

declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 51 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m. today.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord, in the book of Joshua, the life of anyone who killed another was forfeit. Once the monarchy was established, it would be the duty of the king to see that justice was done. But until then Israel was a tribal society and it fell upon the family of the victim to set things right. No wonder, Lord, there is so much lingering hatred and bloody violence in the world of tribal communities, even to this day.

So, Lord, You spoke to Joshua and commanded him to appoint "cities of refuge" where the person who kills another inadvertently or without intent could find refuge from the dead man's next of kin. In a time when there are more refugees than in any other time in history, we pray for all of those refugees who seek justice and long for peace. Help fragile nations to be grounded in law and order. Protect peacemakers and those who enforce the law, both here and in unstable areas like Afghanistan, Bosnia, and Iraq.

Help people everywhere to bury vengeance with forgiveness, temper justice with mercy, and transform indifference with compassion.

In You, Lord, America takes refuge, now and forever. 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 South Carolina (Mr. BARRETT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BARRETT 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.

THE U.S.-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, over the last 6 years, the United States has lost nearly one-third of its share of Chile's import market.

Not coincidentally, the plunge occurred while other nations were implementing their own free trade agreements with Chile and getting market share there. Since the early 1990s, Chile signed free trade agreements with Canada, Mexico and the four nations of MERCOSUR. And earlier this year, implementation of the European Union-Chile's FTA led to an immediate surge in exports to Chile from European firms in direct competition with U.S. firms.

The lost Chilean sales not only cost the United States its long-time ranking as the top exporting Nation to Chile, it also cost U.S. businesses and workers thousands of higher-paying, export-related jobs.

U.S. businesses have the expertise and the resources to compete globally, if they are allowed to do so on equal terms with our competitors.

It is time to pass the U.S.-Chile free trade agreement and give our companies the opportunity they need to stay competitive in Chile.

TIME FOR U.S. TO LEAVE IRAQ

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, it is time for the United States to get out of Iraq. But this administration, whose entry strategy was based on falsehood, with no exit strategy, has trapped our troops in Iraq and exposed them to greater harm. The total number of American casualties is now 232.

Here is what needs to be done diplomatically: the United Nations must be brought in. Negotiations for an exit must begin now. An exit agreement with the United Nations must involve the U.S. letting go of the contracting process; Halliburton, Brown and Root, et cetera. The U.S. must also take over the management, accounting, and distribution to the Iraqi people of the oil. Additionally, a transition from U.N. control to a self-determining governing structure by and for the Iraqi people must be planned. Finally, the administration, which unwisely ordered the bombing, must fund the reconstruction.

It was wrong to go into Iraq. It is wrong to stay in Iraq. U.S. out. U.N. in. Let us support our troops by bringing them home.

SUPPORT FREE TRADE PARTNERSHIP WITH CHILE AND SINGAPORE

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

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of a free trade partnership with

both Chile and Singapore. We should all support the model that Chile provides for economic, social, and democratic development. Chile more than doubled its GDP during the 1990s. It was the fourth fastest growing economy in the world. This extraordinary growth was fostered by low inflation, a balanced budget, clear regulatory accountability, a strong financial system, and a competitive economy. It ranks high, higher than many developed countries on international indices measuring economic success.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement is a comprehensive, leading-edge agreement that includes U.S. trade negotiating objectives and strengthens an important economic relationship with a strategic U.S. trading partner. The U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement sets many precedents, including lower barriers to trade and high-technology products and services and establishing new standards for intellectual property protection.

I urge my colleagues to support both of these critically portrayed agreements that we have negotiated that will set a positive example in both regions of the world.

REPUBLICAN ECONOMIC PLAN CAUSES SKYROCKETING DEBT FOR OUR NATION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, it has been 802 days since President Bush and the Republican Party embarked on their economic plan for our country. During that time, the national debt has increased by \$1,81,528,804,140.

According to the U.S. Department of Treasury, yesterday at 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, the Nation's outstanding debt was \$6,721,854,190,498.

Furthermore, in fiscal year 2003, interest on our national debt, or the debt tax, is \$277,768,492,816 through June 30.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1472

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1472.

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

There was no objection.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION

(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, on June 4 we passed a ban on the terrible procedure called partial-birth abortion. Now, 48 days later, we have not even gone to conference to work out the differences with the other body. Why?