

House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

DESIGNATION OF THE HONORABLE CONSTANCE A. MORELLA OR THE HONORABLE FRANK R. WOLF TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE AND TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS FOR REMAINDER OF FIRST SESSION OF 106TH CONGRESS

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 18, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CONSTANCE A. MORELLA or, if not available to perform this duty, the Honorable FRANK R. WOLF to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions for the remainder of the First Session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the designations are agreed to.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, November 17, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am transmitting herewith copies of the resolutions approved on November 10, 1999 by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, as follows:

Committee survey resolutions authorizing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to study the following potential water resources projects: Brazoria County Shoreline, Texas; Dickinson Bayou, Texas; and for the City of Brownsville, Texas.

Committee resolution authorizing the natural Resources Conservation Service to undertake a small watershed project for the Middle Deep Red Run Creek Small Watershed, Oklahoma.

With kind regards, I am
Sincerely,

BUD SHUSTER,
Chairman.

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

DISTURBING PATTERN OF PAKISTANI ACTIONS DEMANDS SERIOUS SCRUTINY BY THE ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday in this House we approved on a bipartisan basis a resolution congratulating the people of India and their government for the successful parliamentary elections recently concluded by that thriving democracy. I was pleased to support that resolution and to speak in favor of it.

Unfortunately, action on another resolution that has been approved by the Committee on International Relations and is ready for consideration on this floor has been delayed. That other resolution would express the strong opposition of Congress to the recent military coup in Pakistan that overthrew the civilian government. While individual members of Congress, including me, have spoken out against the Pakistani coup, it is important for the House of Representatives to go on record collectively stating that we do not tolerate the overthrow of an elected government.

I am very disappointed, Mr. Speaker, in the Republican leadership for the continued delay in bringing up this resolution. Since we are about to adjourn, it is likely the resolution is dead for this year.

Last month, Mr. Speaker, the military coup in Pakistan was one of a series of disturbing actions that deserve very close scrutiny and clear condemnation by the U.S. government, the Congress, as well as the administration. One of the most shocking of these was last week's rocket attacks against American and UN targets in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad. The rockets were aimed at buildings in the heart of the capital, including the U.S. Embassy, a library and cultural center known as the American Center, and an office tower housing several UN agencies. Thank God, no one was killed, although one person was injured, a Pakistani guard at the American Center.

Mr. Speaker, the attacks came 2 days before UN sanctions were scheduled to go into effect against the Taliban redream in neighboring Afghanistan unless that country turns over bin Laden, the international terrorist who has masterminded attacks against American and western targets in various countries. There has been solid evidence in the past linking bin Laden's operation with Pakistan, so this connection is extremely plausible.

As the New York Times reported last Saturday, November 13, the list of pos-

sible culprits is short. Apart from the Taliban itself, Pakistan is home to several well-armed paramilitary groups sympathetic to the Taliban and hostile to the United States, in addition to thousands of Pakistani militants, who, over the years have trained side-by-side, with Taliban Members in Islamic schools.

I should add, Mr. Speaker, that Pakistan has for years been identified with the violent separatist movement in India's state of Jammu and Kashmir, causing the deaths of thousands of civilians and the displacement of hundreds of thousands from their homes. Pakistan's role in selling death and destruction in Kashmir was exposed to the world earlier this year when Pakistani military leaders, many of the same elements who carried out last month's coup d'etat, precipitated a major crisis by unleashing an attack against Indian positions in the area of Kargil, along the line of control that separates India and Pakistani controlled areas of Kashmir.

Pakistan's actions were condemned by the U.S. and the international community, and Pakistan was forced to essentially withdraw. But the attacks by Pakistani forces on India army positions continued day-to-day, causing casualties on both sides and threatening the stability of the entire south Asia region.

You have to wonder, Mr. Speaker, why the U.S. continues to try to win the favor of the Pakistani regime, given the proven collaboration between Pakistan and the fundamentalist Taliban militia in Afghanistan, and with bin Laden. Bin Laden and the Taliban represent the height of violent anti-Americanism, and yet here is the Pakistani regime tolerating, if not directly supporting, the operations of these movements in their country.

We have recently seen another example of the lack of respect for democracy and the rule of law on the part of the new Pakistani military regime with the initiative to indict the deposed Prime Minister, Sharif, on trumped up charges of treason and hijacking, charges which carry the death penalty.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to get carried away singing the praises of Mr. Sharif. He was deeply involved in the ill-fated military campaign in Kashmir earlier this year. But he was the recognized legitimate leader of the nation. He had apparently attempted to dismiss the army's Chief of Staff, General Musharraf, and, instead, the general turned the tables and dismissed the prime minister, indicating who is really in charge in Pakistan. The turn of events indicates that the notion of democratic civilian leadership and the rule of law are not well developed in Pakistan.

Reports in the last day out of Pakistan indicate that Prime Minister