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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2904) "An Act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 423. An act to amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of Fort Clatsop National Memorial in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes".

S. 941. An act to revise the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the State of California, to extend the term of the advisory commission for the recreation area, and for other purposes.

S. 1057. An act to authorize the addition of lands to Pu'uuhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park in the State of Hawaii, and for other purposes.

S. 1097. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue right-of-way permits for natural gas pipelines within the boundary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

S. 1105. An act to provide for the expeditious completion of the acquisition of State of Wyoming lands within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate disagrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1438) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2002 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fis-

cal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes," agrees to a conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BYRD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CLELAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. REED, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. BUNNING, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2001, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority leader, the minority leader or the minority whip limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) for 5 minutes.

LET US BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, America has proven time and time again that when we as a people are challenged and we dedicate ourselves to meeting that challenge, nothing can stop our Nation and nothing can stop our people. On September 11, our country was challenged yet again, challenged to defend our democracy, challenged to fight for our freedom and our way of life. When we as America accept a challenge, we are usually up to that challenge. That is the history of our forefathers; that is the history of our Nation.

As Americans, we are best when challenged. We proved that during World War I, our grandfathers; our fathers proved that during World War II. Now, in our own time, passengers aboard United Flight 93 proved that when they sacrificed their own lives to save more lives on the ground. Hundreds of firefighters, police officers, and paramedics, before our own eyes, rushed to save thousands of fleeing persons from the World Trade Towers. They were up to the challenge. They proved that when it was their time, they were ready, ready to face danger, ready to sacrifice, ready to put others first. At the Pentagon, we saw that same courage, that same willingness to sacrifice.

In Afghanistan, and the throughout the world, our servicemen and women are accepting the challenge of protecting the country. When they do serve our Nation, they put themselves at risk; and they are willing to take that risk.

That is a tradition we should be proud of; it is also a tradition that we in this House should live up to. It is that time now. We in Washington, we across America, are now confronted with a new mode of terrorism in the form of anthrax. It is yet only the latest in a series of a different mode of attack upon our country and upon our democracy and upon our freedom and upon this very institution.

We should take as an example past generations, their sacrifice, their willingness to risk, their willingness, if necessary, to face danger. In the past, they have fought to protect our land. Let us take as an example their sacrifice, that of the passengers of United Flight 93, that of the firefighters in New York, that of our brave troops around the world. Let us not back down from the challenge. Let us meet it head on. Let us not give in to the terrorists. Let us not give them the pleasure of seeing this House flinch at shadows.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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