Those F-4D that flew by were a symbol of his career as fighter pilot and his combat excellence. He actually flew in an F-16 the day before.

In closing, the Air Force is a better institution today than it was 4 years ago. General Ryan’s distinguished and faithful service provided a significant and lasting contribution to our Air Force and our Nation’s security.

He has served our Nation with honor and distinction. I know the Members of both the House and Senate join me in paying tribute to this outstanding American patriot upon his retirement from the United States Air Force.

We thank him, wish him and his family much health, happiness and God speed.

General Ryan, good flight, mission complete.

Recess

The Speaker pro tempore. There being no further requests for morning hour debates, pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the House will stand in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 39 minutes p.m.) the House stood in recess until 2 p.m. today.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Isakson) at 2 p.m.

Prayer

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Out of the depths, David cries to You, O Lord, in Psalm 130. Lord, on an ordinary September Monday, caught up in routine, it may be difficult for us to be in touch with our depths.

Yet when aware of the pain in some hearts or when we truly face the complexity of issues overshadowing our responsibilities, we need Your mercy.

Help us to sense Your forgiveness behind every mistaken judgment of the past.

Guide our decisions today and throughout this week, that much may be accomplished and be recognized as Your providential care behind every event.

For it is Your justice and Your peace which holds the aspirations of the American people together.

Longing for Your presence, O Lord, make us watchful for Your movements and personal reflection and in honest discussion, so Your glory may be evident in our deeds.

By Your grace penetrate our souls, that we may live and pray from the depths now and forever.

Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Speaker pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Rodriguez) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Rodriguez 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.

U.N. Conference on Racism

The Speaker pro tempore. Mr. Coble asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.

Mr. Coble. Speaker and colleagues, the most recent issue of the Weekly Standard features a Charles Krauthammer article entitled Disgrace in Durbin, referring to the recently concluded U.N. Conference on Racism.

Mr. Krauthammer suggests that their conference included Third World dictators practicing their demagoguery, hopefully to the detriment of Israel.

He further suggests that the conference had the trappings reminiscent of pre-World War II in Nazi Germany, a Nuremberg rally, if you will, and these same dictators were pointing indirectly or directly accusatory fingers at the United States because of our friendship with Israel.

This sort of activity serves no good purpose, and President Bush is to be commended for his refusal to legitimize or dignify the disgrace in Durbin.

America Needs Immediate Capital Gains Tax Relief

The Speaker pro tempore. Mr. Pence asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. Pence. Mr. Speaker, today the United States is burdened with one of the highest capital gains taxes of any industrial nation. The effect puts our country’s companies and workers at a severe disadvantage.

On average, the capital gains tax of U.S. businesses and farmers is taxed 80 percent higher than our foreign competitors. The economy needs and those who we represent deserve immediate capital gains tax relief.

The capital gains tax is an assault on the American dream. For many low- and moderate-income workers, one of the ways of accumulating wealth is through investment in stocks and businesses.

When the government puts a high tax on capital gains, people who lose the most from the high rate are the poorest, the youngest, those in the beginning of their careers, those who are further from the sources of capital.

Policies that punish success ultimately kill the seeds that promise enterprise and jobs to the poor. Those in our communities are asking for our help, Mr. Speaker.

Their message to us, to the President, and all in this Congress could not be clearer: give us the seed capital for inner-city jobs and investments. Turn this economy around, cut capital gains and cut capital gains taxes now.

Communication from the Honorable Tom Sawyer, Member of Congress

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable Tom Sawyer, Member of Congress:

House of Representatives, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Speaker: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Court of Common Pleas of Summit County, Ohio.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

Tom Sawyer.

Announcement by the Speaker Pro Tempore

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes or postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

Oil Region National Heritage Area Act

Mr. Peterson of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 695) to establish the Oil Region National Heritage Area, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 695

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; DEFINITIONS.

(a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the “Oil Region National Heritage Area Act”.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE 16699