

REGARDING THE PASSING OF LDS CHURCH PRESIDENT HOWARD W. HUNTER

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to note the passing of one of this Nation's great citizens and religious leaders. On March 3, 1995, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, on behalf of his family, announced the death of President Howard W. Hunter.

President Hunter, an Idaho native, was named the 14th president of the LDS Church in June of 1994. His message, throughout his service to the LDS Church, was a prayer for compassion and tolerance. In his first statement as president he said, "To the membership of the Church in every country of the world and to people everywhere I extend my love. . . . I pray we might treat each other with more kindness, more courtesy, more humility and patience and forgiveness."

President Hunter was born in Boise, ID, on November 14, 1907, to John William and Nellie Marie Rasmussen Hunter. At an early age, President Hunter showed a quick mind and dedication as he attained the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. In addition, he exhibited a gift for music and learned to play the saxophone, clarinet, violin, and drums. His love of music was so great that he even organized his own orchestra, Hunter's Crooners. The Crooners were a popular fixture in Boise for many years.

President Hunter briefly attended the University of Washington, and later, in 1939, graduated cum laude from Southwestern University Law School with a Juris Doctor degree. He did this studying nights while holding a full-time job.

During his professional career, President Hunter practiced corporate law in Los Angeles where he was eventually named to the boards of 24 corporations. He also served as assistant district commissioner for the Boy Scouts of America for the Metropolitan Los Angeles area, as well as serving his church in a variety of positions ranging from bishop to president of the Pasadena California Stake.

On October 10, 1959, President Hunter was called to serve as a member of his church's Council of the Twelve Apostles. He served as acting president of this quorum from 1985 to 1988, and was president from June 1988 to June 1994.

After 52 years of marriage, President Hunter's first wife, Clara May Jeffs, passed away in 1983. Later, in April 1990, he married his second wife, the former Inis Bernice Egan. President Hunter is survived by his second wife; 2 sons, John J. Hunter of Ojai, CA, and Richard A. Hunter of San Jose, CA; 18 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Mr. President, we are saddened by the death of such a great and talented man. But he will be remembered for his message of compassion and love, and

his example of hard work and success that he exhibited throughout his life.

WAS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? THE VOTERS HAVE SAID YES!

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, before contemplating today's bad news about the Federal debt, let's have our little pop quiz again: How many million dollars are in \$1 trillion? When you arrive at an answer, bear in mind that it was Congress that ran up a debt now exceeding \$4.8 trillion.

To be exact, as of the close of business yesterday, Monday, March 6, the total Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$4,840,905,153,915.08—meaning that every man, woman, and child in America now owes \$18,376.42 computed on a per capita basis.

Mr. President, again to answer the pop quiz question, How many million in a trillion? There are a million million in a trillion; and you can thank the U.S. Congress for the existing Federal debt exceeding \$4.8 trillion.

EASING UNITED STATES SANCTIONS TOWARD CUBA

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, as you know, I have spoken at length in this Chamber about the need to review United States policy toward Cuba. Therefore, I was very pleased to see reported in the Washington Post this morning that President Clinton is considering taking some modest steps toward altering the existing sanctions policy, in favor of more communication and contact between the Cuban and American people.

As I understand it, what is under consideration is the rolling back of last August's sanctions that were imposed during the Cuban migrant crisis—sanctions that have prohibited Cuban-Americans from sending money to family members in Cuba or visiting them, except in cases of dire emergency.

I believe that the President will find that there is a great deal of support for taking these steps within the Cuban-American community—many of whom have been forced to sit back and do nothing to cushion the severe economic hardships they see their loved ones on the island enduring. I would urge the President to move forward with these measures, if for no other reason than on humanitarian grounds.

In addition to rolling back the August sanctions, the President appears to be considering whether to set forth a list of steps that the Cuban Government might take to elicit the calibrated easing of United States sanctions policy. This technique was contemplated a number of years ago when relations with Castro had temporarily thawed, but was overtaken by events before it was ever implemented. It is clearly worth exploring.

After more than 30 years of mistrust, confidence building measures on both sides will be needed in order to lay the groundwork for productive negotia-

tions on issues of mutual concern to both countries. Someone must make the first gesture. I believe that if President Clinton acts affirmatively on the policy changes currently before him, he will be taking that very important first step. I would urge that he do so.

I would ask unanimous consent that an article entitled "Clinton May Ease Sanctions on Cuba" that appeared in the Washington Post on March 7, 1995 be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[The Washington Post, Tuesday, March 7, 1995]

CLINTON MAY EASE SANCTIONS ON CUBA

(By Daniel Williams and Ann Devroy)

President Clinton's foreign policy advisers are recommending he take steps toward easing relations with Cuba by revoking some economic sanctions adopted against the nation in August, administration officials said yesterday.

The proposal, which has not yet been accepted by Clinton, would lift the ban that blocks Cuban exiles from sending cash to relatives on the island and would ease severe limits on travel to Cuba by U.S. citizens.

In addition, the advisers recommend issuing a list of steps that Cuban President Fidel Castro could take to qualify for a "calibrated response" by the United States. That could lead to talks on issues that have separated the two countries for more than 30 years, the officials said.

Any easing of restrictions would put Clinton into a confrontation with Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who has drawn up legislation designed to tighten economic sanctions on Cuba.

Helms, other conservative Republicans, some anti-Castro Democratic legislators and the Cuban exile communities in Florida and New Jersey have long favored tougher treatment of Castro.

Senior foreign policy advisers have prepared a memo for Clinton to make the case that the August sanctions, which formed part of the U.S. effort to persuade Castro to stop the flow of Cuban boat people to America, succeeded and should now be removed.

During the summer, a relaxing of coastal surveillance by Castro ignited a massive exodus of raft people, 30,000 of whom took to the seas for Florida.

The outpouring caused Clinton to reverse longstanding U.S. policy and bar their landing on U.S. soil.

Since 1963, Cubans who arrived on U.S. shores had been all but guaranteed automatic political asylum.

But Clinton feared an immigration crisis at a time of a nationwide political backlash against newcomers.

So most of the Cubans were sent to the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay on Cuba's southeastern tip.

The decision not to admit the Cubans angered many in the Cuban-American community.

So, to mollify them as well as punish Castro, Clinton agreed to tighten the three-decade-old ban on trade with Cuba. The new sanctions included a bar on the sending of cash to relatives by Cuban Americans.

In addition, travel to this island was sharply restricted, as visits by relatives were curtailed and a Treasury Department permit was required for trips by educational researchers and other groups.