

fake pledge cards away. Abandon the empty Republican promises and secret plans. Tell the pollsters to keep their new words to themselves. Let us conduct a free and fair debate in the open, in the sunshine, in the public about the consequences that will be caused by the privatization of Social Security. Let us rise up in the highest tradition of this body and debate the future of this most important program. Let us save Social Security first and today.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION ON IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) is recognized during morning hour debates for 2½ minutes.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support the bipartisan resolution on Iraq which we will vote on later this week.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a member of this body for the past 14 years, and I have heard Members throughout those years describe various votes as the most important votes that they will cast during their careers in Congress. I would submit to my colleagues that those votes—all of them—pale in comparison to any vote to send young American soldiers into harm's way.

My family knows the pain of war. On August 9, 1970, my brother Bill was killed in Vietnam. He was a medical corpsman, out in the field patching up his buddies, when he stepped on a land mine and lost his life. I do not want any other American family to go through what the McNulty family went through back in 1970. That is why I only favor a military option as the last option.

As a great New York Governor used to say when involved in debates, "let's look at the record." Let us look at the record with regard to Saddam Hussein. He has chemical and biological weapons. He has used them. He has killed tens of thousands of Kurds. He gassed to death 5,000 Kurds in a single day—2,000 more than all of the people we lost on September 11, 2001. And, as the President pointed out last night, there have been 750 attacks on American pilots just in the past year.

There are 135,000 American service personnel within the range of Saddam's missiles right now. And what is most disturbing of all, Mr. Speaker, is Saddam's efforts to obtain nuclear weapons. Most of the experts up until recently have been saying that he is 2 to 5 years away from a nuclear capability. Now several are saying it is less than a year.

Mr. Speaker, how can we possibly contain a modern nuclear war? I remember the statement by then-President Lyndon Johnson when asked about the impact of a modern nuclear war. He responded to the question by saying simply, "The survivors will envy the dead."

Mr. Speaker, this is the bottom line. Saddam Hussein can never be allowed to possess a nuclear capability. This bipartisan resolution emphasizes international cooperation, working with the United Nations, and exhausting all other options before we go to a military option. It ensures that military force will be used only as a last resort.

This is a substantial reordering of priorities from the first draft, and for that I thank the bipartisan leadership. I support the resolution.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. John Putka, Department of Political Science, University of Dayton, Ohio, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God and Father of us all, we stand in Your presence and lift our minds and hearts in prayer.

As we gather in this place of ongoing history, we pray for the Members of this House, chosen by our fellow citizens to represent us in the governance of our Nation. We ask You to bless them and all who assist them, so that Your laws may be reflected in our laws, and Your ways may become our ways.

We ask, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, that You send Your spirit upon them, a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord. We make this prayer in Your most holy name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PITTS 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 1-minute per side.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST CHAPLAIN

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

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honor to welcome and introduce to the House of Representatives our guest chaplain this morning, Father John Putka.

I have known Father Putka for quite a long time. He was a teacher of mine when I was a high school student at Moeller High School in Cincinnati. He also was a professor at the University of Dayton school I also attended. He has also been in the classrooms of St. Joseph in Cleveland, Chaminade in Mineola, and many other schools around the country.

Father Putka's Ministry has taken him far and wide. Not only has he preached throughout the State of Ohio and surrounding States, but his ministry also takes him to my State of Colorado at least once a year, also to the State of Wyoming. He is well-known and respected by a great number of people, but, more than that, he has inspired those who have had an opportunity to sit and observe and participate in the masses that he has led and listened to his homilies.

As a professor of political science at the University of Dayton, Father Putka is one who has trained his students to consider their role in the world through the broad context of a properly trained conscience. He is joined at the University of Dayton by Dr. Jason Pierce and others who work on a day-by-day basis to try to deliver the best education possible to the students before them. Father Putka is one who is trained and preaches in the Marianist tradition.

Again, he is one who I have known for quite a long time; and let me just finish by saying that, for me personally, this is really a blessing for him to be here today. It was 6 years ago that I was sworn into Congress. Father Putka was here to wish one of his former students, me, well as I was sworn in. And as I enter the last few weeks of my congressional service here in Washington, it is very nice that he is here today to be a part of this important day in congressional history.

IRAQ

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, last night the President gave a well-thought-out speech about Saddam Hussein and the