Second, Mr. President, I intend to propose an amendment to the Water Pollution Control Act, directing the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration to set standards for emulsifiers and dispersants. At the same time, it is problematical whether the Water Pollution Control Administration will develop any firm standards. I think we should obviate that, and that information should be made available to State and local authorities so the various States will have a very clear idea as to the most effective measures that they could take in a given kind of situation, and the various State authorities would then be able to be equipped with various kinds of emulsifiers, to assure at least that the problem could be handled expeditiously.

So I intend to offer, in due course, such an amendment to the Water Pollution Control Act.

Mr. President, I certainly hope, in spite of the extraordinary efforts which I know are underway at this very moment by the Corps of Engineers, the Coast Guard, and various other Federal agencies, that we can establish at least some centralized emergency task force—within, perhaps, the Corps of Engineers, an extensive responsibility in this area, on perhaps within the Department of Interior.

This concept is sufficiently flexible so that under it a community or State would be able to make one call to one authority and receive the latest information, the best kind of assistance, and the most expeditious kind of action that could be taken to meet the peculiar fact situation that a community faces, instead of relying upon Members of Congress to do it.

I had the opportunity this afternoon to call the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of the Interior, and various other agency representatives who would be interested in this matter to try to alert them. They acted quickly, but it does seem to me that we could have a group of officials which could fly to the immediate scene of an oil spill, with the latest information and techniques at their fingertips. We have a similar technique for aircraft accidents, and we should have the same for oil spill disasters.

We have learned a great deal in the recent past, and we have a great deal of knowhow and technology in this area. That information should be made available to any of the communities involved.

I am hopeful that the administration and I are sure they will—will give this matter the first priority. We are in desperate need there of this kind of help and assistance. And there is every indication that this help will be available.

I wanted to draw this matter to the attention of the Members of the Senate this evening, because I feel that once again we have suffered a considerable tragedy in our coastal areas. And no matter how much we know or how skilled we are—the oil is spreading, now, over beaches, boats, and wildlife. And much of the damage will be permanent.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Tuesday, September 16, 1969

The House met at 12 o'clock noon. Rev. James H. Weber, St. Joseph Church, Oil City, Pa., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, bless our Nation and keep it faithful to the ideas of freedom, justice, and brotherhood for all which make it great. Lord, You claim that if You are lifted up, You will draw all men to Yourself. Our institutions have demonstrated literally and successfully this principle. Be close to our President and our Congress. Give them vision and courage as they ponder decisions affecting peace and the future of the world. Give all of us the wisdom to listen and to understand and not to judge. Keep us compassionate toward our fellow citizens who are struggling for an identity. Help us Americans humbly to be aware not just of our human limitations and weaknesses but also of our extraordinary potential. Reawaken personal confidence in ourselves as individuals and in our beloved country. Make this great land and all its peoples know clearly Thy will so that we live vigorously, courageously, and uprightly. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares a recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.) the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

JOINT MEETING OF THE TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS TO RECEIVE THE APOLLO 11 ASTRONAUTS

The SPEAKER of the House presided.

At 12 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m., the Doorkeeper (William M. Miller) announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort our distinguished visitors into the Chamber the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. Albert; the gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. Bosco; the gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. Hesser; the gentleman from California, Mr. Miller; the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Johnson; the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. Gerald R. Ford; the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Arens; the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Fult; and the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Mulliken.

The VICE PRESIDENT. On behalf of the Senate the Vice President appoints the following Senators to escort our distinguished astronauts into the Chamber:

Senator Richard Russell, of Georgia; Senator Mike Mansfield, of Montana; Senator Clinton Anderson, of New Mexico; Senator Edward M. Kennedy, of Massachusetts; Senator Robert C. Byrd, of West Virginia; Senator Hugh Scott, of Pennsylvania; Senator Margaret Chase Smith, of Maine; Senator Milton Young, of North Dakota; and Senator Gordon Allott, of Colorado.

The Doorkeeper announced the ambassadors, ministers, and chargés d'affaires of foreign governments.

The ambassadors, ministers, and chargés d'affaires of foreign governments entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them.

The Doorkeeper announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 12 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m., the Doorkeeper announced the Apollo 11 astronauts.

Mr. N. A. Armstrong; Lt. Col. Michael Collins, U.S. Air Force; and Col. Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr., U.S. Air Force, accompanied by the committee of the escort, entered the Chamber and stood at the Clerk's desk.

[Applause. The Members rising.]

The SPEAKER. My distinguished colleagues of the Congress, we are honoring today three men who represent the
best in America and whose coordinated skill, fast-paced daring, and strategic drive have made history. The story of Apollo II is the story of the future, of the birth of a new age of exploration.

The Chair recognizes Mr. Armstrong, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, Members of Congress, distinguished guests, we are greatly honored that you invited us here today. Only now have we comprehended, and are the old and the young, to return. It was here in these Halls that our venture really began. Here the Space Act of 1958 was framed, the chartering document of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. And here in the years that followed the key decisions that permitted the successive steps of Mercury and Gemini and Apollo were prepared.

Young people who have made history throughout the marvels of modern communication have permitted people around the world to share the excitement of our exploration. And, although you have been informed of the results of Apollo II, we are particularly pleased to have this opportunity to complete our work by reporting to you and through you to the American people.

My colleagues share the honor of presenting, first it is my pleasure to present Col. Edwin Aldrin.

Colonel ALDRIN, Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is with a great sense of pride as an American and with a feeling of sadness that I say to you today what no men have been privileged to say before: “We walked on the moon.” But the footprints at Tranquility Base belong to more than the crew of Apollo II. They were put there by hundreds of thousands of people across this country, people in Government, industry, and universities, the teams and crews that preceded and followed throughout the years with Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo.

Those footprints belong to the American people and you, their representatives, who accepted and supported the inevitable challenge of the moon. And, since we came in peace for all mankind those footprints belong also to all people of the world. As the moon shines impartially on all those looking up from our spinning earth, so do we hope the benefits of space exploration will be spread equally with a harmonizing influence to all mankind.

Scientific exploration implies investigating the unknown. The result can never be the whole anticipated. Charles Lindbergh said, “Scientific accomplishment is a path, not an end; a path leading to and disappearing in mystery.”

Our steps in space have been a symbol of the growth of our country, of the growth of our ideas, of the development of our people. We have made major steps in space, and we have continued to make progress.

We looked both ways. We saw both, and I think that is what our Nation must do.

We can ignore neither the wealth of the Indo-European realities of the intermediate needs of our cities, our citizens, nor the endless growth of our country. Our planetary probes from a springboard of poverty, discrimination, or unrest. But neither can we wait until each and every terrestrial problem has been solved. Such work as we are doing will have profound effect westward past the Appalachian Mountains, for assuredly the eastern seaboard was beset by problems of great urgency then, as it is today. Man has always gone where he has been able to go. It is that simple. He will continue pushing back his frontier, no matter how far it may carry him from his homeland.

Someday in the not-too-distant future, we will listen to an earthly step out onto the surface of Mars or some other planet, just as I listened to Neil step out onto the surface of the Moon, I hope he hear him say: “I come from the United States of America.”

Mr. ARMSTRONG, We landed on the Sea of Tranquility, in the cool of the early lunar morning, when the long shadows would add our perception.

The sun was only 10° above the horizon. While the earth turned through nearly a full day during our stay, the sun at Tranquility Base rose barely 1°—a small fraction of the month-long lunar day. There was a peculiar sensation of the duality of time—the swift rush of events that characterizes all our lives—and the ponderous parade which marks the agricultural year.

Both kinds of time were evident—the first by the routine events of the flight, whose planning and execution were detailed on fractions of a second—the latter by the rocks and maps and throughout the history of men—whose 3-billion-year-old secrets made the treasure we sought.

The plaque on the Eagle which summarized our hope bears this message: “Here men from the planet earth first set foot upon the moon July 1969 A.D.

We came in peace for all mankind. Those nine hundred and sixty-nine years had constituted the majority of the age of Pisces, a 12th of the great year. Measured by the thousand generations the precession of the earth’s axis requires to scribe a giant circle in the heavens.

In the next 20 centuries, the age of Aquarius of the great year, the age for which our young people have such high hopes, humanity may begin to understand its most baffling mystery—where we come from?

The earth is, in fact, traveling many thousands of miles per hour in the direction of the constellation Hercules—to some unknown destination in the cosmos. Man must understand his universe in order to understand his destiny.

Mystery however is a very necessary ingredient in our lives. Mystery creates wonder and wonder is the basis for man’s desire to understand. Who knows what mysteries will be solved in our lifetime, and what new riddles will become the challenge of the new generations?

Science has not made prophecy. We are not too much for next year yet far too little for the next 10. Responding to challenge is one of democracy’s great strengths. Our successes in space lead us to hope that this strength will be continued in the solution of many of our planet’s problems. Several weeks ago I enjoyed the warmth of reflection on the true meanings of the spirit of Apollo.

I stood on the highlands of this Nation, near the Continental Divide, introducing to my sons the wonders of nature, and pleasures of looking for deer and for elk.

In their enthusiasm for the view they
frequently stumbled on the rocky trails, but when they looked only to their footing, they did not see the elk. To those of you who have advocated looking higher, owe our sincere gratitude; for you have granted us the opportunity to see some of the grandest views of the Creator.

To those of you who have been our honest critics, we also thank, for your have reminded us that we dare not forget the path we have trod.

We thank you, on behalf of all the men of Apollo, for giving us the privilege of having you in serving—for all mankind.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

(Thereupon, the flags were presented to the Speaker and to the Vice President.)

The SPEAKER. I think we would be remiss on this occasion if we did not give the Congressman a way to any person—to invite them and receive them in joint meeting—and also honor what might be termed the unseen astronauts, the wives of our distinguished friends. I am going to ask the wives of the astronauts to rise: Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Aldrin.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. On behalf of the Members of the Senate, we are very grateful for the presentation of this flag. We marched with great interest the Apollo program proceed and are conscious of the thrust of the need, in the words of the gentleman who spoke here this morning, the primary need being balance and the need to meet the problems of our society wherever they arise.

I can assure you that this moment will not fall into that category but will be keenly appreciated with the dignity that it deserves.

Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER. On behalf of the House of Representatives I want to express our sincere thanks to the members of the Apollo 11 for the thought and for the action in carrying this flag, presented to the House, to the moon and flying it on the moon. These two flags are probably two of the most precious flags, not only of our own country, but of any other country. We extend to you the deep thanks of the Members of the House of Representatives and assure you that every citizen will be taken because this will be forever one of the most treasured possessions of this great Chamber.

(Applause, the Members rising.)


The Doorkeeper escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet.

The ambassadors, ministers, and chargés d'affaires of foreign governments.

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint meeting of both branches of Congress hereby dissolved.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.) the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess until 2:30 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Arrington, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had agreed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 775. Joint resolution to authorize the President to award, in the name of Congress, Congressional Space Medal of Honor to those astronauts whose particular efforts and contributions to the welfare of the Nation and of mankind have been exceptionally meritorious.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING THE RECESS

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the Record.

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

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON RULES TO FILE CERTAIN PRIVILEGED REPORTS

Mr. COLMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules may have until midnight tonight to file certain privileged reports.

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

There was no objection.

THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF ELECTION OF THE HONORABLE SAM RAYBURN AS SPEAKER

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, 29 years ago today, on September 16, 1948, the late Honorable Sam Rayburn was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the first time. This is an important anniversary although some of them might have been overlooked in the rush of business. It is good occasionally to look back and at such times to thank the public for their good fortune in having had the leadership of great and able men during critical periods of our history. Speaker Rayburn's lifetime spanned an era of great transformations, great decisions, great achievements and great ordeals. He served in 25 Congresses, more than a quarter of the total number of Congresses in our Nation's history. He served with eight Presidents, from Woodrow Wilson through John F. Kennedy. As Congressman, leader, and Speaker, his service in this House stands as one of the pinacles of his history. He served as Speaker longer than any other man; no man served better.

Mr. Rayburn once said:

It is a dangerous world we live in, more dangerous to the civilization we know and love than ever people of our time realize.

He understood the dangers and he set a legislative course to guide America safely through the many crises and challenges which occurred in his time. He believed and stated that we would come through "in a fashion that would make us proud."

The judgment of history will confirm and document what we now know—that the principles of liberal democracy which San Rayburn held dear beyond price, were formulated and preserved by his great legislative genius. The programs secured by his leadership benefited the United States and the entire free world.

"Mr. Sam" truly made the world a better and less dangerous place in which to live.

EXTENDING FOR 3 MONTHS AUTHORITY TO LIMIT RATES OF INTEREST OR DIVIDENDS PAYABLE ON TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS AND ACCOUNTS

Mr. PATMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the Senate joint resolution (S.J. Res. 149) to extend for 3 months the authority to limit rates of interest or dividends payable on time and savings deposits and accounts, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate joint resolution.

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

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, to what does this apply? Is this a broad-scale proposition?

Mr. PATMAN. No, it is not. It is to give us a little time. It was unanimously passed by our committee this morning, upon motion made by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Wiidnall).

This joint resolution would extend for 3 months the authority to limit the rates of interest or dividends payable on time and savings deposits and accounts.

This law—Public Law 89–597, of the 89th Congress—expires September 21 of this year, in just a few days. Unless this resolution is agreed to, the authority granted by this act to the various financial regulatory agencies will terminate.

The Committee on Banking and Currency will be considering this legislation in the immediate future, as will our counterpart committee in the Senate.

I trust the resolution will be agreed to.

Mr. GROSS. May I ask the gentleman if this was unanimously agreed to?

Mr. PATMAN. Yes. It was unanimously