



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2003

No. 53

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Monsignor Robert Fuhrman, the Church of St. Gabriel, in Saddle River, NJ.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Glory and praise to You, Lord God of heaven and earth. You give us life that we may know, love, and serve You here and now. We are to find and to show goodness and truth in this often troubled but beautiful world.

You are the maker and lover of peace. Protect us from all anxiety. Keep us and our military safe from the weapons and the hatred of others in this time of war. Help our wounds continue to heal, that the United States of America may lead the world with new freedom through this new millennium, which has begun with such strife.

The eyes of many are on bombs dropping on a city far away. But because we are human, our vision is often clouded. Help us also to see the explosive power of Your divine blessings in our lives, so that we may respond with lives of service and love.

Father, may these Senators and all who work for peace, security, and the common good find satisfaction in their work for the progress of peoples. There is urgency in our prayers these days, Lord. Show us the way to the fullness of life. Teach us again. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINDSAY GRAHAM, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina). The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. to allow Members to continue to make statements supporting our troops who are participating in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

At 11 a.m., the Senate will begin consideration of the supplemental appropriations bill. Amendments are anticipated to that measure. I take this opportunity to encourage Members to notify the managers as early as possible today if they intend to offer any amendments. Our goal will be to complete the supplemental by tomorrow sometime. I would love the opportunity to finish it today, but I think realistically we should have as our goal to complete it tomorrow at some point. In order to do that, it will be critical for our colleagues to bring to the managers any amendments they may wish to offer.

At 2 p.m. today, the Senate will conduct the fourth cloture vote in relation to the Miguel Estrada nomination. Following that cloture vote, the Senate will resume consideration of the supplemental appropriations bill. The Senate will complete action on the supplemental this week. Therefore, I inform all Senators to expect rollcall votes throughout the day.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I take a couple of moments to comment on the actions in support of our troops in Iraq. First, our condolences, as always, go out to the families of those who have lost loved ones. Being from Tennessee,

I particularly express my sympathies to the family of Marine LCpl Patrick Nixon from Gallatin, TN, who was killed while attempting to secure a critical bridge across the Euphrates River in Nasiriyah.

I also offer our prayers and condolences for those who have lost loved ones, and also offer prayers to those in the field fighting for us.

I commend the tremendous performance of our Armed Forces and continue to be amazed by their degree of professionalism, their boldness, and the courage they represent each and every day. There will be tough days ahead, as we all know, but we all feel the steady progress being made.

I take a moment to commend the Navy SEALs and Army rangers who rescued PFC Jessica Lynch from a hospital in Nasiriyah where she was being held. Most people had the opportunity to see the very dramatic footage a few hours ago of her being rescued by those special forces. We join with her family and friends in Palestine, WV, in celebrating her recovery. This is one more example of the outstanding flexibility, training, and performance of America's military men and women.

I should mention, because it relates to a trip I took this weekend in visiting the base at the 101st Airborne in Tennessee, I had the opportunity to visit with Major General Petraeus's wife, Holly Petraeus, whom I first met 11 years ago when they previously had been stationed at Fort Campbell. I got to know her at that point in time and saw her when General Petraeus and I had the opportunity to start the Army 10-miler together a few months ago. I say "start" because I am a slow runner; when we started the race, he took out ahead of me after the first 20 yards.

General Petraeus now is on the front page of the Washington Post. The opening paragraph:

U.S. Army troops seized the southern edge of this key Euphrates River city today as Iraqi militia fighters appeared to retreat in the face of overwhelming firepower. . . .

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



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