

NAVY CONCENTRATES ON GENDER NEUTRALITY IN WAKE OF CHINA NUCLEAR THREAT

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. The CIA said China is buying nuclear attack submarines with missiles that experts say can destroy our entire Navy fleet. Knowing this, the Navy has decided to, and I quote, replace all aircraft carrier urinals with gender-neutral water closets, end quote.

Unbelievable. We have a dragon breathing down our necks and the Navy is constipating over urinals. What is next, bidets in powder rooms? How about some ballroom dancing lessons, folks?

Beam me up. I yield back the fact that this gender-neutral business is getting ridiculous.

GILMAN CONDEMNS ONGOING PALESTINIAN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the past 2 weeks, tension in the Middle East has spiraled out of control as PLO Chairman Mr. Arafat attempts to dictate Israeli concessions at the negotiating table through the unbridled use of violence and, most appallingly, through the manipulation of young children as "martyrs in training."

This massive, fundamental violation of the Oslo Accords is intentional, as underscored when the leader of the Tanzim paramilitary forces in the West Bank said yesterday that his organization would escalate the confrontations with Israel and not try to calm the situation. Marwan Barghuti said, and I quote, "This blessed Intifada is looking ahead and mass activity is moving forward."

Mr. Speaker, in today's latest outrage, a Palestinian mob killed two Israeli soldiers and dumped their bloody bodies in the streets after the pair were captured with two other servicemen earlier today in the Palestinian city of Ramallah. That is why I am appalled that the administration abstained during the recent U.N. Security Council condemnation of Israel. The administration must understand, as must the Palestinians, that you cannot have it both ways.

Today, I will be introducing a resolution along with the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON) of the Committee on International Relations condemning the Palestinian violence. I invite our colleagues to join us in co-sponsorship.

OIL PIPELINE SAFETY

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I would urge the House to see the failure of passage of the oil pipeline safety bill the other night, not to be seen as an end of our efforts on oil pipeline safety this year but, rather, I believe we should look at it as a very strong statement by this House that there is a bipartisan sentiment for a strong pipeline safety bill.

We have the ability this year, particularly with the extension of time, to pass a strong pipeline safety bill from this Chamber this year. We hope that that bill would have two elements: One, a very strong inspection criteria to assure Americans that the pipelines they live hundreds of feet from in fact will be inspected, and, number two, an assurance that the Office of Pipeline Safety can have supervisory authority over the training plans by operators.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is time for us to reach across the aisle and across the Chambers to fashion a consensus bipartisan bill. I believe that is possible. I am open to do so. I urge my colleagues to join me in pursuit of that strong bill.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TILLIE FOWLER

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a wonderful friend, Tillie Fowler, who has dedicated a lifetime not only to national public service but to her local community as well.

Before beginning her fulfilling tenure as a Member of Congress, Tillie devoted much of her time to helping those in need. She served as the president of the Junior League of Jacksonville, chaired the Florida Humanities Council, and was active with the American Red Cross, among many other charitable endeavors.

In 1992, Tillie was elected to Congress and immediately began to make her mark as a strong advocate of our national defense. She has worked with great success on behalf of our military personnel around the world. She always sought to ensure that our men and women in uniform were well equipped and prepared when placed in harm's way.

While protecting U.S. national security was her first priority, she also played a vital role in the passage of domestic bills, such as the 6-year Federal transportation bill which will alleviate some of the serious transportation challenges that we in Florida face.

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TILLIE has served her constituents, her State and our country well and with distinction. Her intellect and domain of critical issues, combined with her personal commitment and Southern grace and charm, made her an effi-

cient Member, a leader and a role model for young women everywhere. TILLIE FOWLER will be sorely missed. I ask my colleagues to join me in this tribute to our retiring Member.

U.S.S. "COLE" RAMMED, AT LEAST FOUR KILLED

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

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today in the Arabian Peninsula the U.S.S. *Cole* was rammed by a small boat in an apparent suicide terrorist attack. Our prayers go out to the families of the sailors, especially the families of those sailors who were killed, injured, or are missing.

Mr. Speaker, at this time we do not know who was responsible, and it is important that we not jump to conclusions; but when we find out, those responsible will be held accountable.

Finally, we should congratulate our courageous sailors who responded to this tragedy. Because of their expertise, the damage and casualties were kept to a minimum.

Again, Mr. Speaker, our prayers go out to the sailors and the families.

TENNESSEANS THE MOST CHARITABLE IN THE NATION

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the Christian Science Monitor reported a few days ago that Tennesseans had given more charitable contributions on average than citizens from any other State. This report was based on a generosity index published by the Urban Institute in Washington and came from charitable deductions listed on 1998 tax returns.

Tennesseans gave an average of \$4,572. Mississippi gave the most in proportion to income with an average of \$4,070. The top five most generous States, according to the Urban Institute, were Mississippi, Arkansas, South Dakota, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Tennessee gave the most per person at over \$4,500 each. Rhode Island gave the least per person at \$2,059.

The least generous States, according to the Urban Institute, in proportion to income given to charity were Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Minnesota, and Rhode Island. It seems that the highest taxed, most politically liberal States were the least generous in giving to charitable causes, according to this report from the Urban Institute.

I want to commend my fellow Tennesseans for their generosity in giving to charitable organizations.

WE STILL LIVE IN A DANGEROUS WORLD

(Mr. SISISKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, we have already heard about the tragic accident that happened to the USS Cole. I am sorry the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. FOWLER) is leaving, but I would also like to pay tribute to her, and I do it in the vein that both she and I and many members of the Committee on Armed Services spent a good deal of our time trying to tell people what a dangerous world we live in, and sometimes it is pretty hard to explain to them that we still live in a dangerous world.

I was advised early this morning by the Chief of Naval Operations and by the commander in chief of the Atlantic Fleet, both of them, of what happened as well as they know. The ship is just sitting there. They are trying to repair it as best they can. Four lives were lost. There were 12 missing and 36 were already hospitalized. Certainly our prayers, the prayers of the Members of Congress, go out to the families of the deceased and, of course, the injured.

What is more important is that we always remember that these people are serving us and this Nation and we should always pay tribute to them.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD REVEALS LARGE PROFITS

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, as the appropriation process continues here in Congress, I want to bring attention to Planned Parenthood's 1998/1999 annual report. The report shows the inordinate amount of profits made from their operation. In 13 years, their profits have totaled \$356 million and not once, not once in that time, did they report a loss. In fact, their annual report stated they currently have net assets totaling \$536 million.

This is an increase of \$131 million in just one year. Even dot-com companies would be envious of such profits. These numbers might be wonderful if Planned Parenthood was just a normal business, but the organization claims to be a charity. They are subsidized by the United States Government through grants; and they also want special deals, including reduced rates of advertising in the media.

It is time, Mr. Speaker, that the American public saw Planned Parenthood for what it is, a business intent on making profits at taxpayers' expense.

ATTACK ON THE U.S.S. "COLE"

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

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, as has been reported, the Norfolk-based destroyer *Cole* suffered a terrorist attack earlier today while in the process of re-

fueling at the Port of Aden in Yemen. This cowardly sneak attack has left four brave American sailors dead, 36 injured, and 12 missing. The survivors courageously and successfully sought to save and stabilize their ship.

Once again, we are reminded of the terrible price that some of our military members pay in defense of our country. We extend our profound sympathy and condolences to the families and friends of those honored defenders of our country who suffered in this tragic attack. May God give them the peace, strength, and understanding to sustain their grief and suffering of this terrible loss.

TOP DOLLAR SHOULD NOT BE DEMANDED TO BUILD NEW SCHOOLS

(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, today I rise to urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 4656, which will sell 8.7 acres of land at fair market value for the use as an elementary school in Incline Village, Nevada. This bill which was debated Tuesday night will be voted on today and will give every Member on both sides of the aisle an opportunity to keep their promises to support education and school construction for our children.

The present elementary school there has more than 40 students in each classroom because there is simply nowhere else for them to go. But H.R. 4656 will solve this education problem. The land will be sold, and I say sold, not given away, to the school district for construction of a school to provide over 400 students with a quality education.

Mr. Speaker, this administration is demanding 800 percent, that is more than 8 times, the limited-use value as a school site. This administration's greed is an unconscionable effort to deny these children an education. Obtaining top dollar for the land seems to be more important to them than the education of our children.

I urge everyone to vote for H.R. 4656.

BREAST CANCER

(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, in Marin County, California, just north of the Golden Gate Bridge, the district that I represent, 150 women out of every 100,000 were diagnosed with breast cancer between 1991 and 1996. A 1994 Northern California Cancer Center study showed that Marin County has the highest breast cancer rate in the country. An alarming number of women are dying in Marin and across this country. We need to know why, and we need to make sure that all

women have the care they need to survive this disease.

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act would help protect women and save lives. This bill should not be encumbered by the words that the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) will try to add to the debate this morning or this afternoon. This bill has 270 cosponsors. It should be passed as it was presented.

DEBT REDUCTION

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, 30 days have passed and there still has been no response or commitment from the Clinton-Gore administration to lock away 100 percent of the Social Security and Medicare surpluses and to dedicate at least 90 percent of next year's surplus to paying off the debt.

We now have a real chance to do just that and President Clinton has failed to embrace it. Worse, almost every day the administration introduces a new last-minute spending request, further complicating debt reduction. The truth of the matter is that President Clinton is not part of the spending problem. He is the spending problem. It is time the President recognized that the surplus is not the Government's money; it is the people's money.

Mr. Speaker, we have paid off approximately \$354 billion in debt since taking majority control in Congress. The Republican Congress made tough choices necessary to get our Nation's book on track. The winners are the hard-working American people. Interest rates are low and the economy is booming. With continued discipline, things will only get better.

It is time President Clinton stops playing politics by accusing Republicans of engaging in a spending spree and sign our letter calling on him to dedicate at least 90 percent of next year's surplus to paying off the debt while locking away 100 percent of the Social Security and Medicare surpluses.

HATE CRIMES

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is very important that what we do in this Congress is understandable, and it is important to clarify the information that goes out to the American people. Might I set the record straight on hate crimes, a legislative initiative that is very close to my heart, and one that many of us have worked very hard on. We will leave this Congress without passing a real hate crimes bill because the Republican majority will not allow us to