

going to take it over. The next thing you know, they have taken it over.

He says that he is putting JOE in charge of mission control. He is talking about curing cancer. I love the idea that we are going to cure cancer. That would be fantastic. A lot of loved ones I have lost have died of cancer.

Then I heard he was going to put JOE in charge. Then I remembered, Mr. Speaker, wasn't it he that was going to stamp out all waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government, so he was going to put JOE in charge, and we knew it could happen? It seems like he says he is going to put JOE in charge when he may not really be serious about doing anything or having any results. So we will see.

In any event, there are a lot of problems that he failed to address and the fact that he was being mocked by Iran as he was speaking about the higher respect that other countries have. Go back to President Reagan. The radical Islamists had so much more respect for President Reagan. They didn't like him, but they had respect and fear.

Proverbs said: "Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." There is a component of fear within respect. They had no fear of Carter, but they had so much fear and respect for Reagan that they released our hostages the day he was sworn in. I am hoping and praying that we get a leader elected who takes office a year from now who has that kind of respect.

He says that, when it comes to every important international issue, people of the world do not look to Beijing or to Moscow to lead—they call us.

I wish the President got more briefings or was able to attend more or got better information if he is not getting this, but we have had a real problem under his Presidency. People have been shocked, including some here in this body—I was not really shocked—when Egypt and some of our Muslim ally nations have done airstrikes.

The big news was they didn't consult Washington, and people in the administration were upset: Why didn't they check with us? I have met with those people. They said: We can't tell this administration, because they will leak it to our enemies. We can't trust them.

For heaven's sake, this administration has declassified information on nuclear weapons, trying to embarrass and harass Israel. They have taken steps to try to prevent Israel from defending themselves.

Is it any wonder that Egyptian President el-Sisi—whom I have tremendous respect for—and other leaders, including Iran and other leaders in the Middle East, when they have got a problem, they don't talk to Washington except for the largest supporter of terrorism, Iran?

Iran knows they can push President Obama around and his administration, John Kerry. They can push them around, and they do. They can take our sailors and not have any consequences. But when they have got a real problem,

they go to Moscow, because they know Putin is a man who means business. I don't think he can be trusted. I think he is one of those with whom anything should be verified and that he should be carefully watched.

Some people in this administration think Putin is an anathema and a mystery. They can't figure him out. He is one of the most transparent leaders in the world today. Those of us who know Russian history know you can read him like a book. You can anticipate what he is going to do. He is very transparent.

The President says that, as we focus on destroying ISIL, we don't have a plan. We don't have strategic orders for our military to take out ISIL, but, somehow, he is focused on them. In having been all over north Iraq myself and in having met with Iraqi leaders, especially Kurdish leaders—because they are the military leaders we can trust—I know what they say.

In having just heard another report in September again, we have U.S. military planes flying. They see trucks that are loaded with weapons and supplies for ISIL. We know they are going to ISIL as those are about the only people using some of these roads, with the big trucks.

One of our A-10 pilots said his rules of engagement allowed him to neither crater the road and stop the supplies to ISIL and stop the weapons going to ISIL, nor did he have the authority to take out one of the trucks unless one of the trucks fired at him, and only then could they fire at that truck only. ISIL knows that, so they don't fire at A-10s or at any of our helicopters or aircraft. That is why most of the planes that go out with ordnance come back with most of their ordnance. It is because of this President's rules of engagement.

How else can you explain that, after 7¼ years under Commander in Chief and President George W. Bush, we lost right around 500 precious American military lives in Afghanistan; and then, basically, when we were told the war was over, for 7 years now under Commander in Chief Obama, we have lost three to four times that many people and the peace?

When I talk to people privately—you won't get this in a public meeting but in private meetings with our military—they indicate that it is our rules of engagement: We have to be worried that, if we defend ourselves and live, we will go to Leavenworth for 20 years; so a lot of us would rather die as somewhat of a hero than go home and go to Leavenworth for defending ourselves.

So we have lost three to four times as many under President Obama—in 3 months less time when the war was supposedly over—than we lost during the actual war in Afghanistan. The President says that our foreign policy must be focused on the threat from ISIL and al Qaeda. I agree it must be, but, unfortunately, it isn't at this time.

I will just finish with this, Mr. Speaker. He points out that we also can't try to take over and rebuild every country that falls into crisis. That is not leadership. That is a recipe for a quagmire, spilling American blood and treasure. Ultimately, it weakens us. It is the lesson of Vietnam and of Iraq that we should have learned by now.

Mr. Speaker, SAM JOHNSON—after 7 years in the Hanoi Hilton as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam—was beaten and tortured. If you remember the scenario, Nixon had promised in 1972 to get us out of Vietnam. He calls for the Paris peace negotiations. They start. North Vietnam makes this show about storming out. So Nixon ordered the carpet bombing of Hanoi and North Vietnam for 2 weeks. After 2 weeks of bombing, North Vietnam rushed back to the negotiating table and said: Let's get this done. And there was a peace deal.

As SAM JOHNSON and others were being taken to the bus to be taken to the military plane to leave North Vietnam, he said one of the meanest officers or higher officials there at the prison was laughing and said: You stupid Americans, if you had just bombed us for 1 more week, we would have had to surrender unconditionally.

Mr. Speaker, the lesson of Vietnam is this: If you are going to send American military men and women into harm's way, give them everything they need to win. Let them win, and then bring them home.

That is the lesson of Vietnam that this administration and many others have not learned. That is why, instead of 500 military heroes losing their lives in 7 years in Afghanistan, we have had three to four times that many lose their lives under President Obama. It is because this lesson of Vietnam has not been learned. Give our military what they need to win, and give them rules of engagement and orders to win, and then bring them home.

I hope and pray somebody gets that message in this administration so that we have no more needless loss of life in foreign countries by the heroic, patriotic men and women of our military.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1300

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 107

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Wednesday, January 13, 2016, through Tuesday, January 19, 2016, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned

until 2 p.m. on Monday, January 25, 2016, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

Sec. 2. (a) The Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the House to reassemble at such place and time as he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the House adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the House shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT FROM WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016, TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today on a motion offered pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. on Friday, January 15, 2016, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 107, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. KNIGHT (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of urgent constituent business in the district related to the Aliso Canyon gas leak.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of today, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, January 15, 2016, at 1 p.m., unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 107, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4030. A letter from the Co-Chairs, National Commission on Hunger, transmitting the Commission's report entitled "Freedom from

Hunger: An Achievable Goal for the United States of America" for 2015, pursuant to Public Law 113-76, div. A, title VII, Sec. 743(a)(3); (128 Stat. 40); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4031. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's notice of final directive — Ski Area Water Clause (RIN: 0596-AD14) received January 11, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4032. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting draft of proposed legislation entitled the "Military Justice Act of 2016"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4033. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule — Amendments to the Capital Plan and Stress Test Rules [Regulations Y and YY; Docket No.: R-1517] (RIN: 7100-AE33) received December 30, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4034. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule — Regulatory Capital Rules: Regulatory Capital, Final Rule Demonstrating Application of Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Eligibility Criteria and Excluding Certain Holding Companies from Regulation Q [Docket No.: R-1506] (RIN: 7100-AE27) received January 8, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4035. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's Report to Congress on Preservation and Promotion of Minority Depository Institutions for 2014, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1463 note; Public Law 101-73, Sec. 367 (as amended by Public Law 111-203, Sec. 367(4)(B)); (124 Stat. 1556); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4036. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Report to Congress on the Social and Economic Conditions of Native Americans: Fiscal Years 2009 — 2012, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2992-1; Public Law 88-452, Sec. 811A (as added by Public Law 102-375, Sec. 822(12)); (106 Stat. 1299); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4037. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking for December 2015, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 290bb-25b(c)(1)(F); Public Law 109-422, Sec. 2; (120 Stat. 2892); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4038. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's 2014 Report to Congress on the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 290ff(c)(2); July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, Sec. 565 (as amended by Public Law 106-310, Sec. 3105(c)) (114 Stat. 1175); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4039. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Report on the Multiagency Collaboration on Unconventional Oil and Gas Research", for December 2015, in response to the Explanatory Statement on H.R. 83, Consolidated and Further

Continuing Appropriations Act of 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4040. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Ceiling Fan Light Kits [Docket No.: EERE-2012-BT-STD-0045] (RIN: 1904-AC87) received January 12, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4041. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Biennial Report to Congress entitled, "2013 Scientific and Clinical Status of Organ Transplantation", pursuant to Sec. 376 of the Public Health Service Act, as codified at 42 U.S.C. Sec. 274d; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4042. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Indirect Food Additives: Paper and Paperboard Components [Docket No.: FDA-2015-F-0714] received January 11, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4043. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Report to Congress on the Poison Help Campaign for Fiscal Year 2014, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 300d-72; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4044. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report entitled, "Assessment of Demand Response and Advanced Metering", for December 2015, pursuant to Sec. 1252 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4045. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Cote d'Ivoire that was declared in Executive Order 13396 of February 7, 2006, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4046. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Certification Related to Condition 7(C)(i) of Senate Executive Resolution 75 (1997) Concerning Advice and Consent to the Ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4047. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Interagency Working Group on U.S. Government-Sponsored International Exchanges and Training FY 2015 Annual Report, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2460(f) and (g); Public Law 87-256, Sec. 112(f) and (g); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4048. A letter from the Auditor, District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report on Advisory Neighborhood Commissions"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4049. A letter from the Auditor, District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2015"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4050. A letter from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting the