



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016

No. 28

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUCK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 23, 2016.

I hereby appoint the Honorable KEN BUCK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

May Your special blessings be upon the Members of this assembly as they return from a week in their home districts. Give them wisdom and charity that they might work together for the common good.

During this primary season, the American people are hearing about so many issues we face as a Nation. Our divisions come from the solutions proposed by various campaigns.

Through it all, help us to maintain civility, always presuming the best intentions in those with whom we disagree. Thus may our system of democratic participation in the forming of the executive and legislative branches reach toward a truly representative government that all Americans can support.

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. ABRAHAM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ABRAHAM led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

REMEMBERING THE LIVES LOST FROM THE 14TH QUARTERMASTER, OPERATION DESERT STORM

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

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at approximately 8:40 p.m. on February 25, 1991, an Iraqi Scud missile blasted through the temporary barracks of the 14th Quartermaster in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Headquartered in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, the 69 members of the water purification unit were deployed to Saudi Arabia for just 6 days when the attack occurred. Twenty-eight soldiers died that day, and 99 were wounded, including 43 in the 14th.

The Scud attack proved to be the single most devastating attack on U.S. forces as the 14th Quartermaster suffered the single greatest number of casualties of any Allied unit during Operation Desert Storm. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of this attack, I am introducing a joint resolution that honors the soldiers who were lost and wounded and their families.

The State of Pennsylvania lost more servicemembers during Operations

Desert Shield and Desert Storm than any other State. A monument now stands in dedication at the Greensburg Army Reserve Center commemorating the 69 names of the detachment soldiers. They were fathers, husbands, and sons. They were daughters and sisters. They were all citizen soldiers serving their communities, serving their country, and giving their lives to both.

I call on Members of Congress to co-sponsor this resolution and honor the service and sacrifice of the 14th Quartermaster of the United States Army.

THANKING MEMBERS FOR VISITING FLINT, MICHIGAN

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give some thanks to some of my fellow Members of Congress for coming to my hometown of Flint, Michigan, yesterday. Specifically, I want to thank Democratic Whip STENY HOYER, Congressman ELIJAH CUMMINGS, Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE, Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL, and my friend and classmate Congressman SCOTT PETERS, who spent the day with me yesterday in Flint.

I want to thank them for having the back of the people of my hometown who are suffering right now with a water crisis that makes their water, the water for 100,000 people, not just undrinkable, but very dangerous.

I also want to thank my Michigan colleagues Congressman SANDER LEVIN and Congressman JOHN CONYERS for their many visits to Flint.

The people in Flint are victims of a form of neglect that is almost unimaginable: neglect by their own government, by the State of Michigan, which was operating the city of Flint and failed to protect those citizens by ensuring clean and safe drinking water.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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