June 7, 1999

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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, DC, JUNE 3, 1999.

Hon. J. Dennis Hastert,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 1, 1999 at 9:20 a.m.: That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1379.

With best wishes,

Jeff Trandahl,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to announce that pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bills on Thursday, May 27, 1999:

H.R. 1034, to declare a portion of the James River and the Kanawha Canal in Richmond, Virginia, to be navigable waters of the United States for purposes of title 46, United States Code, and other maritime laws of the United States;

H.R. 1121, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 18 Greenville Street in Newnan, Georgia, as the “Lewis R. Morgan Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; and,

H.R. 1183, to amend the Fastener Quality Act to strengthen the protection against the sale of mismarked, misrepresented, and counterfeit fasteners and eliminate unnecessary requirements, and for other purposes.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY WORKFORCE COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 334(b)(1) of Public Law 105-220 and the order of the House of Thursday, May 27, 1999, and upon the recommendation of the minority leader, the Speaker on that day appointed the following member on the part of the House to the Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission:

Mr. David L. Stewart, St. Louis, Missouri.

CONGRATULATING ANDRE AGASSI ON WINNING FOUR GRAND SLAM VICTORIES

(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, it is my great honor and pleasure to come to the floor today and congratulate one of my constituents for his efforts in the French Open, and one effort which was described as one of the greatest moments ever seen in sports.

Nevada’s most famous tennis superstar, Andre Agassi, yesterday earned a very special spot in tennis history, becoming the first man in history to win four Grand Slam victories.

Yesterday millions around the world watched Andre’s impressive two-sets-down come-from-behind victory. In his own words, Andre, a No. 1 player who dropped out of the top 25 last May, said: “I have managed to accomplish is astounding. This was the greatest thing I could ever do.”

So to Andre Agassi and his proud parents, Mike and Betty, and on behalf of the very proud State of Nevada, I want to congratulate you and wish you continued success.

SLEEPWALKING MURDERER NEEDS TO CATCH A FEW Z’S IN ELECTRIC CHAIR

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Scott Falater does not deny it. He admits that he stabbed his wife 44 times. He then held her underwater while she bled to death, and then he hid the evidence. But, after all that, Falater says he is not guilty because he was sleep-walking.

Unbelievable, Mr. Speaker. Are we to believe that Falater was just dreaming through his wife’s screams? Are we to believe he was just walking in the park when he stabbed her 44 times?

Beam me up. I say it is time for Scott Falater to sleepwalk down murderer’s row and catch a few Z’s right in the electric chair. Sleep on that, Falater.

CHALLENGE TO NATO’S CONTINUED BOMBING DESPITE RUSSIAN-FINNISH PEACE PLAN AND VICTORY TALK

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, NATO is risking reigniting a wider war by simultaneously insisting on troop withdrawals and continuing bombing attacks on the troops. If acceptance of the Russian-Finnish peace plan by the Serb Government means anything, then the bombing should have stopped. If it means nothing, then why did NATO officials declare victory because such a plan had been accepted?

Either NATO has a peace plan in its hand or it does not. If it does, then it should stop the bombing instead of this approach of putting one foot on the accelerator of war and the other on the brake of peace. When Japan sued for peace after the atomic bombs were dropped, the U.S. did not keep bombing.

The L.A. Times quoted an unnamed NATO diplomat as describing the agreed-upon exit of troops in these terms: “Take these routes, don’t get off them, move quickly, do not stop to collect $200,” in an apparent reference to the Monopoly game. The same diplomat was saying, “Anybody off the yellow brick road is subject to being bombed,” a reference to the Wizard of Oz.

The undisguised attempts to trivialize the importance of troop withdrawals and the further threats to bomb military targets in retreat reveals an arrogance of power which is neither conducive to concluding a peaceful agreement, nor keeping a condition of peace. If NATO wants peace, it ought to show it by stopping the bombing.

CONGRATULATING PEOPLE OF GUAM ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES

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

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I take this time on the floor to congratulate the people of Guam for their