

And what was it? It was to establish a new structure of intelligence, to provide the leader of the intelligence community with budgetary authority. And what did our friends in the 9/11 legislation do? They argued against giving budgetary authority. With no budgetary authority, you have no authority because you cannot move intelligence resources where they are needed. And here we are ignoring the families of the 9/11 victims who have waited for 3 years for us to move forward with the necessary security.

Do you know why intelligence is so important, Madam Speaker? Because it was the FBI who had information already on their desk in the Midwest that told them that there were individuals in this country taking flying lessons, learning to take off but not learning to land; and the information never got off the desk into Washington, D.C. That is why the tragedy of 9/11 occurred.

Those individuals came into this country illegally. We have fixed that problem. We have worked to fix and improve the technology. The State Department has put in new criteria where visas are issued. We are working to stop terrorists before they come into our homeland. But unfortunately we have a debate as to whether the Select Committee on Homeland Security should even continue, when we know that Secretary Ridge said he wants a steady, organized, focused committee to deal with homeland security issues rather than the tens of tens that he has to go to. Is that securing America?

But on the politics of this Republican government, President, Senate, House, rather than deal with the serious issues, we are now taking away rights of Americans, trying to pass the PATRIOT Act, trying to pass in the bill that is supposed to be the 9/11 Commission report something that was never raised by the 9/11 Commission. We are now giving employers the right to call the Department of Justice on people's backgrounds. We are now putting that into place. Not just security officers, which I perfectly support, but anybody that is trying to cook hamburgers at McDonald's. That is not a function of the Department of Justice massively as it is. Yes, single isolated cases in circumstances where the necessity of knowing the background may be the requirement of the employment, but this is an outrage.

Then, of course, as I close, Madam Speaker, they then want to obliterate the Constitution and the very values of this country by sending individuals who are barely charged with ideas of terrorism into places where they might be tortured, not even convicted but maybe speculated that they may be associated with such and we are going to obliterate our values and send them home or send them someplace to be tortured.

This is what we have done this week, Madam Speaker, and I would just argue that we can do better. I would ask that

the homeland security 9/11 Commission recommendations be placed into law by this body.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of a death in the family.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for the week of September 28 on account of official business.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 4:00 p.m. on account of a family commitment.

Mr. GUTKNECHT (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today after 4:00 p.m. on account of attending his daughter's wedding.

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

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STUPAK, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. INSLER, for 5 minutes, today.

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

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S 1601. An act to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to provide for the reporting and reduction of child abuse and family violence incidences on Indian reservations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources; in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 2436. An act to reauthorize the Native American Programs Act of 1974; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

S. 2639. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

S. Con. Res. 110. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress in support of the ongoing work of the Organization for Se-

curity and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in combating anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, discrimination, intolerance, and related violence; to the Committee on International Relations.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4654. An act to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5149. An act to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program through March 31, 2005, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5183. An act to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

H.J. Res. 107. Joint Resolution making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2005, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, October 4, 2004, at 12:30 p.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:

9896. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determination — received August 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9897. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-P-7636] received August 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9898. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations — received August 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9899. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); Assistance to Private Sector Property Insurers (RIN: 1660-AA28) received August 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

9900. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received August 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.