glantz Trojan's considerable skills as a leader. I later learned of her deft diplomatic and political skills during her final assignment in the Army as the Chief of Legislative Liaison, U.S. Army Materiel Command from 1998 until now.

I am proud to report to my colleagues that Colonel Glantz Trojan's personal awards include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, as well as several Army meritorious and commendation medals and the Southwest Asia Campaign and Kuwait Liberation medals.

Mr. Speaker, this exemplary soldier, my friend Colonel Roslyn Glantz Trojan, deserves the thanks and praise of this grateful nation she has faithfully served for so long. I know the Members of the House will join me in wishing her and her husband all the best in the years ahead.

ELECTIONS IN AZERBAIJAN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on November 5, parliamentary elections were held in Azerbaijan. In anticipation of those elections, the Helsinki Commission—which I chair—held hearings in May, at which representatives of the government and opposition leaders testified. While the former pledged that Baku would conduct a democratic contest, in accordance with OSCE standards, the latter warned that Azerbaijan's past record of holding seriously flawed elections required the strictest vigilance from the international community and pressure from Western capitals and the Council of Europe—to which Azerbaijan has applied for membership.

Subsequently, I introduced a resolution, H. Con. Res. 382, which called on the Government of Azerbaijan to hold free and fair elections and to accept the recommended amendments by the OSCE's Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) to the law on elections.

From the start, there was pressure to withdraw the resolution from the Azerbaijani government and others. They argued that President Aliev had made, or would make, the necessary changes to ensure that the election met international standards, claiming to render the resolution either irrelevant or out of date. That pressure intensified as the election drew near; in fact, the resolution never came to a vote before Congress went out of session in early November.

It is worth recalling this brief history in light of what actually happened during Azerbaijan's pre-election period and on November 5. With respect to the election law, one of ODIHR's concerns was ultimately addressed by a decision of Azerbaijan's constitutional court, but on other important issues, Baku rejected any concessions and refused to incorporate ODIHR's suggested changes. From the beginning, therefore, the election could not have met OSCE standards, as ODIHR made plain in several statements.

During the registration period, the Central Election Commission (CEC) rejected several leading opposition parties. Claiming that government experts could tell which signatures were forged, fraudulent or otherwise invalid merely on the basis of a visual examination, the CEC maintained the Musavat and the Azerbaijan Democratic Party had failed to get 50,000 valid signatures. The same thing happened to Musavat in the 1995 parliamentary election. At that time, the OSCE/UN observation mission emphasized the need to amend or get rid of this obviously flawed method of determining the validity of signatures, but Azerbaijan's authorities did not heed that advice.

The exclusion of leading opposition parties drew strong criticism, both inside and outside the country, including the OSCE and the U.S. Government. In early October, in apparent reaction to international concern, President Aliev ''appealed'' to the CEC to find some way of registering excluded opposition parties. Some CEC members objected, arguing there was no constitutional basis for such a presidential appeal or a changed CEC ruling, but the Commission moved to include opposition parties. Though their participation certainly broadened the choice available to voters, the manner of their inclusion demonstrated conclusively that President Aliev controlled the entire election process.

ODIHR welcomed the decision by the CEC and urged a reconsideration of the exclusion of over 400 individual candidates—about half of those who tried to run in single-mandate districts. But the CEC did not do so, and only in very few cases were previously excluded candidates allowed to run. As 100 of parliament's 125 seats were determined in single mandate districts, where local authorities exercise considerable power, the rejection of over 400 candidates signaled the government's determination to decide the outcome of the vote.

Though coverage of the campaign on state media favored the ruling party, opposition leaders were able to address voters on television. They used the opportunity—which they had not enjoyed for years—to criticize President Aliev and offer an alternative vision of governing the country. Their equal access to the media marked progress with respect to previous elections, as noted in the ODIHR's election report.

However, the voting and vote count on election day itself, according to the ODIHR's election observation mission, failed to meet OSCE standards. That is the usual dry ODIHR formulation to characterize an election that was not fair—i.e., the conditions for the participants were not equal—and in which the official results are not reliable or credible. The November 6 statement elaborated: ''The elections were marred by numerous instances of serious irregularities, in particular, a completely flawed counting process.'' Moreover, ''observers reported ballot stuffing, manipulated turnout results, pre-marked ballots, and production of either false protocols or no protocols at all. . . . The international observers express their concern at what seems to be a clear manipulation of electoral procedures.''

This would be bad enough, considering that the election was the fourth since 1995 that failed to meet OSCE standards, even if some progress was registered in opposition participation and representation in the CEC. Much more interesting and disturbing, however, were the words used in a post-election press conference by two key international observers: Gerard Stoudman, the Director of ODIHR, who generally employs measured, diplomatic language, said he had not expected to witness ''a crash course in various types of manipulation,'' and actually used the phrase ''primitive falsification'' to describe what he had seen. Andreas Gross, the head of the observer delegation of the Council of Europe—an organization to which Azerbaijan has applied for membership and which is not particularly known for hard-hitting assessments of election shenanigans—amplified: ''Despite the positive changes observed in Azerbaijan in recent years, the scale of the infringements doesn't fit into any framework. We've never seen anything like it.''

Mr. Speaker, in the context of international election observation, such a brutally candid assessment is simply stunning. As far as I know, representatives of ODIHR or the Council of Europe have never expressed themselves in such terms about an election that they decided to monitor. One senses that the harshness of their judgment is related to their disappointment: Azerbaijan's authorities had promised to conduct free and fair elections and had long negotiated with the ODIHR and the Council of Europe about the legal framework and administrative modalities but, in the end, held an election that can only be described as an embarrassment to all concerned.

According to Azerbaijan's CEC, in the party list voting, only four parties passed the six-percent threshold for parliamentary representation: President Aliev's governing party, the New Azerbaijan Party; the Communist Party; and two opposition parties, the Popular Front [Reformers] and Civil Solidarity. Other important opposition parties allegedly failed to break the barrier and apart from a few single mandate seats won no representation in parliament.

In the aftermath of the election and the assessments of the OSCE/ODIHR and the Council of Europe, the international legitimacy of Azerbaijan's legislature is severely undermined. Within Azerbaijan, the ramifications are no better. All the leading opposition parties have accused the authorities of massive vote fraud, denounced the election results, and have refused to take the few seats in parliament they were given. Though some governing party representatives have claimed that opposition representation is not necessary for the parliament to function normally, others—perhaps including President Aliev—understand that a parliament without opposition members is ruinous for Azerbaijan's image. New elections are slated in 11 districts, and perhaps President Aliev is hoping to tempt some opposition parties to abandon their boycott by offering a few more seats. Whether opposition parties, which are bitterly divided, will participate or eventually agree to take up their deputies' mandates remains to be seen.

What is clearer from the conduct of the election and its outcome is that President Aliev, who is preparing the succession of his son as Azerbaijan's next president, was determined to keep opposition leaders out of parliament and ensure that the body as a whole is supportive of his heir. If the only way to guarantee the desired outcome was wholesale vote fraud, so be it. Prognoses of possible accommodation with the opposition, or possibly even some power sharing arrangements, to facilitate a smooth and peaceful transfer of power, have proved unfounded. Indeed, President Aliev reportedly has told the new UK Ambassador to Baku that Azerbaijan does not need to join the Council of Europe, indicating that he is not prepared to make any concessions when it comes to maintaining his grip on power and passing it on to his chosen heir, whatever the international community thinks.

Even more worrisome is that by depriving the opposition of the possibility to contend for power through parliamentary means, Aliev has seriously reduced the chances of a ''soft landing'' in Azerbaijan. When he eventually leaves the scene, anything could happen. This is not only a frightening prospect for the citizens of Azerbaijan, its neighbors and hopes for resolving regional disputes, especially the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict—it is a scenario that should alarm policymakers in Washington as well.

Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to say ''I told you so'' to those colleagues who argued against my resolution. I would much have preferred to make a statement congratulating Azerbaijan on having held exemplary elections and making substantial steps towards democratization. Alas, I cannot do so, which should sadden and concern all of us. But I fear the consequences will be far more serious for the citizens of Azerbaijan.

NEW YORK'S HEALTHY START CONSORTIUM HELPS REDUCE INFANT MORTALITY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I praise the outstanding work of New York's Healthy Start Consortium. Healthy Start/NYC (HS/NYC), a collaborative, community-driven, Federal project was founded in 1991 to combat infant mortality and poor maternal and child health in three medically underserved areas. New York neighborhoods like Bedford-Stuyvesant, Mott Haven and Central Harlem have some of the Nation's highest infant mortality and poverty rates. From 1991 to 1997, HS/NYC served 30,000 women and their families annually which lead to a 40 percent decrease in the infant mortality rate, a drop in low birth weights and a 24 percent decline in births to teens.

The Consortium has been able to create a strong public-private network of health and social service agencies, providers, schools, churches, businesses, and individuals. It has remained committed to its community-driven, collaborative approach. I want to particularly commend the work of Ngozi Moses with the Brooklyn Perinatal Network; Arlene Bailey-Franklin with the Bronx Perinatal Consortium; Sharon Rumley with the Queens Comprehensive Perinatal Council; Goldie Watkins-Bryant with Healthy Start/New York City Project; Luci Chambers, with Downstate New York Healthy Start Project; Mario Drummonds, with Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership; Cheryl Brown-Hoyte with Nassau County's Healthy Start Project and Dara Cerwonka with Suffolk County Perinatal Coalition.

Now that the Healthy Start Program has been reauthorized, I look forward to working with the Healthy Start/New York City Consortium in the months ahead. The Consortium hopes to broaden its work with consumers. I am certain that the Consortium will be able to bring new families into its program during the next fiscal year. Once again, I offer my congratulations to the Consortium on a job well done.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN HENRY B. GONZALEZ

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our colleague, the late Henry B. Gonzalez, who died on November 28, 2000, and who served the House and the Nation for 37 years as one of its most revered public servants. To his family, his wife Bertha, his son CHARLIE who now serves in the House as our colleague, and to all of his constituents in the 20th District in Texas, I extend my most sincere condolences. My prayers are with all of you in the hope of giving comfort against the grief of your great loss.

What to say about Henry B., as he was affectionately known in his San Antonio Congressional District. In the House, Henry B. was known as a fierce activist for the poor and for minorities in the field of housing, small business, community development, and consumer fairness. He was an unbridled advocate for what he believed was right for his constituents and the Nation.

For Members like me, he was a friend, a mentor and an educator—because without his knowledge and willingness to share, many of us who did not have the privilege or opportunity to serve with him on the Banking and Housing Committee would not have known what was going on, or how to resolve the problems facing the Nation—from affordable housing to community development to salvaging the savings and loan industry, naming only a few of his many struggles to secure the American dream for all Americans.

From the beginning of his adult life, Henry B. was on fire to help his people and his State and his country. A feisty first-ever Mexican-American to serve in the State Legislature, he was also the first to be selected to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1963—and in both jobs he went about kicking down ethnic barriers, facing civil rights issues with searing defiance that meant a 36 hour filibuster in the Texas State Senate, defeating 16 segregationist bills, to punching out a restaurant patron in the 1970's for calling him a ''communist.'' When an apology was demanded, Henry B. said only that he was sorry he had pulled the punch.

During his 37 years in the House of Representatives, Henry B. Gonzalez spoke out for the people—all people—on behalf of the needs of the working poor—long before it was popular to do so. He held in his hand the day of his swearing in as a Member of this House a bill to abolish the Poll Tax which was eventually enacted, and he never stopped working against all kinds of discrimination against the poor and the disenfranchised in our country.

And so we say goodbye to Henry Gonzalez, knowing that the rich, the poor, the powerful, the disadvantaged, the young and the old, are better off than they would have otherwise been without his caring and compassion, and without the fire in his heart and the courage of his convictions as a public servant that left so much good in its wake—enough to last a lifetime.

We celebrate the life of Henry B. Gonzalez, who served under eight presidents and became a legend in his own time, by conferring upon him the titles of statesman, warrior, pioneer, patriot, hero and a national treasure. We also remember him as funny, brilliant, a maverick, and a coalition builder who lived his life and served his people with exuberant ardor. Most of all he was genuine, and he was honest to a fault.

But Henry B. Gonzalez said it best: ''I have never failed myself, and I have never failed you.''

He provided the opportunity for all of us to follow in his footsteps, and none more so than his beloved son, the gentleman from Texas, CHARLIE GONZALEZ, our colleague now serving the 20th District of Texas, and I again extend to him and his family my heartfelt sorrow and tell them, Henry B. will never be forgotten.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION ADDRESSING THE FLU VACCINE SHORTAGE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, influenza is a serious illness that afflicts millions of Americans each year. While most Americans recover after a few days, influenza causes thousands of deaths each year, mostly among the elderly. Fortunately, vaccination can prevent a person from becoming infected with influenza.

Influenza vaccines are developed each year because the flu virus naturally mutates and changes. This year's strain of flu vaccine has been a particularly difficult strain to produce for all manufacturers, and as a result, there are lower than normal yields. Although we expect there will be sufficient vaccines for this year, there has been a delay in releasing vaccines to the public.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended vaccinations first be given to individuals who are at particularly high risk for developing complications. This group includes individuals who are 65 years or older, people who suffer from chronic illnesses, individuals in nursing homes, children who are undergoing long-term aspirin therapy, and pregnant women.

Ninety percent of vaccines are distributed by private sector distributors for use by health care providers. This resolution urges these private sector distributors to follow the CDC's recommendations to ensure that those at highest risk for influenza complications be given priority in receiving their vaccine.

H. RES. —

Whereas influenza is a contagious viral infection that affects the respiratory tract;

Whereas people of any age can become infected with influenza;

Whereas, although most people who become infected with influenza recover within a few days, some people develop serious complications that can become life-threatening;

Whereas influenza causes thousands of deaths each year, mostly among the elderly;

Whereas vaccination can prevent a person from becoming infected with influenza;

Whereas the periodic mutation of the influenza virus requires the influenza vaccine to be annually updated to contain the most recent influenza virus strains;

Whereas a lower-than-expected yield of one of the components of this season's influenza vaccine has caused the distribution of the vaccine to be delayed;

Whereas the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are working closely with vaccine manufacturers to facilitate the availability of a safe and effective influenza vaccine for this influenza season;

Whereas temporary shortages of the influenza vaccine early in this influenza season may require decisions to be made regarding how to prioritize the use of the available vaccine;

Whereas the vaccine available early in this influenza season should be used to maximize the protection of people at a high risk of developing complications from an influenza infection;

Whereas the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that the groups of people at a high

(1) people who are 65 and older;

(2) residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities that house people who have chronic medical conditions;

(3) people who have chronic disorders of the pulmonary or cardiovascular systems, including asthma;

(4) people who have had required medical follow up or hospitalization during the past year because of chronic metabolic disease, kidney dysfunction, blood disorders, or immunosuppression;

(5) children and teenagers who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy; and

(6) women who will be in the second or third trimester of pregnancy during the influenza season;

Whereas all influenza vaccine used in the United States is produced in the private sector, and 90 percent of that vaccine is distributed by private-sector distributors for use by health care providers;

Whereas reports have indicated that certain distributors of the influenza vaccine are taking advantage of the influenza vaccine shortage by raising their prices by as much as 500 percent;

Whereas distributors are first supplying those buyers willing to pay the highest price for the influenza vaccine, even when those buyers were the last to order;

Whereas, for example, although the Director of the California Department of Health Services contracted with a distributor in February to purchase influenza vaccine at a cost of $17.99 per vial and has received only one third of the order, the Director of the Maine Division of Disease Control contracted with that same distributor in June and July to purchase influenza vaccine at a cost of $39.00 per vial and received both shipments within two months; and

Whereas distributors are in a unique position to make vaccines available first to facilities serving people at a high risk of developing complications from an influenza infection, such as nursing homes, hospitals, and doctors offices: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the private-sector distributors of the influenza vaccine should make all reasonable efforts to ensure that, during any shortage of the influenza vaccine, priority is given to distributing the available vaccine to those groups of people identified by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as being at a high risk of developing complications from an influenza infection.

TRIBUTE TO SIDNEY YATES

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, on October 5, our country lost a great patriot, Sid Yates. Sid was my very dear friend, and a beloved federal representative, who preserved and protected our country's finest cultural resources and historical landmarks.

For nearly a half of a century, Sid served in the House of Representatives. I was fortunate enough to have served with him for more than 25 years. He was a true gentleman and distinguished politician who brought honor and dignity to the U.S. House of Representatives.

It was a very sad day when Sid announced he would not run for reelection. I know the House of Representatives meant a great deal to him, and it was very hard for Sid to leave a place that he loved. Personally, I missed him greatly. It always made my day when he returned to Capitol Hill for a visit. I was saddened by his passing and he will be greatly missed by those of us who worked beside him, and the nation as a whole.

Many people remember Sid as a tremendous advocate of the arts, but I will always remember him as a master of the art of politics. Sid loved serving as a deputy in the Democratic Whip organization. So much so that for well over twenty years, Sid served as a deputy whip, while championing the causes of the Democratic Party.

Not only was Sid a great politician, but he was also a genuine and caring person. He worked hard behind the scenes to help individual members shepherd their projects through the legislative process, but he was always certain to give the credit to others. Although a giant in the House, Sid would always make it a point to take of the little things without any kind of fanfare. For instance, every Thursday, after our Democratic Whip meetings, Sid would always make sure to bring back muffins or danish to his staff. Although in the grand scheme of things this small token of thoughtfulness was probably lost on most Members, I believe it spoke volumes on the kind of person Sid Yates was.

While I will always remember Sid as a wonderful and caring person, I can't overlook how hard he worked to make our country a beautiful and cultural place to live. As Chairman of the coveted Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, he fought tirelessly to protect free expression of the arts, and to preserve funding for national parks, historical landmarks, and national seashores. He was a true believer in the benefits of the arts and historical landmarks.

My hometown of Boston had benefited greatly from his generosity and dedication to preserving historical landmarks. Over the years, Sid supported vital federal funding for Boston's Freedom Trail, a wonderful walking tour through the City of Boston that provides a historical review of the many famous Revolutionary War sites including the African Meeting House, Dorchester Heights, and the Old South Meeting House.

Thanks to Sid's work with the Freedom Trail, tourists can visit the famed Old North Church, where Paul Revere hung two lanterns warning citizens of Boston that the British were coming by sea; or Faneuil Hall, where colonists met to protect British rule; and many other revolutionary war sites.

As an appropriations committee cardinal, Sid was also helpful in providing funds to preserve Boston's 31 harbor islands, which are rich with historical and geological treasures. Because of Sid's support, visitors will soon be able to take a ferry to many of these remarkable islands, which have been unaccessible for years. Sid's commitment to the preservation of the harbor islands will provide plenty of recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to Boston. The City of Boston is a better place to visit thanks to the kindness and wisdom of Sid Yates.

Just as the lanterns at Old North Church shone brightly to guide the patriots in their fight for independence, Sid Yates' commitment and dedication to the arts and humanities was a guiding light for all Americans. While his light has faded, his legacy will endure because of his devotion to preserving our country's historical landmarks and cultural resources. Just like Paul Revere, Sid Yates was a great patriot.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUE NICHOLS

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the tireless dedication of Mrs. Sue Nichols to the children of our community. Mrs. Nichols was born and raised in Miami-Dade County where she is a teacher at St. Thomas Episcopal Parish School. She has now been teaching kindergarten for 25 years.

Recently, Mrs. Nichols wrote an article entitled ''Flowers of Tomorrow Are Seeds of Today'', which I believe is an accurate representation of her kind and exuberant demeanor. This outlook is the product of a healthy life philosophy which was passed on to her by her grandmother, Viola Erhart. It is quite simple and yet at the same time incredibly profound. At its core is the saying: ''May each person I see today go happier for it on his way''. She lives by this motto every day as a wife, friend and teacher.

Mrs. Nichols' greatest service to our community lies in her devotion as a teacher to the spreading of this wonderful vision among her students. She understands that while the young mind is fragile, it is at the same time remarkably open. By recognizing our children as the flowers of tomorrow and instilling within them her grandmother's message of kindness, Sue is actively contributing to the development of these same values among her students.

Mrs. Nichols deserves the greatest praise both from the families of these young boys and girls, and from all those whose lives she will touch. Her efforts are an invaluable investment in our community's future and we are all truly blessed to have her in the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding Mrs. Sue Nichols for her outstanding service to the youth of our community.

IN HONOR OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Church of the Incarnation on its 90th anniversary, which will be celebrated on Sunday, December 10, 2000. Founded in 1910, the Church of the Incarnation is celebrating ninety years of faith in God and community.

The Church of the Incarnation held its first service on January 8, 1911, in a room rented from the Afro-American Women's Industrial Club for $6.00 a month. Although its beginnings were meager, its future would not be. Despite financial hardship, the congregation grew steadily, attracting members with the deepest faith and commitment.

In June of 1928, the Church of the Incarnation held a groundbreaking ceremony for its new building. On December 24, 1928, the Church held its first service there.

In 1971, the Church achieved ''Parish Status,'' and later established an award for the man and woman of the year. In order to become more involved in the community, the Church began to sponsor and implement community outreach programs and participated in community development projects, including after school and summer camp programs; the renovation of P.S. #18, which currently provides housing for low-income families; a ''Clothing Ministry'' for the poor; and a scholarship fund. ''Resurrection House'' opened for occupancy in 1992. In addition, the Church established a Sunday school and a men's chorus and youth choir, as well as a newsletter entitled ''Good News.''

The Church of the Incarnation merged with St. Mathew's and St. Stevens in 1997. Today, the three churches together are St. Augustine. A new church and community center will be completed in December 2001.

Ninety years after its founding, the Church of the Incarnation proudly celebrates its history—a history that is a testament to the congregation's enduring faith and extraordinary commitment to God and community.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the 90th anniversary of the Church of the Incarnation. This congregation's faith is a wonderful example for everyone.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT WITH REGARD TO INDIA

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the year 2000 comes to a close, we can look back over the past twelve months with a profound sense of accomplishment by pointing to a new chapter in our relationship between the United States and India. We have witnessed dramatic changes that have created a dynamic and lasting partnership as celebrated throughout President Clinton's visit to India last July and Prime Minister's Vajpayee's journey to the U.S. where, on an historic September morning, he addressed a joint meeting of the House and Senate. Today, as never before, India and the U.S., the world's two largest democracies, are collaborating on a host of issues of mutual interest, from technology to the environment and from economic development to the fight against terrorism.

Our close ties with India would not have been possible without the bipartisan cooperation of the Congress. The vast majority of our members have embraced that relationship. We have enacted congressional resolutions demonstrating our solid support for India and its democratic institutions and we have been actively engaged in promoting regional stability in an area of vital concern to U.S. interests, and the flow of commerce between our nations. In view of the overwhelming support in forging a harmonious relationship for the new millennium, it is disappointing that a few of our colleagues have seen fit to disparage and discourage that relationship by launching a series of ill-informed attacks on India and its people. In the interest of accuracy and in the broader context of the growing bonds of friendship between the U.S. and India, it is important that we set the record straight.

First, let us consider the baseless claim that the Government of India was responsible for the bombing of an Air India jet in 1985, which occurred off the coast of Ireland in a flight originating in Canada, claiming the lives of 329 passengers. That incident has now been thoroughly investigated by one of the world's most respected law enforcement agencies, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). On October 27, 2000 after an almost 15-year inquiry, the RCMP charged two residents in British Columbia, Ripudaman Singh Malik and Ajaib Bagri, with the murders of the innocent civilians killed in the crash of the Air India jet. One of those individuals, Mr. Malik, has been identified by Canadian authorities as the financial backer of extreme Sikh separatist groups operating from Canada. Both Canadians have also been charged with the murders of two baggage handlers in Tokyo by a bomb that was meant to destroy yet another Air India flight. These individuals, will be given a trial and afforded every opportunity to defend themselves against the murder and criminal conspiracy charges lodged against them by Canadian authorities.

As the India Abroad News Service reported recently, moderate Sikhs in the U.S. have welcomed the RCMP's apprehension of the suspects. According to India Abroad, the Sikh Council on Religion and Education—a community think-tank based in Washington—concluded:

> We, the Sikhs, condemn the killing of innocent people. We also want to emphasize in the strongest possible terms that any such employment of violence for political ends is totally against Sikh teachings and values. The Sikh religion teaches tolerance and respect for all religious beliefs and practices . . . The consensus in the Sikh community in India and internationally has been that political issues must be resolved through dialogue, political process and peaceful means. We are surprised and shocked that there could be Sikh individuals who would commit such a horrible act . . .

These moderate and responsible views of the U.S. Sikh community stand in sharp contrast to the false information in press releases prepared by the so-called ''Council of Khalistan'' on the destruction of the Air India jet that were reflected in statements by one of our colleagues. This ''Council'' has little presence and

Turning to the second event—the massacre of 36 Sikh villagers in Chittisinghpora on March 20, 2000 which occurred just as President Clinton arrived for his state visit to India. Statements that the Indian government was responsible for this infamous act of murder, defies the facts. The true story is otherwise. Indian authorities have arrested a prime suspect in the case who disclosed that the massacre was the work of a group of terrorists in the ranks of the Hiz-ul-Majahideen (HUM) and HUM's affiliate, the Lashkar-e-Toiba (LET). The HUM has already been designated by the State Department as a foreign terrorist organization and I have joined with other members of the Congress in calling upon the State Department to name the LET as a terrorist organization.

Both the HUM and LET are on the long list of terrorist organizations that are encouraged and supported by Pakistan. Attacks from forces outside of India, often led by armed mercenaries, are consistent with the pattern of terrorism that these and other terrorist groups have carried out for many years against innocent Hindus and Muslims in Kashmir. Their motive is clear—they seek to disrupt the territorial integrity of India and to show that a multi-religious society cannot survive. The attack on the Sikh community in Chittisinghpora, by cynically choosing the very eve of President Clinton's visit to New Delhi to perpetrate these atrocities, follows the policy of ethnic cleansing to eliminate whatever little minority population that resides in the Kashmir valley. Casting blame on India for these deliberate acts of violence is at odds with the facts of the case and India's constitutional obligation to protect the civil and human rights of its diverse communities.

Finally, let us consider recent statements claiming that India is practicing ''state terrorism'' in Punjab and Kasmir, citing unsubstantiated figures from questionable and unreliable sources. Using these claims, it is contended India should be declared a terrorist state. Such a notion flies in the face of the documented record by the U.S. State Department citing the improvement of human rights in India. It is also contrary to the partnership between the U.S. and India in combating the menace of international terrorism by engaging in day-to-day cooperative counter-terrorist activities.

With India's record of democracy deeply rooted in its constitution and its tolerance for its many religious and ethnic communities, India itself has suffered from the ravages of terrorism to a degree virtually unparalleled around the world. The human cost of this cross-border terrorism has been staggering. Indeed, over the years, more than 16,000 Indians in Punjab have been murdered and maimed by cross-border terrorists. The deadly toll in Jammu and Kashmir has exceeded 21,000.

It is in this context that we should examine the damage that can be caused by unsubstantiated allegations and false propaganda. Charges are continually hurled against the Government of India every time a vicious act

of terrorism is committed—for example, the bombing of the Air India jetliner in 1985, the attack on the Sikh community in March of this year, and the shooting of innocent pilgrims on their way to the Amarnarth caves in August. There is more than sufficient evidence to show that the last two acts committed this year were the handiwork of elements from Pakistan belonging to the LET. The facts with regard to the Air India case point to Canadian-based Sikh supra-nationalists as the source of the aviation disaster. If this kind of propaganda is uncritically allowed to hold sway, it encourages militant units like the LET to perpetrate similar atrocities against innocent civilians. It is characteristic of the modus operandi of these terrorist groups to deflect attention from their inhumane acts by deliberately shifting the blame to India.

The first and only address by a foreign head of state before a joint meeting of the 106th Congress by India's Prime Minister Vajpayee speaks volumes about the position of the U.S. Congress on U.S.-India relations.

The recent ill-informed statements by some of our colleagues do not represent the views of most Members of the U.S. Congress.

RECOGNIZING LARRY JUSTICE OF MACON, GA, FOR HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE BIBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor an exceptional citizen from Macon, Georgia's 8th Congressional District, Larry Justice of Macon, Georgia, on his retirement from the Bibb County Board of Commissioners.

Larry Justice was first elected to the Macon Board of Commissioners in 1969 and has served as chairman for 10 years. As a long time public servant, Larry has served on the State of Georgia Local Health Advisory Commission and is the past president of the Macon Board of Realtors.

I have had the distinct honor of working with Larry on such projects as the Fall Line Freeway, Robins Air Force Base and many other issues in transportation, health, education and defense. I will miss his tenacity and hard work ethic, as well as, our close working relationship.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Larry Justice for his dedication and service to Bibb County. He is an extraordinary citizen, and I am proud to serve as his Representative in the People's house.

HONORING THE FORT WORTH ALUMNI (BETA TAU LAMBDA) CHAPTER OF THE ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding efforts of the Fort Worth Alumni (Beta Tau Lambda) Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, which marked its 60th anniversary on this past Monday, December 4th.

Throughout its 94-year existence, the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity has been an exemplary organization, with a mission committed to public service. The Fort Worth Alumni Chapter has done a tremendous job of furthering Alpha Phi Alpha's mission and has worked to make a real difference in our North Texas community.

The Fort Worth Alumni Chapter has taken action in our community to curb juvenile delinquency, foster job training skills and community safety programs, and combat teen pregnancy by educating young men.

Through the years, the members of Alpha Phi Alpha and the Beta Tau Lambda chapter have become leaders of their community, a testimony to the strength of their education as members of this fine organization.

Congratulations again to the Beta Tau Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity on your 60th anniversary. I know you will continue serving our Fort Worth community throughout the next 60 years.

HONORING MR. FRED W. LILLEY FOR 40 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, upon my election to the House of Representatives in 1994, I opened a district office in Greenville, NC located next door to the local Social Security Administration. Little did I realize at the time how beneficial this location would be in helping the people of the third district.

As you can imagine, my district office over the past 6 years has been busy assisting constituents with their Social Security problems. The work my office has performed on these cases has allowed my staff and I to develop a number of wonderful relationships with the employees of the Administration. One of these relationships in particular has proven to be especially valuable—the relationship between my office and Mr. Fred Lilley, district manager in the Social Security office next door.

Fred Lilley has always been most helpful to my office. Time and time again he has assisted my staff and I in resolving problems for my constituents and has offered valuable advice and insight. That is why, while happy for Fred, I was somewhat saddened to hear of his upcoming retirement from the Social Security Administration.

Upon Fred Lilley's retirement on December 30, 2000, we will be losing a committed and caring public servant—one who has dedicated his career to helping his fellow man. He has given 40 years of service to the citizens of our Nation through his work with the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Army and Army Reserves. Originally from Martin County, NC, Fred began working for the Social Security Administration following graduation from East Carolina College in 1960. During the ensuing years he worked in a number of offices throughout the southeast, including a ten year assignment in Social Security's Atlanta Regional Office before being transferred to Greenville in July of 1979. Since that time he has served as District Manager in Greenville, which includes both the Greenville and Elizabeth City offices. The Greenville District serves eight northeastern North Carolina Counties having over 45,000 beneficiaries receiving over $300 million annually in Social Security benefits. Fred's respect for individual differences, his ability to build on their strengths and compensate for weaknesses, has made him the quality manager with whom we have enjoyed working.

Fred Lilley loves his country, is active in local and community events, and lives each day to its fullest. A retired Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, Fred is also a member of the Reserve Officers Association, the Civil Affairs Associations, The Association of the U.S. Army, and is a member and past President of the Greenville Civitan Club. He is a loving husband to his wife, Lenora who is an assistant librarian at a local elementary school and a wonderful father to his daughter Gail, who currently resides in Florida.

The service that Fred Lilley has given to the taxpayers for the past forty years has, in my opinion, exemplified what a true public servant should be. His concern about efficiency and always making sure the citizens are given courteous and sincere service will long be remembered as Fred Lilley's legacy.

HONORING HAROLD PRAEDIGER

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Mr. Harold Praediger, who is retiring as Borough Council President of Rockledge in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Praediger has been a resident of Rockledge for 45 years and has contributed years of extraordinary service to his community. He has been a member of the Borough Council for more than 14 years where he served as Recreation Chairman, Vice President and currently as President. As President, Mr. Praediger has played an integral role in kicking off the new Municipal Building project that is scheduled to break ground next year.

A graduate of Abington High School, Mr. Praediger resigned as the Head of Maintenance at Jeanes Hospital in Philadelphia and is now a co-owner of Acker's Hardware. He and his wife, Linda, have three children: Michael, Steven and Leigh Anne.

It is a privilege to acknowledge the achievements of Mr. Harold Praediger. The entire Rockledge community has benefited from his leadership and fellowship. I join the Borough Council in congratulating him on his many years of exemplary service.

A FREE KASHMIR IS IN THE U.S. VITAL INTEREST

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I have just returned from a 1-week visit to Pakistan and

Kashmir. This brief tour of a nation of more than 140 million people who were our loyal allies during the critical years of the cold war with the Soviet Union was pleasant and tremendously informative. The purpose of my trip was twofold. First, I represent the largest community of Pakistani and Kashmir-American citizens in our nation. Their concerns for their homeland are also my concerns. Secondly, since I was a high school student, and for all of my adult life, I have been captivated by the problem of Kashmir self-determination which mysteriously does not arouse the pity and anger throughout the world that it deserves. To raise the national and world level of visibility on this issue I have founded the House Pakistan-Kashmir Caucus.

During our stay in Pakistan and Kashmir as the guest of the Council of Pakistan Americans and the government of Azad Kashmir we covered a full and productive itinerary:

We were received by several high level officials of the national government including the Head of State, General Parvez Mucharref; whose present title is Chief Executive Officer. We also met with the Foreign Minister, the Minister of Education, the Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir, the Administrator of the City of LaHore, the Governor of the province of Punjab.

We conferred with the American Embassy and Consulate officials in both Islamabad and LaHore including Ambassador Milman, Principal Officer Sheldon Rappaport, and Counsel General David Donahue along with the very helpful members of their staffs.

As a result of the recent passage of the Brownback amendment which exempts education aid from the set of sanctions presently being imposed on Pakistan, we met with an unusual number of education officials and visited six schools and four higher education institutions. Because of my long-term assignment on the Education Committee I applauded the Brownback amendment and conveyed my intent to closely work with those who are charged with administering it.

On a one day trip to Azad Kashmir we visited three schools and a refugee camp. We met children with high spirits and keen intelligence. We also met refugees who were obviously crushed in both spirit and body.

In Islamabad, and LaHore as well as in Azad Kashmir we participated in several press conferences and meetings which discussed the Kashmir problem at great length. The Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir, Sultan Mahmood Chaudary showed particular concern about the present stalemate and the decline in American interest as a third party. We assured him that, despite the exceptional power and influence of the Indian lobby, we would return to achieve a greater balance of thinking and action with respect to Pakistan and Kashmir. We also pledged to work with the Pakistani and Kashmiri community in America to ''jump-start'' a ''People's Movement to Free Kashmir''.

Self determination, democracy and human rights are assigned the highest priority in the value scheme of the international community in this year 2000. The people of Kashmir have been denied all three of these vital social and political components while the nations of the world have watched their plight for 53 years. The United Nations has reneged on a vital promise to Kashmir for more than five decades. The great powers who sit on the Security Council have ignored the pains of the Kashmir people.

For humanitarian reasons Kashmir must be set free. Of equal importance is the fact that this long festering problem fuels an explosive dispute between Pakistan and India. Because both of these powers now have nuclear weapons, Kashmir has become one of the globe's most dangerous regions. Justice for the people of Kashmir is now inextricably interwoven with freedom from the massive world nuclear contamination which would result from any nuclear conflict in South Asia.

The continuing refusal of the United States and its allies to assign the highest priority to the Kashmir problem is a dangerous strategic blunder. The failure to pursue a vigorous and thorough non-violent diplomatic solution in Kashmir will result in tragic future consequences.

TRIBUTE TO JACK VALENTI ON HIS RECEIPT OF THE CIVILIAN PATRIOT AWARD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in congratulating and honoring Jack Valenti, the President of the Motion Picture Association of America, on his receipt of the first Citizen Patriot Award. This award recognizes outstanding contributions by civilians to our nation's military personnel and to our nation's security. My dear friend, Jack Valenti, is a friend to many of us here in this body, and he is most deserving of this singular honor. Jack first served our country during World War II, flying over 50 combat missions over Italy. Later, he served in a position of great responsibility in the administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson. He then went on to represent our nation's film industry here in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I could spend all day extolling the virtues of this outstanding man, this extraordinary citizen and patriot. However, my efficient nature suggests that I share with you the excellent remarks of Secretary of Defense William Cohen when he presented Jack with this award. I request that excerpts of Secretary Cohen's speech be placed in the RECORD.

REMARKS OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILLIAM COHEN PRESENTING THE CIVILIAN PATRIOT AWARD TO JACK VALENTI, PRESIDENT OF THE MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

I had a long speech tonight, but that's not what I'm going to inflict upon you. You had an opportunity to pay tribute to a young sailor who survived the U.S.S. *Cole* tragedy. I don't know if many of you are aware of what took place following that terrorist bombing. But for 48 to 72 hours following that tragic event, these young men and women aboard that ship worked much of the time without any power. They were in total darkness. They had no external support. They had lost 17 of their colleagues. Fifty were desperately wounded. They had chaos all around—smoke, jagged metal. Then they lost the power and the water was coming in at 10 gallons per minute, and they had to bail it out bucket by bucket. But they were determined to save that ship to make sure that ship did not go down.

So I again want to tell you how proud I am [of our forces], and how proud I am of President Clinton for having reached across the aisle to say, ''I want this Republican to serve in my administration to send a signal to the American people and to the Congress that when it comes to national security there is no party label. There is no party difference. We have one national security commitment.'' And I thank him for giving me this opportunity to be the civilian representative of the greatest military in the world, bar none. They are the finest military that we have ever had. They have performed magnificently the world over. Janet and I had the opportunity to visit General Tilelli in Korea up on the DMZ in the frozen hills. We've been out in the Persian Gulf where the temperatures ranged from 120 up to 140 degrees. We have been all over the world where our men and women serve us. And I must tell you—there can be no higher honor for me and Janet than to be working on their behalf.

It takes a great tragedy like the U.S.S. *Cole* to remind the American people that our men and women in uniform are serving us. Because of them, you and I are able to sleep safely. We go home tonight and we sleep under that blanket of freedom because of what they do day in and day out, because of the dangers they face day in and day out, because of the lives they put on the line day in and day out. They are great warriors. They are also great musicians, as you've seen. They are great peacekeepers. They are diplomats. But most of all, they're our sons and our daughters, and we must do everything in our power to make sure that we give them everything that they need and deserve in order to continue to serve us in the fashion that they do. That has been our commitment. That will be, hopefully, the commitment of those who will follow.

The film industry plays a critical role. On the way in, a number of the television reporters were asking us, ''Why are you doing this? Why are you here in Hollywood?'' Well, Hollywood has played a role in the security of this country throughout our history. If you go back to World War I, it was the movie star celebrities who were helping to push those Liberty Bonds. If you look at World War II, many of the celebrities were raising over $1 billion to support that war effort. And then there are the film clips that we have seen here tonight—''Saving Private Ryan'' by Steven Spielberg; ''U-571,'' ''The Perfect Storm,'' [and] ''Top Gun'' that Jerry Bruckheimer produced earlier. And we are going to witness another movie produced by Jerry with Michael Day, ''Pearl Harbor,'' coming out on Memorial Day. And, of course, there's another great tribute to our military by Cuba Gooding, Jr. in ''Men of Honor.''

The film industry is important in shaping what people think about our military and supporting them, and we wanted to be here to say something to Hollywood you don't hear very often, and that's ''Thank you.'' Thank you for all that you do in portraying the men and women who serve us, their patriotism, their courage, their sense of honor. On behalf of all of us, we in the Pentagon want to say thank you to Hollywood.

Tonight, we're going to present the first Citizen Patriot Award. And again, I was asked on the way in, ''Why Valenti?'' Of course, you have to say, well, why not Valenti? . . . . We are celebrating a patriot in Jack Valenti. He is a veteran who flew 50 combat missions over Italy in World War II, who went on to public service in the White House with President Johnson, who has continued his service to this film industry but also to this country. And you know that he's a man of great language and literature and passion and commitment. He has been a

strong advocate on behalf of the men and women who are serving us in the military. So if we're looking for a citizen patriot, at the very top of the list we take Jack Valenti for all that he represents.

I will tell you that patriotism is in his blood. I remember reading a book that he wrote some years ago, and I came across a passage. He said, ''I remember my white-mustached grandfather, Sicilian, proud, and dignified, and dominant, speaking to me and his dozen grandchildren in heavy accents, thick with an odd mix of Sicily and the Texas gulf coast, and he said, ''Love this country, be proud of this country. It's a good land.''

Jack Valenti has lived up to the words of his grandfather. He is proud of this country. He is a proud patriot. And I can't think of a better summation than one I read from Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, who also was a warrior, during the Civil War. Holmes said that, ''Through our great and good fortune, in our youth our hearts were touched with fire. And it was given to us to learn at the outset that life is a profound and passionate thing. And while we're permitted to scorn nothing but indifference and don't pretend to undervalue the worldly rewards of ambition, we have seen with our own eyes beyond and above the gold fields, those snowy heights of honor. It's for us to bear the reports of those who follow. But above all, we have learned that whether a man accepts from Fortune her spade and will look downward and dig, or from Aspiration her axe and cord and will scale the ice, the one and only success which is his to command is to bring to his work a mighty heart.''

For more than half a century, Jack Valenti has brought to his work a mighty heart, and we are eternally grateful for that.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN P. MACKINNON

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Mr. HOYER, and I wish to recognize Special Agent John MacKinnon of the U.S. Customs Service for his exemplary service with the Office of Congressional Affairs for the past two years, including his work as the acting team leader for appropriations since May of this year. Special Agent MacKinnon has provided extraordinary assistance to the Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government including planning and coordinating important Subcommittee travel to review counter-narcotics programs in the Andean drug source countries, port security and drug trafficking in Miami and the West Coast, and Customs automation projects at busy commercial ports such as Detroit and New York. Mr. MacKinnon also has been highly responsive to the requirements of this Subcommittee in both anticipating and responding to our information requirements, and in facilitating any hearings or other meetings between the Subcommittee and the Customs Service. He has brought great professionalism to his work, and has always contributed a fair measure of his energy, enthusiasm and a dram of Scottish wit to all his endeavors.

Special Agent MacKinnon came to his current assignment after a full and productive decade carrying out investigations of narcotics smuggling, illegal export of munitions and sensitive technology, and trafficking in child pornography. This work included six years leading undercover investigations of international child pornography, many of which involved the Internet. Out of that work, Mr. MacKinnon moved on to be one of the first investigators to work in and develop the Customs Service's Cyber-Smuggling Center. He has developed a wide reputation for his work in the field of Internet investigations, testifying before our counterpart Subcommittee in the Senate, assisting foreign police in international investigations, and teaching undercover courses for State and local police on Internet crimes against children.

Special Agent MacKinnon will soon depart for Boston to take up a new assignment in the field as a Group Supervisor in the Office of the Special Agent in Charge officers. From our perspective, he has served Customs well, and in so doing has done the same for our Subcommittee and the Congress. We wish him all the best in his new assignment and expect to see great things as his career progresses.

LEGISLATION ABOLISHING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce an amendment to the Constitution abolishing the Electoral College.

Mr. Speaker, on November 7, 2000 two Presidents may have been elected.

Vice President GORE received a majority of the popular vote cast that day and Governor Bush may have received a majority of the elector college electors.

Regardless of your political viewpoints, I believe that from this point forward the President of the United States should be elected by direct popular vote.

This legislation will abolish the electoral college and ensure that when the American people step into the voting booth they, and not a slate of faceless electors, will choose the next President.

The Founding Fathers installed the electoral college as a mechanism to ensure only the best and brightest individuals of their time served as our President. This relic of a bygone era was created because the Founding Fathers did not trust Americans to learn all they needed to know to make an informed decision.

But times have changed and the American people have come along way from those days.

We now live in an era of high-speed Internet access, instantaneous media coverage of international events, 24-hour news stations, and cross-country flights. There is no reason all Americans can't access the information they need to make an informed choice about who they want as their President.

There was a lot of discussion about trust in the recent Presidential campaign—on both sides: trusting people to make their own choices about retirement savings; trusting seniors to choose their own prescription drug plans; trusting women to control their reproductive health. Well, if we are going to entrust Americans to make these personal choices, we must also trust them to choose the President they believe best represents their interests.

Americans do not need to be protected from their own decisions—it's time to trust them.

In the 20th Century we gave women the right to vote, allowed direct elections of our United States Senators, and passed numerous voting initiatives designed to open the polling place to all citizens wishing to participate.

In the 21st Century, we must to sweep away these last archaic roadblocks and move forward to a truly modern democracy.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Continuing Resolution.

The House and Senate passed H.J. Res. 128, Making Further Continuing Appropriations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S11747–S11754

Measures Passed:

Continuing Resolution: Senate passed H.J. Res. 128, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11751**

Striped Bass Conservation Act Reauthorization: Senate passed H.R. 2903, to reauthorize the Striped Bass Conservation Act, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S11754**

Messages From the House: **Pages S11752–53**

Communications: **Pages S11753–54**

Additional Remarks: **Page S11752**

Recess: Senate convened at 10:00 a.m. and recessed at 10:48 a.m., until 5:30 p.m., on Monday, December 11, 2000. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11754.)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

h

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 5 public bills, H.R. 5647–5651; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 132 and H. Res. 671–672, were introduced. **Pages H12065–66**

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Profound Sorrow on the Death of the Honorable Julian C. Dixon, a Representative from the State of California: The House agreed to H. Res. 671, expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Julian C. Dixon, a Representative from the State of California. **Pages H12055–64**

Making Continuing Appropriations: The House passed H.J. Res. 128, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001 by a yea and nay vote of 284 yeas to 37 nays, Roll No. 602. **Pages H12048–53**

Earlier, agreed to H. Res. 669, the rule that provided for consideration of the joint resolution by voice vote. **Pages H12047–48**

Meeting Hour—Monday, Dec. 11: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 11. **Page H12053**

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, Dec. 13. **Page H12053**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H12047 and H12064.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of the House today and appears on pages H12052–53. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and at 12:10 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 671, the House stands adjourned until 5 p.m. on

Monday, December 11, 2000, in memory of the late Honorable Julian C. Dixon.

Committee Meetings

No Committee meetings were held.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 11 through December 16, 2000

Senate Chamber

During the week, Senate expects to consider any cleared legislative and executive business, including conference reports, when available.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: December 12, to hold oversight hearings on the status of natural gas markets, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

House Chamber

To be announced.

House Committees

Committee on the Judiciary, December 13, Subcommittee on Crime, oversight hearing on ''The Threat Posed by the Convergence of Organized Crime, Drug Trafficking, and Terrorism,'' 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, December 12, Task Force on Headwaters Forest and Related Issues, hearing on matters related to Headwaters Forest, 11 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the **SENATE**

5:30 p.m., Monday, December 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 6 p.m.), Senate expects to consider a continuing resolution, and may consider other cleared legislative and executive business.

Next Meeting of the **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

5 p.m., Monday, December 11

House Chamber

Program for Monday: Consideration of H.J. Res. 129, Making Further Continuing Appropriations (closed rule, one hour of debate).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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