

Not the Iraqi war. We are not going to relitigate that. We are in, and so we have to support our men and women. It is how that happened so this mistake does not happen again.

IRAQ WATCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HARRIS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. HOEFFEL) is recognized for the remainder of the 60 minutes, approximately 5 minutes.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Madam Speaker, let me, in our final 5 minutes here, see who among us might like to make additional comments or perhaps quickly raise a new issue, and I think the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) has something to say.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. I do not want to raise a new issue, Madam Speaker, but I do want to reiterate the idea of inquiry and how important that is. Because what we are doing can easily be dismissed by those who want to color it with a brush that has politics all over it, and that is not what this is about. It is not about politics in the sense that we are trying to make some particularly partisan point.

I notice in the photographs coming from the rehabilitation wards right here in Washington, DC that the young men and women who have been grievously wounded are not identified as Republicans and Democrats or supporters of a particular policy or not. These are the people that have had to pay the price for other people's arrogance. These are the people that have had to pay the real price. We are not paying any price here.

We all know that someone else will occupy these slots one day. I learned that the first time I was elected when I went to the office to which I was assigned and I realized they slid the names off the door.

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They were not screwed on, painted on; they came right off the door. We occupy that only so long as we have the faith and trust of the people of this country. That is what is at stake here. That is what this inquiry is all about. Is our faith and trust being played fast and loose with? That is the issue that is involved. That is why I want to say that as far as I am concerned, we are going to continue these inquiries. This Iraq Watch I hope perhaps can come out into the country, maybe off the floor of the Congress and perhaps go elsewhere. I would be very pleased to take this inquiry perhaps into a town meeting-kind of context anywhere in the Nation so that we can break out of the stranglehold on opinion that is taking place right now. We cannot trust the national media to do it. They are in the grip of the people who own the networks. We cannot trust them. We have to trust the people out there. And so I hope that perhaps with Iraq

Watch, we can go elsewhere and go directly to the people, and we can get streaming on the Internet and follow through and let people judge for themselves on the people's network that is out there.

Mr. HOEFFEL. I think that is a wonderful suggestion.

Mr. INSLEE. A brief comment. I went and visited with two Marines who had some pretty significant wounds at Bethesda awhile back serving in Iraq. One was crushed by a tank and one was shot. I just think that those gentlemen understood the value of democracy and what we are here today is to say the Congress needs to understand the value of democracy, and democracy does not work where the executive branch of the United States Government does not level with its own people. I have one question for our next week that I hope we would have answered. Why did the White House in the run-up to the war in Iraq not seek CIA approval before the President of the United States went to the Rose Garden and charged that Saddam Hussein could launch a biological or chemical attack within 45 minutes as administration officials now say? That is a question every American deserves an answer to, and the best way to do it is through Republicans and Democrats working together; and I hope this commission does that. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his leadership.

Mr. DELAHUNT. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his leadership. Let me echo the sentiments expressed by the gentleman from Washington. Unfortunately, this past week India stated that they would not provide a division of troops to help us win the peace. It is becoming clear that we are going alone, and maybe this is the problem of a particular brand of foreign policy. I know that we all are working together; we are in the process of drafting a letter to the President requesting that he go to the United Nations and seek a resolution internationalizing the security and reconstruction efforts in Iraq. I would hope all Americans would call our offices, would call the offices of our colleagues.

I would close with the words and the admonition of Tony Blair that was so eloquent in his speech this past week. He was speaking about the tensions between Europe and the United States. He said: "Don't give up on Europe. Work with it. Europe must take on the anti-Americanism that sometimes passes for political discourse. And what America must do is show that partnerships must be based on mutual respect and persuasion, not on command. America must listen as well as lead. And then the U.N. can become what it should be, an instrument of action as well as debate."

Mr. HOEFFEL. The Iraq Watch is alive and well. I thank the colleagues for being here this evening. We will be back next week.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal reasons.

Ms. BERKLEY (AT THE REQUEST OF MS. PELOSI) for today and July 24 on account of a death in the family.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal reasons.

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. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GRIJALVA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BACA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, for 5 minutes, July 23.

Mr. FLETCHER, for 5 minutes, July 22, 23, and 24.

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FLAKE, for 5 minutes, today and July 22.

Mr. GINGREY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, July 22, 23, 24, and 25.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CHOCOLA, for 5 minutes, July 23.

Mr. BEAUPREZ, for 5 minutes, July 22.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HOEFFEL. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at 9 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

3278. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the