

We will share ideas for how to position America to meet every challenge that confronts us. And we will show our enemies abroad that we are united in the goal of victory.

One of the first steps we can take together is to add to the ranks of our military, so that the American Armed Forces are ready for all the challenges ahead. Tonight I ask the Congress to authorize an increase in the size of our active Army and Marine Corps by 92,000 in the next 5 years. A second task we can take on together is to design and establish a volunteer civilian reserve corps. Such a corps would function much like our military reserve. It would ease the burden on the Armed Forces by allowing us to hire civilians with critical skills to serve on missions abroad when America needs them. And it would give people across America who do not wear the uniform a chance to serve in the defining struggle of our time.

Americans can have confidence in the outcome of this struggle, because we are not in this struggle alone. We have a diplomatic strategy that is rallying the world to join in the fight against extremism. In Iraq, multinational forces are operating under a mandate from the United Nations, and we are working with Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and the gulf states to increase support for Iraq's government. The United Nations has imposed sanctions on Iran and made it clear that the world will not allow the regime in Tehran to acquire nuclear weapons. With the other members of the Quartet, the U.N., the European Union and Russia, we are pursuing diplomacy to help bring peace to the Holy Land, and pursuing the establishment of a democratic Palestinian state living side by side with Israel in peace and security. In Afghanistan, NATO has taken the lead in turning back the Taliban and al Qaeda offensive, the first time the alliance has deployed forces outside the North Atlantic area. Together with our partners in China, Japan, Russia, and South Korea, we are pursuing intensive diplomacy to achieve a Korean Peninsula free of nuclear weapons. And we will continue to speak out for the cause of freedom in places like Cuba, Belarus, and Burma, and continue to awaken the conscience of the world to save the people of Darfur.

American foreign policy is more than a matter of war and diplomacy. Our work in the world is also based on a timeless truth: to whom much is given, much is required. We hear the call to take on the challenges of hunger and poverty and disease, and that is precisely what America is doing. We must continue to fight HIV/AIDS, especially on the continent of Africa. Because you funded our Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the number of people receiving life-saving drugs has grown from 50,000 to more than 800,000 in 3 short years. I ask you to continue funding our efforts to fight HIV/AIDS, and I ask you to provide \$1.2 billion over 5 years so we

can combat malaria in 15 African countries. I ask that you fund the Millennium Challenge Account so that American aid reaches the people who need it, in nations where democracy is on the rise and corruption is in retreat. And let us continue to support the expanded trade and debt relief that are the best hope for lifting lives and eliminating poverty.

When America serves others in this way, we show the strength and generosity of our country. These deeds reflect the character of our people. The greatest strength we have is the heroic kindness, courage, and self-sacrifice of the American people. You see this spirit often if you know where to look, and tonight we need only look above to the gallery.

Dikembe Mutombo grew up in Africa amid great poverty and disease. He came to Georgetown University on a scholarship to study medicine, but Coach John Thompson got a look at Dikembe and had a different idea. Dikembe became a star in the NBA and a citizen of the United States. But he never forgot the land of his birth, or the duty to share his blessings with others. He built a brand-new hospital in his old hometown. A friend has said of this good hearted man: "Mutombo believes that God has given him this opportunity to do great things." And we are proud to call this son of the Congo a citizen of the United States of America.

After her daughter was born, Julie Aigner-Clark searched for ways to share her love of music and art with her child. So she borrowed some equipment and began filming children's videos in her basement. The Baby Einstein Company was born, and in just 5 years her business grew to more than \$20 million in sales. In November 2001, Julie sold Baby Einstein to Walt Disney Company; and with her help, Baby Einstein has grown into a \$200 million business. Julie represents the great enterprising spirit of America. And she is using her success to help others, producing child safety videos with John Walsh of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Julie says of her new project: "I believe it is the most important thing that I have ever done. I believe that children have the right to live in a world that is safe." And so tonight we are pleased to welcome this talented business entrepreneur and generous social entrepreneur, Julie Aigner-Clark.

Three weeks ago, Wesley Autry was waiting at a Harlem subway station with his two little girls, when he saw a man fall into the path of a train. With seconds to act, Wesley jumped onto the tracks, pulled the man into the space between the rails, and held him as the train passed right above their heads. He insists he is not a hero. He says: "We got guys and girls overseas dying for us to have our freedoms. We have got to show each other some love." There is something wonderful about a country that produces a brave and humble man like Wesley Autry.

Tommy Riegan was a teenager pumping gas in Independence, Kentucky, when he enlisted in the United States Army. In December 2003, he was on a reconnaissance mission in Iraq when his team came under heavy enemy fire. From his Humvee, Sergeant Riegan returned fire. He used his body as a shield to protect his gunner. He was shot in the chest and arm, and received shrapnel wounds to his legs, yet he refused medical attention and stayed in the fight. He helped to repel a second attack, firing grenades at the enemy's position. For his exceptional courage, Sergeant Riegan was awarded the Silver Star. And like so many other Americans who have volunteered to defend us, he has earned the respect and the gratitude of our whole country.

In such courage and compassion, ladies and gentlemen, we see the spirit and character of America, and these qualities are not in short supply. This is a decent and honorable country, and resilient, too. We have been through a lot together. We have met challenges and faced dangers, and we know that more lie ahead. Yet we can go forward with confidence, because the state of our Union is strong, our cause in the world is right, and tonight that cause goes on. God bless. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m., the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The Members of the President's Cabinet; Chief Justice of the United States and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court; the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT SESSION DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. LUCAS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of family illness.

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. GENE GREEN of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KUCINICH, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. CONAWAY) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CONAWAY, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 24, 2007, 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:

387. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 28, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

388. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No. FEMA-7951] received November 28, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

389. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 20, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

390. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No. FEMA-7945] received October 18, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

391. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Flood Insurance Program; Appeal of Decisions Relating to Flood Insurance Claims (RIN: 1660-AA41) received October 30, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

392. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-B-7466] received November 20, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

393. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 2, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

394. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 2, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

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400. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 2, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

401. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — November 20, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

402. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-B-7467] received November 20, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

403. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 20, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

404. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 28, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

405. A letter from the Chief Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations — received November 28, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

406. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Conversion of Insured Credit Unions to Mutual Savings Banks (RIN: 3133-AD16) received January 19, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 86. Resolution providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 78) amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to permit Delegates and the Resident Commissioner to the Congress to cast votes in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union (Rept. 110-3). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. TERRY, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. PENCE, Mr. SALL, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland):

H.R. 631. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from obligating funds for earmarks included only in congressional reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. INGLES of South Carolina, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. DENT, Mr. EHLERS, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. TERRY, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. CAMP of Michigan, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. WOLF, Mr. WICKER, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. KÜHL of New York, Mr. WYNN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. ARCURI, and Mr. WAMP):

H.R. 632. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Energy to establish monetary prizes for achievements in overcoming scientific and technical barriers associated with hydrogen energy; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. SESTAK, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. MCNULTY, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 633. A bill to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require lobbyists to disclose the candidates, leadership PACs, and political party committees for whom they collect or arrange contributions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.