

the commitment to improving our society is one of the many values I have come to respect in the Jewish community in Baltimore and across this Nation.

THE END OF THE BLAIR ERA

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the decision of British Prime Minister Tony Blair to resign on June 27th marks the end of an era in U.S.-British relationships. Blair's extraordinarily close alliance with President Bush has been a major force on the world stage since the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001.

The Prime Minister has been an eloquent and passionate leader in confronting global terrorism. He deserves credit for his central role in the global war on terrorism and for having the courage to act on his convictions in the face of tremendous opposition within his own party and from other European governments.

His steadfast support for the United States in the 4 years since 2001 and his key role in building the international coalition of the willing demonstrated principled leadership as well as vision.

The strong U.S.-British relationship will certainly endure under Blair's successor. However, there is no doubt that this relationship was made better because of Tony Blair.

AMERICANS WILL BE HEARD ON ENDING THE WAR

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that Congress is poised to approve a short-term funding proposal for Iraq without strong conditions to phase down this war. I, for one, will not vote for it. But the sad fact is that we don't yet have a majority in this House to end the war.

Yet it is hardly a victory for the Bush administration. Congressional support is slowly crumbling, even among Republicans, as the politicians are catching up to where most Americans are on this war.

I would urge people not to be discouraged by the vote today, but to keep up their spirits and their pressure. Americans will be heard, and this nightmare will end.

REJECT AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL ALIENS

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress return home for the Memorial Day weekend, as we honor the sacrifices of our men and women who have given their lives in

defense of our Nation and of its values, I hope that every American will remind their elected representatives that in honoring that sacrifice, our elected representatives have an obligation to uphold the rule of law, to preserve our borders and to preserve this Nation's financial security for the future.

In so doing, every American ought to demand that their elected representatives reject this monstrous amnesty bill, which proposes to legalize 14 to 20 million illegal aliens, honoring those who have broken our laws, threatening the financial security of the Nation by more rapidly bankrupting Social Security and all of our financial social welfare programs, and driving this Nation more rapidly towards that financial brick wall which is so rapidly approaching.

In my office, 100 percent of the phone calls received have been in strong opposition to this bill. Every other Member of Congress from the Republican side that I have visited has received equally strong opposition.

I think it is vitally important for Americans to rise up, as we did in the Dubai ports deal, and demand that our elected representatives honor the sacrifices of our fallen soldiers by rejecting this mass amnesty bill over the Memorial Day break.

ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN NEEDED FOR IRAQ WAR

(Mr. KLEIN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives will vote on a war spending bill that does not call for accountability. Unlike the previous Iraq supplemental, the bill we are voting on today does not provide the American people with a path to end this war. For me, the issue of accountability is imperative. Without a real accountability plan in Iraq, there is no telling how long this war will continue.

We were elected to bring a new direction in Iraq, and I will continue that fight, along with many of my colleagues. As I have made clear time and time again with my votes, I fully support our troops and their families. But I also believe that it is Congress' duty to support a change in the Iraq policy that will meet our national security objectives.

When the people of South Florida chose me to be their voice in Congress, they put their trust and faith in me to represent their values and priorities. Along with the people of South Florida, I will continue to stand up and work toward a new policy in Iraq.

For these reasons, I will vote against the Iraq supplemental bill today.

DEMOCRATS WILL KEEP PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Party and the President will make it clear today to the American people that they own this war; hook, line and sinker.

The President and his Republican colleagues will be successful today in continuing the Iraq war, but this is a pyrrhic victory at best. The Democratic leadership is allowing this bill to pass because, unlike the President, they will not leave our troops unprotected in battle. It is our troops and their families that are the only ones being asked to make any sacrifice in this war, and this President's policy is unworthy of their sacrifice.

The only sacrifice requested of the rest of us has been to go out and spend our tax cuts at the mall. Meanwhile, the Iraqi parliament is preparing to take the summer off, probably using some of the missing \$9 billion to sunbathe along the Mediterranean. Our soldiers risk life and limb to secure their country, which is in the midst of a civil war, and they go on vacation. Ask yourself if you think this is a war worthy of our soldiers' sacrifice.

We Democrats will do everything, legally and legislatively, to bring our troops home as soon and as safely as possible. That is our pledge to the American people, and we will keep it.

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TURNING THIS WAR AROUND

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, there are two sets of issues coming before this Congress before we finish up our work this week. One is the President's request for a blank check to finance this war for the remainder of this fiscal year. I cannot and will not support that.

This House will also consider funding for children's health insurance, gulf coast recovery and drought relief for our farmers. I will indeed support that.

We have put forth a plan in this House to the President. He has rejected it time and time again. I will continue to fight. Even though this proposal before the Congress today provides benchmarks, it is not enough. Even though it requires reports to Congress in July and September, it is not enough.

My pledge is for a new direction to turn this war around, to bring stronger accountability, stronger support for our troops, and bring them home safe, sound and soon.

LIVES IN THE BALANCE

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to quote Jackson Browne's "Lives in the

Balance," a song written quite a few years ago but most appropriate for today.

"I've been waiting for something to happen

For a week or a month or a year.

With the blood in the ink of the headlines

And the sound of the crowd in my ear

You might ask what it takes to remember

When you know that you've seen it before

Where a government lies to a people
And a country is drifting to war.

"And there's a shadow on the faces

Of the men who send the guns

To the wars that are fought in places

Where their business interests runs.

"On the radio talk shows and the TV

You hear one thing again and again

How the U.S.A. stands for freedom

And we come to the aid of a friend

But who are the ones that we call our friends,

These governments killing their own?

There are lives in the balance

There are people under fire

There are children at the cannons

And there is blood on the wire.

"There's a shadow on the faces

Of the men who fan the flames

Of the wars that are fought in places

Where we can't even say the names?

"I want to know who the men in the shadows are

I want to hear somebody asking them why.

They can be counted on to tell us who our enemies are,

But they're never the ones to fight or die.

And there are lives in the balance

There are people under fire

There are children at the cannons

And there is blood on the wire."

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

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

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, we have heard sentiments from the other side of the aisle about the vote that is going to take place today. I would like to throw a few facts on the table.

One, the President asked us 110 days ago for this support; 110 days. Nothing has changed with his request, the need for the support of the troops, from then until now, except we have gone through political exercises to try and limit the ability of the President and, more importantly, his commanders in the field, from doing what they think is best.

I have heard it said that we need a new policy. We have a new policy. I have heard it said, we need a new military commander. We have a new military commander. I have heard it said, we need new tactics. We have new tactics.

The problem is, as the President has presented this, as we put this into ef-

fect, all we hear is, no, no, no, and no. That is not a policy; that is a denial. That does not support the troops. Unfortunately, it makes it more difficult for them.

Let's remember as we vote to support our troops, we could have done this and should have done this 110 days ago.

SAD DAY FOR AMERICA

(Ms. SHEA-PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, this is a very sad day for our country. Once again, the President is going to be handed a blank check by the Republicans. Last year the Republicans took a lot longer than the Democrats on this side of the aisle to pass this supplemental. Every year they have given the President exactly what he wanted: a blank check.

This time we said to the President twice, we will give the money as long as you meet certain criteria, responsible criteria; and he said, no. He had to have it completely his way, running the war in the fifth year the way he ran it in the first year and the fourth year, without any kind of check, sending our brave troops into battle without the equipment they need. And if they come home injured, failing to care for them and providing for them what they need at home.

We tried to give our brave troops a 3.5 percent pay raise. The President said, no. He supports the troops but not financially, not physically and not in the ways that really matter.

So here we are approaching Memorial Day, and once again, we are leaving our troops unprotected while they have a political battle about this. And they can't go back to their districts and tell the truth.

I will vote against this supplemental because I am voting for the troops.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2206 U.S. TROOP READINESS, VETERANS' CARE, KATRINA RECOVERY, AND IRAQ ACCOUNTABILITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 438 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 438

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2206) making emergency supplemental appropriations and additional supplemental appropriations for agricultural and other emergency assistance for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chairman of

the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with the House amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except that the Chair shall divide the question of adoption of the motion between the two House amendments.

SEC. 2. If both portions of the divided question specified in the first section of this resolution are adopted, the action of the House shall be engrossed as a single amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2206.

SEC. 3. During consideration of the motion to concur pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of such motion to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

SEC. 4. (a) During consideration in the Committee of the Whole of a bill making supplemental appropriations for military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan for fiscal year 2008, before consideration of any other amendment, it shall be in order to consider an amendment only proposing to add to the bill the text of H.R. 2451. Such amendment shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendment are waived except those arising under clause 9 of rule XXI.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a bill making regular appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

I yield myself such time as I may consume and ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 438.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 438 provides for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2206, making emergency supplemental appropriations and additional supplemental appropriations for agricultural and other emergency assistance for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker, when my fellow Members of Congress and I speak and debate and cast our votes on this floor, we seek to reconcile our ideals with what is possible to achieve. We seek to do what is right in principle and necessary at any particular point in time, and pray that the two are one and the same.