ELECTION OF MEMBER TO COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 207) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Armed Services: Mr. Larsen of Washington.

The resolution was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The Chair would announce that further proceedings on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1554, as amended, originally postponed on Tuesday, July 24, 2001, will resume tomorrow.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. DE LAURO. Mr. Speaker, I regret to report that on July 19 I inadvertently voted the wrong way during roll-call number 255 on House Joint Resolution 55, Disapproving Normal Trade Relations with China.

I mistakenly recorded my vote as no. My vote should have been an aye for disapproval.

CHINA NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS

(Ms. DE LAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DE LAURO. Mr. Speaker, I want to build a strong relationship between the United States and China, but the normal trade relations China enjoys with the United States have done little to build a strong and mutually beneficial relationship between our two nations. It promotes few of our values or our economic interests. China has engaged in unfair trade practices, pirated intellectual property, spread weapons and dangerous technology to rogue nations, suppressed democracy, denied its citizens religious freedom, engaged in human rights abuses.

In so doing, China has gladly profited. Our trade deficit with China has mushroomed from $17.8 billion in 1999 to over $100 billion in 2000. The United States should use our trade laws with China to pressure for greater access for American companies and goods. I oppose NTR for China because we need to let China know that more of the same is not acceptable. It is vital that we insist on fair and equal standards in compliance with all aspects of our trade laws. Until this happens, I cannot support NTR.

MAKING IN ORDER ON JULY 25, 2001, OR ANY DAY THEREAFTER, CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 55, DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF WAIVER AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN SECTION 402(c) OF TRADE ACT OF 1974 WITH RESPECT TO VIETNAM

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time after July 25, 2001, or any day thereafter to consider in the House the joint resolution, House Joint Resolution 55, disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Vietnam; that the joint resolution be considered as read for amendments; that all points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration be waived; that the joint resolution be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means (in opposition to the joint resolution) and a Member in support of the joint resolution; that pursuant to sections 152 and 153 of the Trade Act of 1974, the previous question be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion; and that the provisions of sections 152 and 153 of the Trade Act of 1974 shall not otherwise apply to any joint resolution disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Vietnam for the remainder of the 107th Congress.

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

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

ON THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1974 ILLEGAL TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to commemorate the 27th anniversary of the 1974 illegal Turkish invasion of Cyprus. I have commemorated this day each year since I have become a Member of Congress; and, unfortunately, each year the occupation continues. The continued presence of Turkish troops represents a gross violation of human rights and international law. Since their invasion of Cyprus in July of 1974, Turkish troops have continued to occupy 37 percent of the island. This is in direct defiance of numerous U.N. resolutions and has been a major source of instability in the eastern Mediterranean.

Recent events have created an atmosphere where there is now no valid excuse to avoid resolving this long-standing problem.

Peace in this region cannot happen without continued and sustained U.S. leadership, which is why I am heartened that President Bush, like his predecessor, President Clinton, is committed to working for reunification of Cyprus.

I was also encouraged to read last week that the European Union considers the status quo in Cyprus unacceptable and has called on the Turkish Cypriot side to resume the U.N.-led peace process as soon as possible with a view toward finding a comprehensive settlement.

Now is the time for a solution. More than 20 years ago, in 1977, in 1979, the leaders of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities reached two high-level agreements which provided for the establishment of a biconfessional, bizonal federation.

Even though these agreements were endorsed by the U.N. Security Council, there has been no action on the Turkish side to fill in the details and reach a final agreement. Instead, for the last 27 years, there has been a Turkish Cypriot leader presiding over a regime recognized only by Turkey and condemned as “legally invalid” by the U.N. Security Council in Resolution 541 and 550.

Cyprus has been divided by the green line, a 113-mile barbed wire fence that runs across the island, and Greek Cypriots are prohibited from visiting the towns and communities where their families have lived for generations.

With 35,000 Turkish troops illegally stationed on the island, it is one of the most militarized areas in the world. This situation has also meant the financial decline of the once rich northern part of Cyprus to just one-quarter of its former earnings.

Perhaps the single most destructive element of Turkey’s fiscal and foreign policy is its nearly 27-year occupation of Cyprus. We now have an atmosphere where there is no valid excuse for not resolving this long-standing problem.

Cyprus is set for movement into the European Union in 2004. I am hopeful that this reality will act as a catalyst to build a strong and mutually beneficial relationship between our two nations.