

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, March 18, 1999

The House met at noon.

Father Martin G. Heinz, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Rockford, Rockford, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

Almighty Father, Creator of all things, we admire the work of Your hands and Your power in the world. We beg Your blessings as we raise our minds and hearts to You at the beginning of this congressional day. We ask Your guidance on all that we shall do and say over the resolutions passed and the conversations that bring us to our decisions. In all this, may we give honor and glory to You. You who protect our land, You who protect our people. Through this country's laws may its citizens grow in character and develop with dignity. May we grow in fidelity to Your wisdom so that this country may grow in the knowledge of Your love. Inspire our work in such a way that we never lose sight of our ultimate goal, the people of this country, strengthened through You, because of the laws we pass. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LANTOS 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 99. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend Federal Aviation Administration programs through September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 257. An act entitled "The Cochran-Inouye National Missile Defense Act of 1999".

S. 643. An act to authorize the Airport Improvement Program for 2 months, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 83-420, as amended by Public Law 99-371, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, reappoints the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN) to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain five 1-minutes on each side.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD CARDWELL

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

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, Richard Cardwell from Des Moines, Iowa, is a hero. Richard, a retired plumber, is a wiry, muscular man from a lifetime of tugging on stubborn pipes. In his work he has been bitten many times by animals but he did not hesitate when he saw a dog mauling a man on the ground.

There was blood everywhere when Richard jumped out of his car. The man on the ground was protecting his neck from the vicious jaws of the dog and was losing a lot of blood from bites on his arms and head. Richard grabbed a stick and started hitting the Rottweiler.

Afterwards, Robert Jones, the victim of the dog's attack, said this about his scary experience: "That dog was just putting the finishing touches on me when Richard Cardwell came along. If it hadn't been for him, I'd have been a goner."

Richard is a brave guy. He risked his own life for another's. That huge dog could have gone for his throat. And while saving a life may be the first for Richard, it is not the first time he has come to the rescue. In fact, he once made a house call on a Christmas day to save my frozen house.

Mr. Speaker, we need more good neighbors like Richard Cardwell.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION TO LOCATE AND SECURE RETURN OF ZACHARY BAUMEL

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

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, events are moving so fast that there is always

a danger we will forget about our citizens who are missing in action. There is one such American citizen missing in action in the Middle East for the last 17 years.

A large group of my colleagues across the political spectrum join me in introducing this resolution calling on the Department of State to locate and secure the return of this American citizen, Zachary Baumel. We are asking the State Department to contact all governments concerned, and we are asking the Department of State to take into account the actions of all governments with respect to this issue in extending economic and other aids to countries in the region.

I ask all of my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation to bring this lost American, missing in action, back to his family.

VOTE "YES" ON H.R. 4

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, three out of four Americans, 75 percent, believe the United States already possesses the ability to defend itself from a missile attack. I think it is only fair to inform them that we cannot. Here in America we may have little or no warning of a ballistic missile attack that is launched just offshore by some terrorist or rogue nation.

Speaking of rogue nations, North Korea, Iraq and Iran have all improved and accelerated their ballistic missile programs to threaten the U.S. and its allies. China already has numerous long-range missiles aimed at U.S. cities, all using stolen U.S. technology.

There is no doubt that the threat is real. What is in doubt is whether Congress has the commitment to deploy a national missile defense system to engage and counter this threat.

Our path is clear, we must be committed and we must do our duty to defend America. I urge my colleagues to support this effort. Vote "yes" on H.R. 4, and let us provide the safety for our Nation, for our communities, for our homes, for our families and giving America the capability to defend ourselves from a ballistic missile attack.

MILOSEVIC SHOULD BE ARRESTED, NOT NEGOTIATED WITH

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House

□ 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.