

On rollcall vote No. 32, recognizing Lithuanian independence, had I been here, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote No. 33, recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, had I been here, I would have voted "aye."

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 396

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of House Resolution 396.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### TIME TO MAKE INDIA A PERMANENT MEMBER OF U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL

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, in a little more than a week, President Clinton will embark on an historic trip to South Asia. It will mark the first time a U.S. President has traveled to this vitally important part of the world since President Jimmy Carter went to India in 1978.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, President Clinton announced that Pakistan would be part of his South Asian itinerary. Although I had previously opposed including Pakistan on the itinerary, in light of yesterday's announcement, I hope the Presidential visit will provide an opportunity for candid, productive discussion between our President and the generals in Pakistan now with regard to the need to dramatically change Pakistan's course in a number of key areas.

It is important that President Clinton express to Pakistani General Musharraf that the United States is very concerned about Pakistan's role in fomenting instability in Kashmir, about the links between Pakistan and terrorist organizations, and about Pakistan's role in the proliferation of nuclear weapons and missile technology.

I think that General Musharraf and the other leaders of the Pakistani ruling junta must hear the message that the United States does not consider last year's military coup to be acceptable, and that the overthrow of a civil-

ian government cannot be allowed to stand as a permanent condition in Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD an editorial that appeared in today's New York Times called "Troubled Trip to Pakistan" as follows:

[From the New York Times, Mar. 8, 2000]

#### TROUBLED TRIP TO PAKISTAN

President Clinton's decision to include a stop in Pakistan in his visit to South Asia later this month should not be seen as an American endorsement of Gen. Pervez Musharraf, that country's military ruler. Since seizing power last October, General Musharraf has ignored Washington's concerns in three vital areas. He refuses to cut links with international terrorist groups, resists treaty commitments to curb Pakistan's nuclear weapons program and declines to take steps toward restoring democratic rule.

For these reasons, Mr. Clinton would have done better to skip Pakistan, limiting his visit to India and Bangladesh. But since he has chosen to add a stop in Islamabad, he should use his time there to encourage constructive changes in Pakistani behavior.

Administration officials concluded that a snub of Pakistan might drive the country toward even more belligerent conduct. With only 10 months remaining in Mr. Clinton's term, this is probably his last chance to visit Pakistan as president. He enjoyed some success interceding with General Musharraf's deposed predecessor, Nawaz Sharif, getting him to pull back from a dangerous military confrontation with Indian in Kashmir last summer. That border remains dangerous, with Pakistani-backed militants regularly attacking Indian positions.

Since both countries became independent a half-century ago, Pakistan has been challenging India's control over this restive Muslim-majority state. Mr. Clinton now seems eager to offer American help in resolving the longstanding dispute. But India remains opposed to any form of international mediation on Kashmir, and without New Delhi's cooperation any American effort would be doomed. For now, America should limit its role to trying to prevent further armed clashes.

Mr. Clinton should also press General Musharraf to sever ties with Harakat ul-Mujahideen, a Kashmiri terrorist group backed by the Pakistani Army. He ought to insist that Pakistan use its close links with the Taliban government in Afghanistan to press for the expulsion of Osama bin Laden, the international terrorist implicated in the deadly bombings of two American embassies in Africa. Another goal should be to persuade Pakistan, as well as India, to sign the nuclear test ban treaty.

South Asia is home to more than a sixth of the world's population and is of growing economic importance. For too long it has been neglected by American presidents. This is not the ideal moment for Mr. Clinton to visit Pakistan. He should keep his visit as brief as possible and not flinch from telling General Musharraf what he must do to win American and world respect.

Mr. Speaker, this editorial basically expresses my sentiments in regard to the fact that Pakistan should not have been included on the itinerary, but now that it is, what positive steps need to be taken by Pakistan and what the President could hopefully accomplish in that regard.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that despite my initial reservations, I hope

that the President's visit to Pakistan will offer an opportunity for some straight talk on these important issues.

On the issue of the Pakistani coup, Mr. Speaker, I believe that this Congress must make a firm statement of our opposition and displeasure with the seizure of power by means of a coup d'etat and that civilian, democratically-elected government be restored.

Last October, right after the coup, legislation was introduced in this House by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), the ranking member of the House Committee on International Relations. Unfortunately, that resolution has not yet been acted upon by this House.

Today I am sending a letter to the distinguished Speaker of the House, Mr. HASTERT, urging that this important resolution be scheduled for a vote as soon as possible. I urge my colleagues in joining me on this initiative.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1501, JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM ACT OF 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7c of rule XXII, I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1501 tomorrow.

The form of the motion is as follows:

Ms. LOFGREN moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference of the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 1501, be instructed to insist that the committee of conference should have its first substantive meeting to offer amendments and motions within the next 2 weeks.

While I understand that House rules do not allow Members to co-author motions to instruct, I would like to say that the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) supports this motion and intends to join me in speaking on its behalf tomorrow.

#### MILITARY FAMILY FOOD STAMP ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, recently the Center for Strategic and International Studies issued a report last month on the American Military Culture in the 21st Century.

In its research, the Center surveyed 12,500 military personnel and found that within the armed services, morale is declining.

The report summarizes, and I quote, "Every member of the CSIS team who visited our men and women in uniform was impressed by their skill, dedication, and patriotism. When CSIS asked

military personnel about their life in their services and their units, however, they often found disappointment and frustration. In spite of the high level of pride and commitment, our dedicated people in uniform did not typically have high morale and revealed far less satisfaction from their service than one would expect. Overall, the armed forces are overcommitted, underpaid, and undersourced in the units that form their cutting edge. Expectations for a satisfying military career are not being met."

Mr. Speaker, that is the reason I am on the floor again. I bring my family to the floor because we have 60 percent of men and women in uniform who are married. In addition, we have approximately 10,000 men and women in uniform on food stamps.

Mr. Speaker, I think this is deplorable. The reason I say that is because no one that is willing to give their life for this country should be dependent on food stamps. My colleagues can see that this Marine, who is getting ready to deploy to Bosnia, has his daughter Magan standing on his feet. She is looking at the camera. In his arms, he has a 4-month-old baby named Britney.

Mr. Speaker, this Marine represents everyone in uniform that is willing to give for this country. Again, I say it is unacceptable and deplorable that men and women in uniform are dependent on food stamps.

I introduced, this past year, H.R. 1055. It is signed by about 90 Members of Congress, both Democrat and Republican, that would give a \$500 tax credit to men and women in uniform who are dependent on food stamps. My purpose in saying that is that I do not know that that is the answer or not, but it is a vehicle to find an answer to help those on food stamps in the military.

I look at this photograph, and I look in the eyes of the little girl. She is looking, and in her eyes you can tell she does not know if her daddy will be coming back or not. Hopefully, we pray that all men and women in uniform will be coming back when they are deployed. But there is no guarantee.

So, again, I say to the Republican leadership, I say to the Democratic leadership, please, before this session ends in September, October this year, let us pass legislation to help the men and women in uniform that are on food stamps, because, again, this country is the safe Nation that it is because we have dedicated men and women in uniform that are willing to die for America. Let us not, as a Congress, let us not as a government, allow anyone serving this Nation to be on food stamps.

#### GUN VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am going to do something a little bit different this afternoon and speak to a number of topics during the time frame that I have for this special order.

First of all, I think it is appropriate to again do something that many of us wish we did not have to do, and that is to offer sympathy for those who have died at the hands of reckless gun violence. Just about an hour or so ago in Memphis, Tennessee, five individuals were shot, we understand that two fatally, by a seemingly deranged individual. But the facts are not in, and I do not want to speculate.

The police personnel who came upon the house, found a deceased woman in the house. The house was set on fire. Other police personnel came and fire fighters. I believe the news reports indicate that one fire fighter is down along with a police officer. As I said, additional facts are still coming in.

Now, as I indicated last week, I am going to be a regular fixture on the House floor discussing gun violence. I believe that, if we would listen to the American people and listen to good common sense and depoliticize this issue, we might be able to come together in a conference committee and get this matter resolved.

This is not an issue that should be dominated by the National Rifle Association. It should not be dominated by fear. It should not be dominated by misinterpretation of the Second Amendment, which was actually written in the course of history where many Americans were fearful of those from other countries, in particular a recently formed nation, that would take up arms and try to seize this nation back, a foundling nation of some 13 colonies. It was to establish a well-organized militia.

There is no intent on behalf of those who believe in gun regulations and gun safety to take away guns from law-abiding citizens. But we have to close the gun show loopholes and take the guns out of the hands of criminals. We must have trigger locks. We must, in fact, hold adults responsible for children who accidentally or otherwise shoot others. We must, in fact, eliminate the fact that children can go to gun shows, which in my community are about every week, without an adult.

We must, frankly, be serious about the fact that America is looked upon as a Nation under the siege of gun violence, with more guns in this Nation than human beings. Frankly, people are living in fear.

□ 1630

Now, many would say, Let me arm myself and I will protect myself from those who have the guns. It does not work that way, for we are arming ourselves and endangering other law enforcement officers, and we are creating a Nation at war.

It is time now for Republicans to lay down their political hats. And if one would think Democrats have theirs on, all of them need to be on the conference committee, of which I am a member, and discuss this in a manner that will bring realistic gun regulation to America.

I would hope that as we have marched this past week in commemoration of the march from Selma to Montgomery, which I had the honor in participating in, with faith in politics in Selma, in Birmingham, in Montgomery, that we will see that America can draw upon its spirit. It can draw upon its spirit to create opportunities in civil rights; then it can draw upon its deeply embedded spirit of the fact that we are all human beings and we deserve that kind of respect to pass gun safety legislation.

In addition, I had the honor, I guess, or the challenge of joining some 25,000-some individuals in the capital of Florida, in Tallahassee, to stand up for equal rights for all and oppose the One Florida concept that would eliminate affirmative action. For many, I believe, this is a confused position. Affirmative action is not quotas. They are illegal. Affirmative action is simply outreach to minorities and women, creating an equal playing field.

It seems disappointing that we in America, in the year 2000, have individuals who wish to turn back the clock; who would smile when we talk about civil rights; who would whisper when we talk about affirmative action; and who would snicker when we talk about gun safety. Well, my friends I believe that if we are going to be the world power, the trading Nation of the world, if we are going to promote a strong America, a one America, including everyone at the seat of empowerment, then the snickering and the snide remarks have to stop. We have to realize that 6-year-olds have guns because they come from dysfunctional families but, more importantly, because criminals get guns and others do not.

So I hope that Americans who are fearful of us coming into their homes and taking their guns, if they are law-abiding citizens, they will realize and encourage this conference committee to meet and do plain and simple and real gun safety legislation. Otherwise, we will see us day after day bemoaning the fact of those who have lost their lives to gun violence. How much and how long do we have to see this occur as we near the commemoration and the sadness of April 20, a year after the tragedy of Columbine High School? We have still not acted and Americans are asking us to act.

I believe the commemoration of the Selma to Montgomery march, the March 7, 1965, Bloody Tuesday, or the Bloody Sunday it was called at that time, where we turned people back because they wanted the right to vote,