

be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1298, UNITED STATES LEADERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA ACT OF 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time without intervention of any point of order to consider a motion to take the bill, H.R. 1298, from the Speaker's table with the Senate amendment thereto, and to concur in the Senate amendment; that the motion be debatable for 60 minutes equally divided between the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), or their designees; the Senate amendment be considered as read; and the previous question be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

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2003 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON U.S. TRADE AND INVESTMENT POLICY TOWARD SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-74)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATHAM) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, I am providing a report prepared by my Administration entitled "2003 Comprehensive Report on U.S. Trade and Investment Policy for Sub-Saharan Africa and Implementation of the African Growth and Opportunity Act."

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 19, 2003.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431 note), amended by section 681(b) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, fiscal year 2003 (22 U.S.C. 2651 note), and the order of the House of January 8, 2003, the Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a 2-year term ending May 14, 2005:

Ms. Nina Shea, Washington, DC., to succeed herself.

HONORING CAPTAIN TIMOTHY DANIEL AIKEN

(Mr. HAYES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Timothy Daniel Aiken of Charlotte, North Carolina. Captain Aiken is one of North Carolina's and America's finest soldiers. His service and dedication to his country and the Army National Guard have garnered him the prestigious General Douglas McArthur Leadership award. This award is designed to recognize company grade officers who best demonstrate the values of General Douglas McArthur, "duty, honor, and country."

The McArthur Leadership award is given out annually to 24 armed service personnel. Only six of the 24 go to members of the Army National Guard. Captain Aiken was chosen to receive this distinguished honor because of his ability to motivate others, understand fellow soldiers, inspire teamwork, commitment, and esprit de corps.

The criteria determined by the Army to receive this award is rigorous and demanding. Along with the defined selection criteria guidelines, an officer must have intangible aspects of leadership, including people skills, leadership abilities and interpersonal skills. Captain Aiken has committed his life to pursuing these goals for the protection and well-being of the citizens of the United States of America.

Captain Aiken started his career July 31, 1984. He received his commission as a 2nd lieutenant in August and quickly rose to the rank of captain with the 30th Engineer Brigade of Charlotte, North Carolina. He is married to Allison Aiken and is the proud father of two daughters, Lauren and Sarah, and a son, Timothy. During his 18 years of service, Captain Aiken has received 17 U.S. decorations and six State awards. He is currently charged with the overall management of the 30th Engineer Brigade's personnel issues, encompassing six subordinate battalions. His time in service has been exemplary, and he has served as an inspirational role model to many.

I am honored to bring this fine young soldier to the attention of my col-

leagues today. Congratulations to Captain Timothy Aiken receiving the Douglas McArthur Leadership award; and I thank him for the dedicated, selfless service to our country.

CALLING FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO RELEASE TAPE

(Mr. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has had to admit that it used Federal resources, Federal tax dollars last week to track the airplane of a Texas Democratic legislator. For the U.S. agency with the responsibility to protect our families from terrorists instead to use taxes, dollars and our resources to track the former speaker of the Texas House Pete Laney, flying from that hotbed of Islamic radicalism, Hale Center, Texas, to Ardmore, Oklahoma, is absolutely outrageous.

Now that Federal agency is compounding its mistakes, if not its illegal actions, by refusing to release to the American public and press a tape in which the Texas Department of Public Safety talked to the U.S. Homeland Security agency, that conversation leading to the abuse and misuse of Federal tax dollars in this case.

What is the Department of Homeland Security afraid of? What are they hiding? What is on that tape?

It sounds to me, Mr. Speaker, like my years in Washington in the 1970s when then President Nixon refused to let the public see or hear the tape of his White House conversations. We know why President Nixon did not want to release the tape, because it basically was responsible for finding him guilty of abuse of office. My question is, why would the U.S. Department of Homeland Security not release its tape? It owes it to the American people to do so.

PASS PRESIDENT BUSH'S JOBS BILL

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, back home in Georgia we need jobs. We need it for college graduates. We need it for high school graduates. We need it for people who are 35 years old. We need it for people who are 45 years old.

People like Ted Smith. I am going to make up a name, but he was one of the 903 workers who were laid off when the Durango paper mill in St. Mary's, Georgia, closed down. He is looking for work. And that is why it is so important for this body and the other body to pass President Bush's jobs bill.

The jobs bill stimulates the economy by allowing more expensing for small businesses. Small businesses can expand. They can write off more of their