



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2004

No. 127

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KIRK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 8, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK STEVEN KIRK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, You are our hope and our salvation. Your word guides our every step of the way. Your spirit of truth penetrates our very being and becomes the judgment of every word and deed of ours.

Your truth shall set us free, O Lord. Sift through every complexity before us. Wherever You lead us may we find solace and peace. Bring us at last to that place where our hearts will rest in You, forever and ever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GINGREY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five one-minute speech requests per side.

AMERICA SALUTES MR. VANE SCOTT

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

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service of a great American, Mr. Vane Scott. Mr. Scott started his service to our nation in December, 1942. During World War II, he served on the USS *Radford* in the Pacific as an electrician and gyrocompass technician.

After the war, Mr. Scott went to the Art Institute of Pittsburgh on the GI bill; and, in 1968, he started an American flag production company. He retired in January, 1990; and he currently serves as the national president of the Radford Association. In September, 2001, Mr. Scott opened the USS *Radford* National Naval Museum in Newcomerstown, Ohio.

He is married to Mrs. Barbara Scott, his wife of more than 50 years, and has three children, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. On November 3, 2004, Mr. Scott will be inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame for his valor in World War II and for his efforts in telling the stories of America's war heroes.

I also want to commemorate Mr. Scott's relative, Mr. Freeman Davis. Mr. Davis received the Medal of Honor for his valor on November 25, 1863, during the Civil War's Battle of Missionary Ridge.

Mr. Speaker, these two men represent some of the best America has to offer. I want to thank them for their remarkable service, and I want to congratulate Mr. Vane Scott on his induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. America salutes Mr. Vane Scott today.

UNETHICAL REPUBLICAN HOUSE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is now clear that the Republican leadership in the House of Representatives condones the direct linkage of political donations to legislation. It is clear the Republican leadership will not hesitate to use political donations to influence Members of their own caucus who plan to vote against them on legislation.

This weekend, former Republican Congressman Tom Coburn admitted on national television that Republican leaders had essentially offered him a bribe. Coburn said, "I don't believe that is the kind of government we want. That is what we are seeing in Congress now with some of the ethical problems that are there."

Mr. Coburn, I could not agree with you more. Unfortunately, even the Speaker excused such actions yesterday when he said he was "profoundly disappointed" by those who do not think bribes, threats and payoffs are acceptable behavior. An ethical cloud is indeed hanging over this House, and it will not be removed until a Democratic House is installed this November.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H8861

OUR TERRORIST ENEMIES ARE AFOOT

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, as we were grimly reminded in Egypt yesterday, our terrorist enemies are afoot. As we conclude our work on the 9/11 Recommendations Implementation Act today, we do so under a veil of uncertainty abroad and here at home, which makes both the content and tone of our debate on intelligence reform so important.

The 9/11 Commission performed a great public service, and its recommendations were thoughtful. Let us make this point. The 9/11 Commission was not elected by the American people to see to their security, we were. By retaining the independence of our defense and intelligence, while increasing coordination among agencies and adding vital immigration reforms, this Congress is doing just that.

Our enemies wish to do us harm, and the days before elections seem to be especially attractive to them for their treachery. As we debate the 9/11 Recommendations Implementation Act today, let live up to that ancient charge. Let us be strong and courageous and do the work the American people sent us here to do.

FOG OF WAR HAS SET IN

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, in the past 24 hours, AT&T announced it is cutting an additional 7,000 workers, Bank of America is laying off an additional 4,500 employees, and Unisys 1,400, and 18,000 manufacturing jobs last month alone were lost. Less than an hour ago, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced the economy added a paltry 96,000 jobs. Oil prices are above \$50 a barrel. Since 2000, 5 million more Americans have entered the rolls of poverty. Bankruptcies are up more than a third. College and health care costs have each gone up by a third in the last 3 years, yet President Bush says we are making steady progress on the economy.

In Iraq, the numbers of attacks are increasing daily. Nearly 1,100 Americans have been killed and Republican Senators MCCAIN, LUGAR and HAGEL have said Iraq is a mess.

America is stuck in an endless occupation and a jobless economy, yet the word "progress" is how President Bush described the situation. Time after time this administration has tried to bend reality to its ideology. Usually, the fog of war sets in on the battlefield, but it appears the fog of war has set in at the White House.

JOHN KERRY'S HANDOUT TO THE RICH

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, despite what he says, under JOHN KERRY's tax plan, a multi-billionaire could get away without paying 1 penny more in taxes. The problem is Mr. KERRY does not distinguish between wealth and taxable income. Many truly wealthy do not receive a lot of taxable income. They put their money in tax-sheltered investments. If Mr. KERRY were truly serious about taxing the wealth, he would propose eliminating these tax shelters and penalize wealth directly.

Instead, Mr. KERRY would raise taxes on small business owners, ranchers and family farmers. They all work hard, but many are asset rich in land and equipment and cash poor. They are not wealthy. Many borrow money to start or grow businesses and often have high expenses. But if Mr. KERRY gets his way, these hard-working families would see more of their dwindling resources go to Uncle Sam while the truly wealthy get richer. Mr. KERRY's plan might sound good, but it is just a back-door tax hike on working families while giving the truly wealthy a pass.

ETHICAL CLOUD OVER HOUSE GROWS DARKER

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the ethical cloud hanging over the House of Representatives is growing darker. The arrogance of power has brought dishonor on the House of Representatives.

Look at the Medicare bill. It was written by the drug and insurance companies in the White House and in the Oval office. The legislation passed here in the middle of the night. The leadership attempted to bribe one Republican Member from Michigan. There was the threat of firing a bureaucrat in the President's office who tried to be honest with Congress and tried to be honest with the American people.

The result of that corruption is a 17.4 percent premium increase, the largest premium increase in Medicare history. Republican leaders should be ashamed of themselves.

HONORING ANDREW PHILLIPS

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a man whose selfless service keeps the citizens of Georgia's 11th Congressional District safe each and every day.

I recently had the privilege of attending a Public Safety Appreciation

Breakfast to honor Officer Andrew Phillips of the Marietta Police Department with the Award of Merit.

The Award recognizes a public safety employee for an act of bravery involving great personal risk and saved lives. Officer Phillips was nominated for an incident in March, 2004, where he placed his life in jeopardy to protect other officers who had been shot as they were executing a search warrant in Mableton, Georgia. Instead of retreating, he pressed forward and returned the perpetrator's gunfire until the man surrendered.

By putting other's safety above his own, Andrew Phillips exemplified the highest bravery and professionalism in police work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Officer Phillips of Georgia's 11th Congressional District.

ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD CELEBRATES 200TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, it was my honor last week to attend the 200th anniversary of the Arkansas National Guard.

In 1804, Arkansas was part of the District of Louisiana which was attached to the Indiana territory for administrative purposes. On October 1, 1804, the governor and judges of the Indiana Territory met to pass the laws of the newly acquired District of Louisiana. One of those laws established the requirement for the establishment of a militia which stated "all the male inhabitants in the district shall be liable to and perform militia duties." The Arkansas guard has grown from that.

The first use of the Arkansas militia was during the territorial period when one company of the Miller County militia was called out in 1828 to settle a dispute between local settlers and Native Americans. The situation was resolved without the use of force.

Arkansas units have served in every American war from the war with Mexico in 1846 to the current war on terrorism. Currently, over 3,000 members of the Arkansas National Guard are serving in Iraq with the 39th Brigade, and a number of other units, and over 40 percent of the Army Guard in Arkansas is currently employed in Iraq or in the war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are with these troops today as we celebrate the 200 years of service of the Arkansas National Guard.

EXPERTS PROVE HUSSEIN WAS A THREAT

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Charles Duelfer, the chief of