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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Jean Burch, Senior Pastor, Community Baptist Church, Pasadena, California, offered the following prayer:

This is the day that the Lord has made, let us be glad and rejoice in it. Dear Lord, as we begin this day, we can rejoice because You are our hope. And as we pray, may we be reminded that our hope is not based on optimism but a blessed assurance that this Nation under God will find her destiny in God's love.

I pray that the trust we have placed in the men and women of this House will prevail in the decisions that they make for this Nation. Speak to their hearts, Lord, through Your spirit that they may know Your will for Your people and our land. I pray that each man and woman in this room will not only know Your will, but that they may know You and the power of Your might.

For Lord, it is You who is the God of our hope, the rope we take hold of in times of turmoil, the anchor that holds us steady in the time of storm; and You are our refuge when all else has failed. Now, today, and in the days to come, may the God of hope fill each of you with all joy and peace as you put your trust in Him. In the name of our Lord, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCINTYRE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCINTYRE 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4363. An Act to facilitate self-help housing homeownership opportunities.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2589. An act to clarify the status of certain retirement plans and the organizations which maintain the plans.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 99-498, the chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore appoints the following individual, to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

Clara M. Cotton of Massachusetts.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain five 1-minutes on each side.

AMBASSADOR JOE WILSON

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

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Joe Wilson's cover has been blown. He has proclaimed to be a truth-teller, but he has been thoroughly discredited. You may recall, Mr. Speaker, that Ambassador Wilson said President Bush was lying when in the State of the

Union address he said the British Government learned that Saddam Hussein sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa. Last week's bipartisan Senate Select Intelligence Committee report concluded that it actually is Wilson who has been telling us lies.

We now know for certain that Wilson was wrong and that Bush's statement was entirely accurate. In September 2003, an independent British parliamentary committee looked into the matter and determined that the claim made by the British intelligence was in fact reasonable.

In recent days, the Financial Times has reported that illicit sales of uranium from Niger were indeed being negotiated with Iraq as well as four other states. According to the Financial Times, human and electronic intelligence sources from a number of countries picked up repeated discussions of an illicit trade in uranium from Niger. One of the customers discussed by the traders was Iraq.

There is more. The Senate report says fairly bluntly that Wilson lied to the media. The panel found that Wilson provided misleading information to The Washington Post last June, which has created more suspicion around him.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring these developments to my colleagues in the House because they will not read this in the New York Times.

VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOHN EDWARDS OF NORTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. Speaker, Vice Presidential candidate JOHN EDWARDS of North Carolina is a man who cares for people, who has a passion for a brighter America,

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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