The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Issa).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:


I hereby appoint the Honorable Darrell E. Issa to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Campbell Gillon, Georgetown Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, before Whom civilizations rise and pass away, we bow before Thee. We are creatures of a day, our lives divinely touched into being; endowed with insight as well as sight, conscience as well as cleverness, spiritual responsiveness as well as physical reflexes. In Thee we exist. Forgive us if in the past, we have denied the “better angels” of our nature, thus denying divine guidance and help.

In the light of the recent act of aggression against this Nation, horror, shock, grief, fear, revenge, and anger struggle within people’s hearts. We sorrow at the loss of life, the families shattered, the injuries sustained, and the horrendous images that rescuers and rescued will forever retain. We commend all such to the care of the One who alone is the help of the helpless, the healer of the heartbroken, the strengthener of those bowed down.

Wherever the way forward lies, lead the Representatives of this great Nation by eternal beacons of justice, truth, understanding, and righteousness, to deal firmly with evil and fairly to the Nation here. As their days, so shall they be divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole, shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services.

After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Armed Services now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived.

No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those that I have placed at the desk and amendments en bloc described in this request.

Except as specified in this request, each such amendment shall be considered only in the order that I have placed at the desk and may be offered only by a Member designated on the amendment or a designee. Each such amendment shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole, shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment (except that the