

Whereas on January 9, 2005, President of the United States George W. Bush stated that it was a "historic day for the Palestinian people and for the people of the Middle East" and that "Palestinians throughout the West Bank and Gaza took a key step toward building a democratic future by choosing a new president in elections that observers described as largely free and fair";

Whereas Israel provided important cooperation with the Palestinian Authority to enable the holding of this election, including minimizing delays at checkpoints and redeploying Israeli security forces away from Palestinian population centers;

Whereas the Palestinian election was an important step towards democracy for the Palestinian people and an example to all those in the region who are striving to achieve democracy in their own nation;

Whereas during his inaugural speech, President Abbas stated that "The winner in these elections is the great Palestinian people who have created this democratic epic and who will safeguard it", that "The people have voted for the rule of law, order, pluralism, the peaceful transfer of authority, and equality for all", and further "Let us start implementing the Roadmap";

Whereas these comments build upon Mr. Abbas' 1993 statements on the White House lawn, where he said that a Palestinian state and an Israeli state could live in "peaceful coexistence and cooperation";

Whereas the election of Mahmoud Abbas was hailed around the world as a positive step opening new opportunities to move toward peace between the Palestinian Authority and Israel;

Whereas the Palestinian election provided President Abbas with a mandate from the majority of Palestinians to reject violence and pursue peace with Israel;

Whereas the extent of cooperation between the Israelis and Palestinians during the period leading up to and including election day was unprecedented in the past four years and reflects the potential for future cooperation;

Whereas the election must be followed quickly by concrete steps on the part of the new Palestinian President to meet his commitment to reform the Palestinian security services, establish the rule of law, and do all in his power to combat terrorism;

Whereas a democratic Palestinian Authority will serve as one of the most important building blocks for a viable, free, and stable Palestinian state;

Whereas President Abbas' success likely will depend upon his ability to tangibly and quickly improve the quality of life for Palestinians, and end corruption and violence;

Whereas the United States Government stands ready to work with the new Palestinian President to facilitate a renewed dialogue between the new Palestinian leadership and the Government of Israel with the goal of achieving through the Performance Based Roadmap to a Permanent Two-State Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (the "Roadmap"), President George W. Bush's vision of two states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace;

Whereas the Roadmap, endorsed by the United States, Israel, the Palestinian Authority, the European Union, Russia, and the United Nations, remains the only realistic and widely recognized plan for making progress toward peace;

Whereas the policy of the United States is to work toward a just and peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict based on two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security;

Whereas all parties to the Roadmap have an obligation to urgently provide support for the Palestinian Authority in its efforts to confront and fight terror as well as to assist in the creation of true democratic institutions that will enforce the rule of law; and

Whereas people of all peaceful nations believe peace between the Palestinian Authority and the state of Israel will have far reaching positive effects on the entire region and throughout the world; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that, on January 9, 2005, Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen, was elected by the Palestinian people to the office of President of the Palestinian Authority in what were widely described as free and fair elections;

(2) recognizes this milestone in the development of Palestinian democracy and congratulates President Abbas on his election to the presidency of the Palestinian Authority;

(3) commends the efforts of the Israeli Government to facilitate the election;

(4) expresses its respect for the freely expressed will of the Palestinian people, and its intention to work with President Abbas to help the Palestinian people realize the opportunity for a more peaceful, prosperous future;

(5) urges President Abbas and the new Palestinian leadership to abide by its commitments to reform the security services, establish the rule of law, and press on with the development of democratic institutions, including an independent judiciary and an empowered and democratically elected legislature;

(6) urges President Abbas to move quickly to honor his pledges to halt violence and incitement against Israel, dismantle terrorist organizations, and fulfill the Palestinian Authority's obligations according to the terms of the Roadmap;

(7) supports efforts to increase United States assistance to the Palestinian people and to help President Abbas rebuild and reform the Palestinian Authority's institutions, as President Abbas takes actions consistent with the Roadmap, so that they may better serve the Palestinian people;

(8) urges all members of the international community, particularly all parties to the Roadmap, to take advantage of this historic opportunity by providing timely assistance to the new Palestinian Government as it moves forward to implement the Roadmap, to help it build the necessary political, economic, and security infrastructure essential to establishing a viable, democratic state and improving the lives of the Palestinian people;

(9) calls upon Arab states in particular to provide political and financial support to the Palestinian Authority, to support a complete end to terrorism against Israel, to end incitement against it, and to reach out to the State of Israel in friendship and full recognition;

(10) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to the security of Israel as a democratic, Jewish state, and supports the

commitment of Israel to fulfill its obligations under the Roadmap; and

(11) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to the Roadmap including realization of the vision of two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security, and looks forward to working closely with the Executive Branch to achieve this vision.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2005

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, February 2. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and at 9:30 a.m. the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the nomination of Alberto Gonzales to be Attorney General, as provided under the previous order; provided that at 2:30 p.m. Senator BYRD be recognized for up to 1 hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, tomorrow the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Alberto Gonzales to be Attorney General. A number of colleagues spoke on this nomination today, and we expect a full day of debate tomorrow as well. Under the agreement, we will alternate debate in 1-hour blocks throughout the day. Again, I encourage those Members who wish to speak on the Gonzales nomination to contact the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee as soon as possible.

I also remind my colleagues the President's State of the Union Address will be tomorrow evening. Senators are asked to be in the Senate Chamber by 8:30 tomorrow night in order to proceed as a body to the House Chamber at 8:40 for the 9 o'clock address.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:15 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BROWNBACK. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:52 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, February 2, 2005, at 9:15 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SAD GOODBYE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William Haskell Pinckard of Bakersfield, California. Mr. Pinckard was known to all as, simply, "Pinky." He passed away January 9, 2005 at his home in California.

Pinky dedicated his life to his fellow Kern County community members. He moved to California from Oklahoma in 1950, and life for Kern County residents from that point on was not the same. Pinky touched many lives through the numerous organizations in which he was involved. He was a member of the Community of Christ Church, Masons, Shriners, and Eastern Star. A life long member of the Democratic Party, Pinky received many awards for his service as an ardent activist. He represented local #743 Carpenters Union; for his dedication to advocacy, the Labor Union also recognized Pinky.

The truth of the matter is Pinky was a civic-minded individual, who took seriously his role as an American citizen. All too often, we forget that activism, and outreach, and grassroots efforts are the foundation upon which we build our representative government. Pinky never forgot, and he never let anybody around him forget. Those who commemorate Pinky's life will forever be changed by the contributions he made to society.

TRIBUTE TO WHITNALL SUMMIT,
2004 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR,
WEST ALLIS-WEST MILWAUKEE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the Whitnall Summit Company, being honored by the West Allis-West Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce as 2004 Company of the Year.

Whitnall Summit was established just ten years ago with a plan to acquire segments of the former Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing property in West Allis. Allis-Chalmers had been one of the main drivers of the local economy in West Allis, providing thousands of jobs along with a community identity. When a physical plant the size of Allis-Chalmers closes, the impact on the community is both monetary and psychological. Manufacturing job losses have cost our communities good-paying, family-supporting jobs, along with a strong revenue base. The loss of Allis Chalmers hit hard.

Great companies inspire a community's pride and empty buildings hurt the spirit of a city.

Thanks to Whitnall Summit, West Allis is participating in a "re-urbanization" as these large empty buildings have been rehabilitated. Further, those buildings are now occupied with retail and offices, community-based organizations and indoor parking. In 10 short years, Whitnall Summit with strong support from the city's TIF district, has converted factory buildings into 300,000 square feet of office space, all leased, with a large parking structure nearing completion.

I congratulate Whitnall Summit for its success and its collaboration with the city of West Allis in returning this site to an opportunity for growth.

HONORING THE FAYETTEVILLE
TOWPATH QUILT GUILD

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, it is with a warm heart I rise today to pay tribute to an organization lending support to our men and women in uniform, the Towpath Quilt Guild of Fayetteville, NY.

About 80 members of the Towpath Quilt Guild have harnessed their skills to hand make quilts for recovering soldiers at Bethesda Naval and Walter Reed Army Medical Center. In early spring, these quilts will be personally delivered in hopes of offering another layer of comfort and warm sentiment to our service members.

In this time period when so many of our loved ones are scattered around the globe ensuring American's freedom and safety, the Towpath Quilt Guild has expressed with gifts what we all wish to convey. Thank you for all you do. And thank you, Towpath Quilt Guild.

HONORING BROWNIE TROOP 1593 IN
MANASSAS, VA

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brownie Troop 1593 of Manassas, VA. Last year, the 18 girls who make up Troop 1593 dedicated themselves to providing support to the brave men and women who are defending our freedom overseas.

Brownie Troop 1593 is comprised of Colby Newson, Ariel Morrow, Arianna Robinson, Juliana Thinnies, Juliana Magalhaes, Allison Rob-

inson, Deanka Mullins, Wendy Cornier, Christina Owusu, Alondra Morales, Hannah Gabaldon, Madeline Greco-Parkin, Kimberly Klejka, Jayme Mathews, Cameron Roberts, Madison Roberts, Megan Duarte, and Emily Buckley.

In April, the troop collected donations from Girl Scout cookie sales and sent cookies, personal care items, games, cards, and goodie bags to the soldiers. They also provided similar support to four U.S. Navy Ships: the USS *John F. Kennedy*, USS *Spruance*, USS *Harpers Ferry*, and the USS *Harry S. Truman*. Additionally, the girls have sent comfort items to a Navy Medic serving in Fallujah, Iraq.

The troop also helped brighten the lives of service men and women through a pen pal program with two of the aircraft carriers. Through this mutually beneficial exchange, the young girls learned about respect for their country, the incredible sacrifice that the Armed Forces make, the important jobs that the service men and women perform, teamwork, community service, loyalty and friendship.

The troop plans to continue its efforts in 2005. They have scheduled visits to both the USS *John F. Kennedy* and USS *Harry S. Truman*. They will also send Valentines Day cards to a platoon in Iraq and will be repeating their Girl Scout Cookie drive to send additional cookies and other items to soldiers overseas.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Brownie Troop 1593. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the troop's accomplishments. Their contributions and efforts are much appreciated and should be celebrated. I wish them the best of luck in all future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO RE-AUTHORIZE THE NEW JERSEY COASTAL HERITAGE TRAIL ROUTE

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail incorporates the very best of what the great State of New Jersey has to offer the rest of the Nation. Established by Congress in 1988, the Trail unifies New Jersey's many scenic points of interest. These points of interest include a wealth of environmental, historic, maritime, and recreational sights found along New Jersey's coastline, stretching 300 miles from Perth Amboy in the north, Cape May in the extreme southern tip of the State and Deepwater to the west.

The trail's area includes three National Wildlife Refuges, four tributaries of a Wild and Scenic River system, a Civil War fort and national cemetery, several lighthouses, historic

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