INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTION

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about Katherine Nevin Caner, who was taken by her noncustodial father, Mr. Muzaffer Caner, on May 15, 1998.

At the time of the abduction, Katherine was 12 years old and living with her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Paladini. At the age of 6, Katherine had been diagnosed with a cancerous tumor that impairs the parts of the brain that control the involuntary muscles and functions such as heartbeat, breathing, and thought processes. The ailments Katherine is suffering from include brain cancer, pulmonary fibrosis, psychosis, and dementia.

Both Katherine and Mr. Caner, the abductor, are believed to be in Turkey, and an Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution was issued on May 20, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, Katherine's mother has not had contact with her since her abduction 2 years ago. She has no idea if Katherine is receiving the proper medical care or how she is being treated.

This is an issue that affects 10,000 American children and their families. This House should make sure that the most sacred of bonds, that between a parent and a child, is preserved. We must bring our children home.

□

CONTINUED NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest responsibilities our government has to the American people is to protect the national security interests of our great Nation. Unfortunately, over the past year evidence has shown that the Clinton-Gore administration has maintained a lax, even negligent, national security policy with regard to China.

Get this, the administration has now permitted defense contractors and computer companies to hire hundreds of Chinese technicians to work on highly sensitive and classified military-related technologies.

Not only to me, but to the American people and to top officials in the Pentagon, it is obvious why China is sending to the U.S. their most highly educated and motivated professionals. China is continuing its efforts to obtain U.S. military secrets and technology by any means, legal or illegal. This breakdown of American national security is beyond belief and must stop.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the administration's careless disregard for a country's most sensitive and classified technology which continues to jeopardize the U.S. national security every day.

IS THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE SUMMIT REALLY ABOUT AMERICAN DOLLARS?

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, leaders Barak and Arafat and President Clinton have been discussing peace in the Middle East for days. But something does not add up to me. Are they discussing peace, or dollars?

Reports now say that American taxpayers may be asked to cough up more than $40 billion to get this agreement signed. Unbelievable. What started out as a peace agreement has turned into a sort of dial for dollars lottery. What is next, Monty Hall?

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Dollars never have nor ever will result in a lasting peace. I yield back the fact that we already spend $20 billion every year in grants, loans, and aid in the Middle East. Think about that.

□

REPUBLICAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, when the American people talk, Congress listen. Thousands of our Nation's seniors asked for relief from rising prescription drug prices. We worked to create a bipartisan plan that is voluntary, affordable, and available to all. We passed it through the House.

When married couples came to us in droves, shocked by the fact that the Federal government taxes them at a greater rate, we did something about it. The House passed legislation earlier this year, and will pass it again tomorrow, to lessen the impact of the marriage penalty by increasing the standard deduction for married couples, expanding the 15 percent tax bracket for joint filers, and increasing the earned income tax credit.

When small business owners and family farmers from Oregon to North Carolina came to us and asked for relief from the devastating inheritance tax, we began efforts to repeal it.

Mr. Speaker, we are committed to providing relief to the American people.

□

GUN SAFETY

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, every day the Republican leadership wastes not taking action on gun safety, 12 to 13 children die as a result of gun violence. That is 13 children gone forever. This is not a game, this is about our children's lives.

Yesterday a 13-year-old boy fired a gun in a cafeteria at his middle school in Seattle. How many more children's lives need to be jeopardized before this Congress acts?

Our children need safety locks on guns, they need effective background checks, and they need the NRA to loosen its grip on the Republican leadership. They need all of this now; not tomorrow, not next year, now.

With just 2 weeks before the August recess, I urge my Republican colleagues, stop playing politics with our children's lives. Start working on a meaningful gun legislation package. Our children's lives depend on it.

□

''PORKER OF THE WEEK'' AWARD

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the United Nations is at it again. One of the most wasteful organizations in the world acknowledged last week that its 38,000 peacekeeping troops are spreading the AIDS virus. Its solution to the problem is not to restrict them to the base or discipline inappropriate behavior, or something that actually might work. No, their solution is to distribute one free condom per day to each troop, courtesy of the American taxpayer.

The United States contributes 25 percent to the U.N. peacekeeping budget. The money is supposed to be for troops, equipment, and peacekeeping efforts. Yet, the U.N. spends a portion of the money on condoms. Is this part of the U.N. uniform: A helmet, flak jacket, canteen, rifle, and condom?

Give me a break. By my estimate, each condom costs approximately 20 cents. Multiply this by 38,000 troops per day and we are talking about an annual condom fund of $2.7 million. What makes them think that troops engaging in irresponsible behavior are responsible enough to use the condoms? The U.N. peacekeepers are supposed to protect, not infect. The U.N. gets my ''porker of the week'' award.

□

□ 1015

MARRIAGE PENALTY

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are considering another tax cutting scheme aimed at benefiting only the wealthiest Americans and does little to help the working families in my district. The scheme we are looking at now will benefit 5 percent of the wealthiest Americans with 60 percent of the tax cuts.

The Republican plan is fiscally irresponsible that could lead to higher interest rates and force huge deficits or tax increases on our children and our grandchildren.

Everybody wants a tax cut. I would like to see it particularly around April