

Jimison, Jeff Baran, Alex Barron, Ben Hengst, Melissa Bez, and Rob Cobbs.

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. I would like to thank Joel Beauvais, Michael Goo, Danielle Baussan, Ana Unruh-Cohen. I would also like to thank Michal Freedhoff, Morgan Gray, Jonathan Phillips, Eban Burnham-Snyder, Jackie Chenault, Jeff Sharp, Ali Brodsky, Camilla Bausch, and especially Gerry Waldron and Jeff Duncan, along with Shannon Kenny, who is still sitting over there as well.

All of you were fantastic, and it's just a historic achievement. We thank you all so much for everything that you do.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I also wanted to add our appreciation to Matt Wiener, our staff assistant on this legislation.

I feel empowered because I only asked for 1 minute, and I have talked far more than 1 minute. I guess that's become a new tradition in the House, but I don't want to abuse it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

REPORT ON H.R. 3081, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Mrs. LOWEY, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-187) on the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LUJÁN). Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

REPORT ON H.R. 3082, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-188) on the bill (H.R. 3082) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. CONYERS, from the Committee on Judiciary, submitted an adverse privileged report (Rept. No. 111-189) on the resolution (H. Res. 537) requesting

that the President and directing that the Attorney General transmit to the House of Representatives all information in their possession relating to specific communications regarding detainees and foreign persons suspected of terrorism, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

□ 1930

SUPPORTING PRAGUE CONFERENCE ON HOLOCAUST ERA ASSETS

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 89) supporting the goals and objectives of the Prague Conference on Holocaust Era Assets, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 89

Whereas the Government of the Czech Republic will host a Conference on Holocaust Era Assets in Prague from June 26, 2009, through June 30, 2009;

Whereas the Prague Conference will facilitate a review of the 1998 Washington Conference on Holocaust Era Assets, which had participation of 44 nations, 13 nongovernmental organizations, scholars, and Holocaust survivors;

Whereas a high level United States delegation participated in the Washington Conference on Holocaust Era Assets led by Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, Nobel Peace Laureate Elie Wiesel, Federal Judge Abner Mikva, senior diplomats, and a bipartisan group of Members of Congress;

Whereas then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright delivered the key note address at the Washington Conference on Holocaust Era Assets, articulating the United States commitment to Holocaust survivors and urging conference participants to "chart a course for finishing the job of returning or providing compensation for stolen Holocaust assets to survivors and the families of Holocaust victims.;"

Whereas the Prague Conference is expected to take stock of issues agreed on at the Washington Conference, including financial assets, bank accounts, insurance issues, and other financial property;

Whereas the Prague Conference is expected to include a special session on social programs for Holocaust survivors and other victims of Nazi atrocities;

Whereas the Prague Conference is expected to include working groups on Holocaust education, remembrance and research, looted art, Judaica, Jewish cultural property, and immovable property, including both private, religious, and communal property;

Whereas United States participation and leadership at the highest level is critically important to ensure a successful outcome of the Prague Conference;

Whereas Congress supports further inclusion of Holocaust survivors and their advocates in the Prague Conference planning and proceedings;

Whereas the United States strongly supports an immediate and just restitution or compensation of property illegally confiscated during the last century by Nazi and Communist regimes;

Whereas many Holocaust survivors lack the means for even the most basic necessities, including proper housing and health care;

Whereas the United States and the international community has a moral obligation to uphold and defend the plight and dignity of Holocaust survivors and to ensure their well-being;

Whereas for the Prague Conference is a critical forum to effectively address the increasing economic, social, housing, and health care needs of Holocaust survivors in their waning years;

Whereas President Barack Obama, during his visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Israel in July 2008, stated "Let our children come here and know this history so they can add their voices to proclaim 'never again.' And may we remember those who perished, not only as victims but also as individuals who hoped and loved and dreamed like us and who have become symbols of the human spirit.;" and

Whereas the Prague Conference may represent the last opportunity for the international community to address outstanding Holocaust-era issues: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—*

(1) supports the goals and objectives of the 2009 Prague Conference on Holocaust Era Assets;

(2) applauds the Government of the Czech Republic for its decision to host the Prague Conference and its unwavering commitment to address outstanding Holocaust-era issues;

(3) expresses strong support for the decision to make the economic, social, housing, and health care needs of Holocaust survivors a major focus of the Prague Conference;

(4) urges the countries in Central and Eastern Europe, which have not already done so, to return looted and confiscated properties to their rightful owners or, where restitution is not possible, pay equitable compensation to the rightful owners in accordance with principles of justice and in an expeditious manner that is just, transparent, and fair;

(5) calls on the President to send a high-level official, such as the Secretary of State, to represent the United States at the Prague Conference; and

(6) urges other invited nations to participate at a similarly high level.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 89, which supports the goals and objectives of the Prague Conference on Holocaust Era Assets. From June 26, 2009, through June 30, 2009, the Government of the Czech Republic will host a Conference in Prague of utmost importance, which will focus exclusively on the repatriation of Holocaust Era Assets. The Prague Conference will facilitate a review of the 1998 Washington Conference on Holocaust Era Assets, which had participation of 44 nations, 13 nongovernmental organizations, scholars, and Holocaust survivors.

In his internationally recognized and critically acclaimed novel, "Night," Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel so chillingly depicted the Holocaust in the following vivid description:

"Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealed. Never shall I forget that smoke. Never shall I forget the little faces of the children, whose bodies I saw turned into wreaths