

And, unfortunately, we cannot forget the two U.S. servicemen who are currently listed as held captive in Iraq and Afghanistan. We will continue to pray for a swift and auspicious end to their ordeal.

I want to thank my colleagues who joined me in cosponsoring this resolution, as well as House Armed Services Committee Chairman SKELTON for his help in moving that resolution.

I want to thank Mr. CRITZ for his work on this issue and other issues in serving our veterans, and also Mr. JONES for all his work for our veterans.

Until they are home, our thoughts and prayers will forever remain with the families, friends and loved ones of those Americans who have suffered through tremendous hardship for their country.

I ask all my colleagues to join in support of National POW/MIA Recognition Day and to take a moment to reflect upon the immeasurable sacrifices made by America's service men and women to ensure our freedom.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. I rise today in support of H. Res. 1630, a resolution expressing support for National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress our most solemn obligation is to defend the United States and protect the American people from those who would do them harm. But we merely make national security policy. The men and women in uniform who shoulder the burden of defending our nation—who fight and sacrifice around the world on our behalf—they are the tip of the spear, who risk life and limb to keep us safe.

Those American warriors who are captured or missing in action must be honored, and this resolution does honor them. We extend the gratitude of this body and the nation to those who have served and continue to serve the United States in captivity to hostile forces as prisoners of war, and those who remain missing. But more importantly, we must make every effort to find and liberate them. American service men and women must know that they will not be forgotten. They will not be abandoned.

More than 138,000 members of the Armed Forces who fought in World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the cold war, the gulf war, and Operation Iraqi Freedom were detained or interned as POWs. Many of them endured unimaginable suffering. Today, more than 84,000 members of the Armed Forces remain unaccounted for. And there remain today members of the Armed Forces held captive in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, let us pause to honor those who have been captured or missing while serving our country at war. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, a small token of our solemn appreciation.

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CRITZ) that the House suspend the

rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1630, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONDEMNING REMOVAL OF MOJAVE CROSS MEMORIAL

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1378) condemning the theft from the Mojave National Preserve of the national Mojave Cross memorial honoring American soldiers who died in World War I.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1378

Whereas in 1934, World War I veterans placed a cross memorial on Sunset Rock near Barstow, California, with a wooden plaque proclaiming the simple monument honored the lives of all who have defended America and freedom;

Whereas in 2002, Congress declared the Mojave Cross a national memorial, the only such memorial dedicated to the war dead of World War I;

Whereas in 2003, Congress passed legislation to protect the Mojave Cross memorial by providing for a land swap that would leave the cross on private land, to be maintained by the Veterans of Foreign Wars;

Whereas, on April 28, 2010, the United States Supreme Court, in *Salazar v. Buono*, reversed a Court of Appeals judgment that invalidated an effort by Congress to preserve the Mojave Cross memorial through a land transfer and remanded the case for further proceedings; and

Whereas, on May 9, 2010, the Mojave Cross memorial was reportedly vandalized and stolen: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the illegal removal of the Mojave Cross memorial by vandals as a repulsive act that is an insult to the brave men and women who have served in the Armed Forces and who have given their lives to defend the country; and

(2) urges the National Park Service and Federal law enforcement to continue working with the Veterans of Foreign Wars to recover the Mojave Cross memorial.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 1378 was introduced in May by Representative LEWIS of California. The resolution condemns the theft of a cross from the Sunrise Rock in the Mojave National Preserve. This cross was first placed on Federal land in 1934 as a memorial to American soldiers who died in the First World War. Legal proceedings regarding constitutional issues raised by the cross are ongoing.

However, the theft of the cross is inexcusable. We support this measure's condemnation of that theft and urge all Federal law enforcement officials to continue their efforts to recover the cross and bring those responsible for the theft to justice.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Mr. LEWIS of California for his leadership in bringing this resolution before the House. The recent theft of the Mojave Cross memorial honoring American soldiers who died in World War I is an act that merits our strongest condemnation. So I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, as has been mentioned the monument that is being debated has stood in the Mojave Desert for 75 years to honor our veterans. It stood there, that is, until the night of May 9th when vandals stole it. This memorial was a 7-foot cross that has endured much turmoil including a recent legal attempt to have the cross removed, which was turned away by the Supreme Court.

Those responsible for the disappearance of the cross have shown disrespect for both veterans and this Nation's legal process.

I would also like to commend the VFW for their determination in the face of this disrespectful act. They have vowed that the memorial will be rebuilt and are offering a \$125,000 reward for information leading to an arrest.

President George Washington once said, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were appreciated by their nation."

I think President Washington would agree that this appreciation includes allowing our veterans' memorials to stand in honor of them.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. I yield back the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1378.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CELEBRATING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOOVER DAM

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1636) celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Hoover Dam.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1636

Whereas the Hoover Dam, a concrete arch-gravity storage dam, was built in the Black Canyon of the Colorado River between the States of Nevada and Arizona, forever changing how water is managed across the West;

Whereas, on September 30, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the Hoover Dam;

Whereas the construction of the dam created Lake Mead, a reservoir that can store two years average flow of the Colorado River providing vitally critical flood control, water supply, and electrical power to help create and support the economic growth and development of the Southwestern United States;

Whereas the Hoover Dam has prevented an estimated \$50,000,000,000 in flood damages in the Lower Colorado River Basin, provides water for more than 18,000,000 people, for 1,000,000 acres of farmland in Arizona, California, and Nevada, and for 500,000 acres in Mexico, and produces on average 4,000,000,000 kilowatt-hours of hydroelectric power each year;

Whereas the Hoover Dam, an engineering marvel at 726.4 feet from bedrock to crest, was the highest dam in the world at construction;

Whereas the Hoover Dam is an enduring symbol of the country's ingenuity and persistence of hard working Americans at the time of the Great Depression;

Whereas the Hoover Dam is the model for major water management projects around the world; and

Whereas the Hoover Dam is registered as a National Historic Landmark on the United States National Register of Historic Places and is considered one of seven modern engineering wonders by the American Society of Civil Engineers; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) celebrates and acknowledges the thousands of workers and families that overcame difficult working conditions and great challenges to make construction of the facility possible;

(2) celebrates and acknowledges the economic, cultural, and historic significance of the Hoover Dam and its role in meeting future challenges;

(3) recognizes the past, present, and future benefits of its construction to the agricultural, industrial, and urban development of the Southwestern United States; and

(4) joins the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, and the entire Nation in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the Hoover Dam.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 1636, a bipartisan resolution, commemorates the 75th anniversary of the dedication of Hoover Dam, and recognizes the past, the present, and the future benefits of its construction to the agricultural, to the industrial, and to the urban development of the southwestern United States.

During its 75-year history, Hoover Dam has played a pivotal role in shaping what the Southwest is today, from a region with an inconsistent supply of water, to now providing water for more than 18 million people, including irrigation water for over 1 million acres of farm land in the States of Arizona, California, Nevada and 500,000 acres in Mexico. That beautiful natural resource that sparkles adds life and economy to our west.

While this facility was completed three-quarters of a century ago, it continues for today and tomorrow to provide water and power certainty for millions of people. We currently have legislation pending in the Senate, Senate bill 2891, and H.R. 4349, the Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2010. This legislation would allocate hydropower generated at Hoover Dam, estimated at 4 billion kilowatt hours of hydroelectric power each year, for the next 50 years. I would want to reiterate our support for the enactment of this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the passage of this bipartisan resolution. Hoover Dam is truly a marvel of engineering, of technology and human endeavor. And tomorrow this reenactment of its 75-year dedication will take place in Las Vegas.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, generations ago water and power visionaries came up with the idea of making the West bloom by harnessing our rivers. The Hoover Dam is a legendary example of that vision.

When completed in 1935, it was the tallest dam and the largest hydroelectric generator in the world. It literally helped create cities in the arid West and to this day, as my friend from

California pointed out, still provides numerous benefits: emissions-free hydropower, drinking and irrigation water, and recreation and flood control.

This bipartisan resolution is a fitting honor to the Hoover Dam and to those who had the foresight to create one of the world's best-known engineering marvels.

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

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, very, very swiftly and quickly, before I yield back the balance of my time, I thank my staff and the minority staff on this beautiful resolution that is going to commemorate some magnificent achievements by the United States to really promote what we now know as the Southwest.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1636.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK LAND LEASE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 714) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

On page 2, line 12 before the period insert: "as amended, assigned, and assumed".

On page 2, line 21 after "lease" insert: "with the owner of the retained use estate".

On page 3, line 19, strike "with" and insert: "without".

On page 4, line 5, strike "and" and insert: "(E) include provisions to ensure the protection of the natural, cultural, and historic features of the resort and associated property, consistent with the laws and policies applicable to property managed by the National Park Service; and".

On page 4, line 6, strike "(E)" and insert: "(F)".

On page 5, line 3, strike "effective date" and insert: "award".

On page 5, line 24, strike "that" and insert: "who".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may