The House met at 11 a.m. The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

O God, just as we concern ourselves with the actions that we take, so help us make clear our motives and our purposes in life. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your spirit, purify our desires, so that what flows from our hearts and minds may be good in Your sight and helpful to all people. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The Speaker. 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.

EXPRESSION OF OPPOSITION TO FURTHER FUNDING OF CONTRAS

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

Mr. Aucoin. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan is wrong when he says Americans should support the Contras because they are fighting for democracy. For one thing, what the Contras have been doing can hardly be called fighting.

Reporters from the Philadelphia Inquirer who investigated the Contras and their operations for 4 months report that the Contras are dodging the Sandinista army and instead prefer to attack civilians, burning farms, clinics, schools, and homes. And when the combat does get tough, the Contras have this peculiar tendency to run for the border.

Are these Contras motivated by a selfless love of democracy? If we look at the documents plucked from the files of Oliver North, we will see they are not. North sent his assistant, Robert Owen, to keep watch on Contra operations in Nicaragua. Owen was troubled with what he saw. Listen to Owen's own words from this memo to Colonel North:

** Calero ** is a creation of the U.S. government and so he's the horse we choose to ride.

Owen says further:

I have no problem with this as long as we do and understand Calero's shortcomings. The best way to point these out is to take a close look at who he keeps around ** * they are liars and greed- and power-motivated. They are not the people to rebuild a new Nicaragua.

So much then, Mr. Speaker, for the administration's effort to describe the Contras as latter-day Thomas Jeffersons.

Today the Sandinistas are negotiating face to face with the Contras on a cease-fire, something this administration has always demanded.

Mr. Speaker, this is no time for America to invest more deficit money into this war. This is a time instead to give peace talks a chance.

THE SILENCE ABOUT THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

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

Mr. Dymally. Mr. Speaker, my statement today is designed to break the congressional silence regarding the uprisings in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. As one who spent 2 days in that troubled region, I feel compelled to appeal to my colleagues in the House to join in this international debate about the "iron fist" policy of the Israeli Defense Forces and the need for peace in the Middle East.

If we were residents of Israel; if we were members of the Knesset, we would not be silent on the most troubling issue facing us today.

Indeed, members of the media, the clergy, academicians and the public in general, in the United States and Israel, have all joined in this debate about bringing an end to the conflict which exists in the Middle East. In general and Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

And so I say to my colleagues, this is too important an issue for us to play it safe.

Think about it.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The Speaker laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:


Hon. Jim Wright,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House at 9:35 p.m. on Wednesday, January 27, 1988 and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits the request for funding for the Nicaraguan Democratic Resistance.

With great respect, I am, Sincerely yours,

Donald K. Anderson, Clerk, House of Representatives.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE NICARAGUAN DEMOCRATIC RESISTANCE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 100-161)

The Speaker laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and ordered to be printed.

(For message, see proceedings of the Senate of Wednesday, January 27, 1988, at page 262.)

TRIBUTE TO SEVEN ASTRONAUTS ON SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF SPACE SHUTTLE "CHALLENGER" ACCIDENT

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

Mr. Schueler. Mr. Speaker, the flags at the NASA Space Center fly at half-mast today to mark the second anniversary of the tragic space shuttle accident of the Challenger.

Seven courageous astronauts lost their lives when the Challenger shuttle exploded in flames just 73 seconds after liftoff. The families of those seven heroes will never forget the horror of that particular moment, and they will continue to live with a tremendous sense of deep loss.

But the seven astronauts did not die in vain, Mr. Speaker. The shuttle accident shook our space agency. It shook our space program to its very foundations. This may have delayed the shuttle program and our space program for 2 years or more. It may have extracted a tragic toll in national trauma, but it also set in motion new standards, new standards of safety, new standards of science that will basically improve our program.

NASA is improving its management. NASA has improved its science. Hopefully, NASA will change the attitudes and behavior that brought us to the
moment of that awful tragedy. We think they will, and we hope they will.

Mr. Speaker, space travel is never 100 percent safe, and the Challenger crew knew that when they joined the space program and embarked on their last mission. They were brave and bold professionals.

Francis Scobee, Michael Smith, Robert McNair, Ellison Onizuka, Judith Resnik, Gregory Jarvis, and Christa McAuliffe—our names will forever be etched in the hearts and minds of all Americans and in our national Pantheon of heroes.

SERIOUS QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT PROPOSED SANDINISTA REFORMS

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

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. Speaker, some Democratic Members of the House have expressed the effectiveness of U.S. foreign policy by taking it upon themselves to counsel a foreign government on how to influence a vote in the U.S. Congress.

In addition to serious questions about the propriety of their actions, they have done a great disservice to the national security interests of this country. If and when the Sandinista regime reforms, it must be from within, not as a means to influence forms will be anything but temporary.

Democratic Members of the House that agrees to a peace plan, and then 2 months later reaches yet another regime reforms, it must be from craft—but only after the Reagan administration and the resistance are themselves to counsel a foreign government on how to influence a vote in the U.S. Congress.

In addition to serious questions about the propriety of their actions, they have done a great disservice to the national security interests of this country. If and when the Sandinista regime reforms, it must be from within, not as a means to influence votes in the U.S. Congress. Otherwise there is no confidence that any reforms will be anything but temporary and superficial.

What faith can we have in a regime that agrees to a peace plan, and then 2 months later reaches yet another agreement with the Soviet Union and Cuba on a massive military buildup? A buildup that includes a military force of 600,000 and the introduction of a squad of Mig-21 fighter aircraft—but only after the Reagan administration and the resistance are gone.

The Sandinistas have said that they would relinquish the government if Nicaraguans were crazy enough to vote them out, but they would never relinquish the power. That is directly contradictory to any democratic process.

As for the Sandinista reforms, they say they will release 3,300 political prisoners, but only if another country will take them. In other words, they trade imprisonment for exile. And what about the remaining 6,000 political prisoners?

The state of emergency has been lifted, but peaceful demonstrations that are now legal have been broken up by Sandinista turbas while the police look on. On the day Ortega an- nounced he would lift the emergency decree, seven members of the internal democratic opposition were arrested.

Three days later, another five internal democratic leaders, including an editor of the independent newspaper La Prensa, were arrested.

Ironically, by their actions these Democrats have admitted the futility of the democratic resistance and U.S. aid in putting pressure on the Sandinistas to make reforms. What they are missing is the fact that without continued pressure, the Sandinistas are free to make temporary or superficial changes that can then be revoked after aid is denied and the resistance withers away. The continued existence of the resistance is the key to any long-term movement toward democracy and freedom in Nicaragua.

JAPAN CONTINUES TO IGNORE INTERNATIONAL MORATORIUM ON WHALING

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

Mr. RAVENEL. Mr. Speaker, last month the top whale scientists in the world met to examine Japan’s latest attempt to circumvent the international moratorium on whaling. Japan submitted a new proposal to kill minke whales in the Antarctic as a feasibility study for a much more extensive killing operation. The feasibility actually could have been tested in a computer simulation. In fact, it has already been done by an Australian scientist who found that the proposal will not answer the questions being posed.

At the special meeting of the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission only scientists from Japan and Iceland consistently supported the Japanese proposal. Scientists from the United States and other countries exposed the fact that the proposal was not legitimate science.

Thumbing its nose at the world’s scientific community, Japan is back down in the Antarctic right now killing whales!

Shame on you, Japan. Shame on you, Japan!

CONSIDERING OUR OPTIONS ON CONTRA FUNDING

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

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. Speaker, next Wednesday, this body will be asked to approve a package of $36 million in Contra aid assistance—both lethal and nonlethal—plus $20 million for reinforcement of our Guatemalan opposition. I would like to take the time to point out how the democratic opposition were arrested.

There has been a tremendous amount said on the Central American issue already, but I would like my colleagues to step back for a moment and put this debate into historical perspective.

For 6 years, since the administration started backing the Contras, war has raged in Central America. The Sandinistas have slowly and consistently backed out of their promises of openness and transition to democracy.

During this time, the Nicaraguan Government has imposed a state of emergency, closed La Prensa and Radio Catolica, and grown generally less tolerant of dissent and open opposition to the Sandinistas. The justification for these repressive measures has been the Contra war.

An effort by the Contadora nations failed to make significant progress toward peace, partially because of the pressures of war and partly because of lack of support from the Reagan administration.

Last August, the untiring efforts of Costa Rican President Oscar Arias to create a Central American peace alternative resulted in the signing of the Guatemala accord.

In the 6 months since the signing of this agreement, all five Central American nations have made strides toward national reconciliation. Yet, much remains to be done.

For its part, the Sandinista government has released political prisoners, allowed La Prensa and Radio Catolica to resume operations, and has lifted the state of emergency.

The reason for these steps toward a more open society and the sincerity of these moves are the subject of much debate. But the reality is that they are the product of war and partly because of the pressures of war and partly because of lack of support from the Reagan administration.

We cannot ignore the facts of history as we review our options.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the chance to talk with all my colleagues to think carefully about what has been achieved in the past half year compared to the previous 6 years and how we can best ensure that this trend continues.
number of his colleagues out in the great State of Iowa today, and it is nice to see that the gentleman remains behind, as he is so diligent in his work on an everyday basis, and I am happy to have the gentleman respond to my inquiry.

I yield to the gentleman from Oregon.

Mr. AUCOIN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman’s kind remarks.

I would say to the gentleman that upon adjournment today, the House will adjourn and we will have no session on tomorrow.

The House will reconvene on Monday, February 1, at noon for a pro forma session.

On Tuesday, February 2, the House meets at noon to consider the Private Calendar. Two bills will be on suspension at that time, one bill dealing with the technical corrections to the Agriculture Credit Act of 1987, the second suspension is the civil service due process amendments; 40 minutes will be allocated to each of these bills, 20 minutes divided on each side.

Recorded votes on those two suspensions will be postponed until after debate on both suspensions.

Then on Wednesday, February 3, the House, subject to unanimous consent which I intend to make after our sion, will be postponed until after adjournment today, the House will adjourn and we will have no session on tomorrow.

The House will reconvene on Monday, February 1, at noon for a pro forma session.

On Tuesday, February 2, the House meets at noon to consider the Private Calendar. Two bills will be on suspension at that time, one bill dealing with the technical corrections to the Agriculture Credit Act of 1987, the second suspension is the civil service due process amendments; 40 minutes will be allocated to each of these bills, 20 minutes divided on each side.

Recorded votes on those two suspensions will be postponed until after debate on both suspensions.

Then on Wednesday, February 3, the House, subject to unanimous consent which I intend to make after our colloquy, would meet at 10 a.m. to consider the resolution which calls for the President’s request for funding for Contra aid.

Our purpose in asking unanimous consent to come in at 10 a.m., rather than the normally scheduled 2 p.m., would be that the 10-hour schedule for general debate could begin earlier in the day, and therefore allow Members to leave at an earlier point in the evening.

After that, on Thursday, February 4, the House meets at 11 a.m. in a pro forma session.

On Friday, February 5, the House will not be in session.

Conference reports may be brought up at any time. Any further program will be announced later.

Mr. MICHEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

We certainly have no objection to the unanimous-consent request that the gentleman will make for 10 a.m. on next Wednesday.

HOUR OF MEETING ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. AUCOIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Tuesday, February 2, 1988, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m., Wednesday, February 3, 1988.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.
SENATE ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled joint resolution of the Senate of the following title:
S.J. Res. 201. Joint resolution to designate January 28, 1988, as “National Challenger Center Day” in honor of the crew of the space shuttle Challenger.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. AUCOIN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o’clock and 20 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, February 1, 1988, at 12 o’clock noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

2784. A communication President of the United States, transmitting notification that comments and recommendations regarding the biennial report of the U.S. Institute, for Peace were conveyed in a joint House-Senate hearing, November 10, 1987, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 4611; to the Committee on Armed Services.


2786. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting a copy of the Board’s submission to OMB appealing the budget allowance for fiscal year 1988, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. app. 1803(c)(17); jointly, to the Committees on Public Works and Transportation and Energy and Commerce.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mrs. SCHOEDER (for herself, Mr. DYNTALY):
H.R. 3867. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, with respect to appeal rights for members of the excepted service affected by adverse personnel actions and with respect to the Merit Systems Protection Board; to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

By Mr. COLEMAN of Missouri:
H.R. 3868. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish an independent office to supervise the administration of the Student Loan Program; to the Committee on Appropriations, Education and Labor.

By Mr. DAUB:
H.R. 3877. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the restoration of the capital gains preference with the amount of preference determined on the basis of the holding period of the asset sold; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONTZ:
H.R. 3878. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to reduce the default rate under the Guaranteed Student Loan Program to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LEPLAND (for himself, Mr. GERDE, and Mr. ATKINS):
H.R. 3879. A bill to establish the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to authorize the establishment of a demonstration project to provide coupons to recipients of assistance under the special supplemental food program for women, infants, and children for use at farmer’s markets; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MCGAHEY (for himself, Mr. GILMAN, and Mr. McHUGH):
H.R. 3880. A bill to extend the authorization for the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council for an additional 10 years; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

By Ms. SMITH of Nebraska:
H.R. 3881. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt diesel fuel destined for use on a farm for farming purposes from taxation at the wholesale level; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mrs. ROYKEMA):
H.R. 3882. A bill to require that amounts withheld by an employer from an employee’s wages for child support enforcement purposes under the mandatory income-withholding provisions of title IV of the Social Security Act must be turned over to the appropriate State agency or entity (for distribution to the persons entitled thereto) within 90 days after the payment of such wages; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TRAFICANT:
H.R. 3883. A bill to amend the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 to prohibit discrimination against blind individuals in establishing restrictions on seating in aircraft; to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself, Ms. OKAR, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. AKARA, Mr. BARNARD, Mr. BATES, Mr. BORSKI, Mrs. BYRON, Mr. CARIN, Mr. COLEMAN of Texas, Mr. DIXON, Mr. DWYER of New Jersey, Mr. DYMALLY, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FAINTOY, Mr. FAZIO, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. GERDE, Mr. GRAY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KOSTMAYER, Mr. LEHMAN of California, Mr. MCCLOSKEY, Mr. MCILLEN of Maryland, Mr. MURATI, Mr. MUDE, Mrs. MORELLI, Mr. NARRIS, Mr. ROX, Mr. SMITH of Florida, Mr. WOLF, Mr. WEISS, and Mr. WHATK:
H.J. Res. 443. Joint resolution designating May 2-8, 1988, as “Public Service Recognition Week” to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

By Mr. EDWARDS of Oklahoma (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. BARTBOX, Mr. RANKIN):
H.J. Res. 444. Joint resolution relating to Central America pursuant to House Joint Resolution 398 of the 100th Congress; jointly, to the Committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. BONKERS:
In 1982, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

- H.R. 341: Mr. Edwards of Oklahoma, Mr. Gaglarry, Mr. Greens, Mr. Herger, Mr. Schuette, Mr. Swindall, and Mr. Goodling.
- H.R. 792: Mr. McCollum.
- H.R. 1808: Mr. Fish and Mr. Hertel.
- H.R. 1987: Mr. Frenzel.
- H.R. 2473: Mr. Laval.
- H.R. 2666: Mr. Obe and Mr. Torricelli.
- H.R. 3174: Mr. Murtha.

H.R. 3199: Mr. Sumway, Mr. McEwen, and Mr. Hamilton.

H.R. 3588: Mr. Mineta, Mr. Porter, and Mr. Ackerman.

H.R. 3628: Mr. Jeffords, Mr. Yates, Mr. de Lugo, Mr. Young of Alaska, Mr. Jones of Tennessee, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Hughes, Mr. McCloskey, Mr. Hertel, Mr. Kastenmeier, Mr. Bates, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Boehlert, Mr. Bucenl, Mr. Donnelly, Mr. Moody, Ms. Pelosi, Mr. Conyers, Mr. Patt, Mr. Denny Smith, Mr. Kostmayer, and Mr. Bryant.

H.R. 3699: Mr. Weber.

H.R. 3814: Mr. Morris of Connecticut, Mrs. Meyers of Krausa, Mr. Walgren, Mr. Whitaker, Mr. Nolch, Mr. Skelton, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Miller of Ohio, Mr. Ritter, Mr. Volkmer, Mr. Oberstar, and Mr. Upton.

H.R. 3815: Mr. Fish, Mr. Edwards of Oklahoma, and Mr. Miller of Ohio.

H.R. 3846: Mr. Ashby, Mr. Boulet, Mr. Sumway, Mr. Emerson, Mr. Applegate, Mr. Donnelly, Mr. Lagomarsino, Mr. Wyle, Mr. Daub, Mr. Harris, Mr. Visconti, Mr. Pedri, Mr. Baker, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Fent, Mrs. Martin of Illinois, and Mr. Senebrenner.

H.J. Res. 390: Mr. Kastenmeier and Mr. McEwen.

H.J. Res. 399: Mr. Inhoffe, Mr. Hall of Texas, Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Hoyer, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Stark, Mrs. Martin of Illinois, Mr. Jacob, Mr. Conaway, and Mr. Kleczka.