

World Conference Against Racism. This event is scheduled to take place in Durban, South Africa August 31st to September 7th 2001. As a nation, our participation in this conference is vital. As citizens of the United States of America, we all want to see our country moving forward stronger than ever. By supporting this conference, we can make an effort to moving this country, as well as the world in the right direction.

I believe strongly that this day, June 19th is not only a celebration for African Americans, but also a celebration for our country as a whole. It represents all of the hardships that African Americans had to go through in helping construct this country and finally getting freedom and respect for the hardships they endured. As a citizen of this great country, I feel that it is America's duty to come together in showing respect to our fellow Americans on this day.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Juneteenth Independence Day that represents the end of slavery in the South. On January 1, 1863, Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation freed all slaves. However, it was not until two and a half years later that all states were freed from bondage. Since that day on June 19, 1865, descendants of slaves have celebrated Juneteenth day. This celebration commemorates the struggles, dignity, and vision of a people who have rendered their lives for this great nation.

Although, Juneteenth Independence Day originated in Galveston, Texas, this day of celebration delineates the importance of African American history all over the United States. In my district, a small town called Princeville reaps the benefit of Juneteenth Day. Princeville, the nation's oldest black chartered town was incorporated in February 1885 by the North Carolina General Assembly. The town of Princeville began as a small village of newly freed slaves who were trying to obtain their "day of jubilee." These slaves fought with grace to have something that they could call their own.

Juneteenth Independence Day completes the cycle of what we recognize as true democracy. The memories and history of that glorious day in June of 1865, has motivated African Americans as a people to continue to fight for equality for all. At this very moment, black voters in the state of Virginia have been moved by this day to get out and vote.

June 19th represents TRUE JUSTICE and TRUE FREEDOM. Let us not forget the importance that this day has impressed upon our history both past and present.

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a celebration of freedom known as Juneteenth. In cities across the country, thousands of Americans—people of all nationalities, races and religions—are assembling to rejoice and reflect upon a milestone in American history—the official end of slavery.

Celebration of Juneteenth, June 19, as Emancipation Day began in 1865 when Texan slaves were finally notified of their freedom from the shackles of slavery. Prior to June 19, 1985, rumors of slavery were widespread; however, emancipation was not granted to Texan slaves until General Gordon Granger issued an order in Galveston, Texas declaring

freedom for all slaves—some two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. When Texan slaves were finally given the news, a spirit of jubilee spread throughout the community as they prayed, sang and danced in celebration of their freedom. Newly freed slaves left the homes of slave-owners and immediately searched for family members and economic opportunities. Some simply chose to relish in their freedom. As a native Texan myself, I feel so strongly about the importance of Juneteenth and its legacy today.

Although many place significance on the untimely manner in which the news was delivered, reflecting upon the triumph and perseverance of the human spirit captures the true essence of the Juneteenth celebration. Juneteenth honors those African-Americans who traveled and survived the institution of slavery, thus encouraging free generations of African-Americans to take pride in the legacy of perseverance and strength they left behind.

As the popularity of Juneteenth grows both nationally and globally, people from all races, nationalities and creeds and realizing that Juneteenth is not only synonymous with slavery. Juneteenth represents an acknowledgment of a period in our history that shaped and continues to influence our society today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 163, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1807

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 6 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON H.R. 2216, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Florida, from the Committee on Appropriations, sub-

mitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-102) on the bill (H.R. 2216) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

REPORT ON H.R. 2217, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2002

Mr. SKEEN, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-103) on the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002 and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. FROST. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Democrat Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 169) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 169

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

Committee on Rules: Mr. McGovern of Massachusetts.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON RULES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Rules:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, June 19, 2001.

HON. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC

DEAR MR. SPEAKER, I hereby resign from the House Committee on Rules.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. MCGOVERN,

Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.