

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, December 5, 2001

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 5, 2001.

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

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord, we seek Your blessing upon all Members of the House of Representatives and the people of this Nation.

Once Abram responded to Your call of faith he was given Your promise: "I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make your name so great that it shall be used in blessings."

You fulfilled Your promise to our father in faith even as now You fulfill Your promise in us and in our time. Ever since the founding of this Nation in faith, You have blessed this land and its people. As in the past, so now and forever, we seek Your blessing and hope that these United States will be the Nation You design; the place where Your promise is fulfilled.

In turbulent times, Lord, do not allow us to lose our primal focus: It is You who will make us into a great Nation.

In present circumstances of war and economics, let us not simply react as if we alone counted, but guide us to wisely respond as a great Nation. By Your blessing upon us and our daily work, make us a great people called to do noble deeds and truly be a blessing upon the world both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr.

MCNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY 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.

AMERICA NEEDS STIMULUS BILL

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, how low will the Democratic Party go? I read in USA Today that the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), the chairman of the DCCC, was planning on running ads blaming President Bush for the recession, calling it his recession. Well, for those Americans who are out of work and unemployed, it is a personal recession; and I take great umbrage at the gentlewoman for running ads at a time when we are in a national crisis fighting an evil enemy in Afghanistan and would make this a political opportunity to attack our Commander in Chief. It is regrettable, it is shameful, and it is out of bounds.

Mr. Speaker, Members should cease these kind of play games and start working. On the other side of this building, the Senate dawdles, fails to address a stimulus bill because the majority leader wants to run for President of the United States. If he was President now, we would have real problems because he cannot make a basic decision. I urge my colleagues to insist that the Senate pass a stimulus bill so we can repair the economy and move forward, and say to the Democrats and the DCCC, take your ads and shove them.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded not to criticize the Senate in their remarks.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

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

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, President Bush has said let us get back to normal as much as we possibly can. We had a football game, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) and I

know, that happened in Florida between the University of Tennessee and Florida, and we had not beaten Florida in 30 years in Florida, in Gainesville, but we won that battle.

Mr. Speaker, we were an 18-point underdog, but we did very well and now are playing for the SEC championship, and I want to congratulate the University of Tennessee, my alma mater. I am a former college president at Cumberland University, and I want my colleagues to know that we hold the distinction at Cumberland of being defeated worse in football than any other school in America: Cumberland 0, Georgia Tech 222.

If Members want to know more about that game, there is a book written about that game, "You Dropped It, You Pick It Up." One of the Cumberland players dropped the ball during the game. The Cumberland player said, "Pick it up, pick it up." Another Cumberland player said, "You dropped it, you pick it up."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The previous speaker and all Members are reminded to observe proper decorum in the House during 1-minute speeches.

MILITARY TRIBUNALS

(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, much debate has occurred recently on President Bush's decision to utilize military tribunals to hold all terrorists responsible for their actions. I come to the floor to state my whole-hearted support for his decision. Let us get one thing straight. Terrorists do not, by definition, conduct themselves as lawful combatants. They began this war with us; and, consequently, they should be treated as war criminals if captured.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly disagree with the arguments of the other side that say using military tribunals would not ensure a fair trial. To the contrary, it allows for an appeals process through all levels of the military courts and ultimately to the United States Supreme Court.

I remind my colleagues that President Bush's decision to use military tribunals as a means of bringing terrorists to justice has historical precedence dating back to Presidents Franklin

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.