

was a part was the first to enter, actually enter Baghdad after the attack on Baghdad was over.

Remember, they had a group went in and stayed at the Baghdad airport. They came in. We drove in. We came down that long road from the airport into Baghdad. The last delegation that just went had to be flown from the airport into the compound where Mr. Bremer is and where the troops are because they cannot go on that road any more. I remember coming in this road. I said, We are going to have to have 10,000 troops just to guard the road in from the Baghdad airport because you have the road and you have desert and that means you can come in. Remember, I called upon Thomas Edwards Lawrence, T.E. Lawrence, where is your spirit? Where are you now that we need you? Because you cannot guard that road. All it takes is a cell phone and a trigger mechanism to be able to attack these vehicles.

So when you talk \$66 billion or however you want to break this down, and I hope that we are going to break this down before we vote any money for this, we have to take into account you will need thousands and thousands of troops, longer and longer time at greater expense than even has been mentioned here tonight just to guard the road.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I do not know if you saw "Meet the Press" this last Sunday, but again the Vice President refuted the need that was expressed by the Army Chief of Staff, General Shinseki, that several hundred thousand troops were necessary to bring stability. We have what would appear to be a position that is intransigent, that is in denial, if you will.

If I can for just one moment bring something up that I found particularly ironic, Secretary of State Colin Powell this past week visited Halabja, which is where some 5,000 Kurdish Iraqis lost their lives because of the use of chemical weapons by Saddam Hussein. The Secretary asserted that in this little farming town nestled in Iraq's barren northern mountains, this was ample evidence that former President Saddam Hussein's government possessed weapons of mass destruction and justified, and justified the U.S. decision to go to war. That occurred in 1988 and it was despicable. And what should have occurred was the international community should have responded at that point in time, convened a war crimes tribunal, affected the arrest of Saddam Hussein and brought him to justice for that.

The President at that time was this President Bush's father, or rather in 1988 it was President Reagan. The now-Secretary of State was the then-National Security Advisor to President Reagan.

I find such irony in that because it was many of the same individuals who approached Saddam Hussein to indicate that they were tilting towards the Saddam Hussein regime in its war

against Iran. It is the now-Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld who is the special envoy who went and shook the hand of that thug Saddam Hussein in 1982. He was then taken off the terrorist list; Saddam Hussein was taken off the terrorist lists, and that opened up opportunities for the Iraqi regime.

In 1984 full diplomatic relationships were opened between the United States and Iraq. In 1986, in 1986 we installed an embassy in Baghdad. The American people should know that. In 1988, in 1988 this heinous crime was committed against the Iraqi Kurds in the town of Halabja, and here we are some 15 years later hearing the Secretary of State suggest that this was the evidence, the predicate, if you will, to our intervention.

Now, the story does not end there. The story does not end there. Because it was the President's father, the Bush administration according to a Congressional Research Report that blocked congressional action, that blocked congressional action to impose sanctions on Iraq for committing that crime against the Iraqi people.

Let me read because I think it is important that the American people hear this. I have never heard it stated. This is our own Congressional Research Service, an independent body: "In late 1988 after reports that Iraq had used chemical weapons against the Kurds, the Senate on September 9 passed by voice vote to impose financial and trade sanctions and severe restrictions on the transfer of technology to Iraq. On September 27, the House passed a bill by a vote of 388 to 16; but the bill was not taken up by the Senate. The bill would have prohibited sales to Iraq of any munitions-listed items and called on the President to place import and export restrictions on Iraq, end credit and loan guarantees, and oppose multi-lateral assistance to that country if Iraq did not stop using chemical weapons and agree to international inspections."

Similarly, in May through July of 1990, just before the first Gulf War, the administration helped block action or defeat several measures in both Houses that would have restricted U.S. sales credits, loan guarantees, insurance support in international lending institutions, and trade preferences for Iraq.

The administration helped block action. Of course we knew that he used chemical weapons. In 1990 we knew. And what did we do about it then? We blocked congressional action, the then-administration blocked congressional action.

So the irony of the Secretary of State being in Halabja and suggesting that that was the predicate for military intervention, what irony.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I want to posit a reason why the administration is trying to reach back for this, for a justification for this war. And the reason is they refused to recognize that they used false information to lead this Nation into a

war, and they have two options at this point. One is to stonewall and search for any justification they have, and now they are focusing on something that happened in 1988 during the previous Bush administration or shortly before that administration.

What they should be doing is embracing our approach, which is to find out why this happened. We think the President should be looking for the people in the administration and holding them accountable for why when they find out why this happened.

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He ought to be on our side trying to find out why the administration let down the American people, but no, no. Instead, they want to stonewall this. Stonewalling is not an answer to help this country move forward into how we are going to solve this problem, but it is an indication of what problem the administration has.

This administration has always wanted to sugarcoat this war for the American people and think it was going to be roses and tax cuts for the whole way. It is about time the administration started talking the truth.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. I think our time is probably at an end.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for joining me this evening. The Iraq Watch will be back next week.

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. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STENHOLM, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, September 17 and 18.

Mr. HENSARLING, for 5 minutes, September 17.

Mr. CHOCOLA, for 5 minutes, September 17.

Mrs. BLACKBURN, for 5 minutes, September 17.

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, today and September 17 and 18.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today and September 17 and 18.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM, for 5 minutes, September 17.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, for 5 minutes, September 17.

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today and September 17.

Mr. FEENEY, for 5 minutes, September 17.

Mr. HUNTER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 17, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

4278. A letter from the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of a decision to implement performance by the Most Efficient Organization (MEO) of the Base Support Services of Naval Surface Warfare/Weapons Centers in Carderock, MD and Philadelphia, PA; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4279. A letter from the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of a decision to implement performance by the Most Efficient Organization (MEO) of the Naval Air Systems Command Headquarters Administrative Support in Mechanicsville, MD; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4280. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting appropriations reports containing OMB cost estimates for P.L. 108-69; to the Committee on the Budget.

4281. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting an annual report to the President and to the Congress on the audit of the Telecommunications Development Fund, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 614; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4282. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

4283. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), 50 U.S.C. 1730(c) and 22 U.S.C. 2349aa-9(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

4284. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the semiannual report detailing payments made to Cuba as a result of the provision of telecommunications services pursuant to Department of the Treasury specific licenses, and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6); to the Committee on International Relations.

4285. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal

No. 17-03 which informs you of our intent to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Concerning the Development of the Future Fire Control System (FFCS) for Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) Upgrades between the United States and the United Kingdom as pursuant to Executive Order 11958, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

4286. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States be transmitted to the Congress within a sixty day period after the execution thereof as specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

4287. A letter from the Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's Commercial Activities Inventory and Inherently Governmental Inventory; to the Committee on Government Reform.

4288. A letter from the Inspector General, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the budget request for the Office of Inspector General, Railroad Retirement Board, for fiscal year 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

4289. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a report of activities under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act during Fiscal Year 2002, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1997f; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4290. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a letter concerning grants made under the Paul Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Act of 2000 (Pub L. 106-561) to improve forensic science services, pursuant to Public Law 106-561, section 2806(b); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4291. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's Twenty-Fifth Annual Report to Congress and the activities during Fiscal Year 2002 as pursuant to section 7A of the Clayton Act, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 18a(j); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4292. A letter from the chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting the Board's Fiscal Year 2005 Budget Estimates Request to OMB, pursuant to Public Law 93-633; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Appropriations.

4293. A letter from the Secretaries, Departments of Defense and Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on the evaluation of the Medicare Subvention Demonstration Project for Military Retirees entitled "Evaluation of the Medicare-DoD Subvention Demonstration: Final Report," pursuant to Public Law 105-33, section 4015; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services, Ways and Means, and Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 or rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. THOMAS: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 7. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 108-270, Pt. 1). Referred

to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2152. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend for an additional 5 years the special immigrant religious worker program (Rept. 108-271). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1945. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to provide financial assistance to the States of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, and Idaho for salmon habitat restoration projects in coastal waters and upland drainages, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 108-272). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 370. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, and for other purposes (Rept. 108-273). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the Committee on Education and the Workforce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 7 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 or rule XII the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 7. Referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce extended for a period ending not later than September 16, 2003.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia):

H.R. 3084. A bill to amend the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 to extend the deadline for filing a claim to December 31, 2004; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HINOJOSA (for himself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE, Mr. CASE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. FROST, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. OWENS, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA, and Mr. CARDOZA):

H.R. 3085. A bill to improve graduation rates by authorizing the Secretary of Education to make grants to improve adolescent literacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin:

H.R. 3086. A bill to increase penalties for obstruction of justice and false statements in terrorism cases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3087. A bill to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of