

Federal Government. That quickly changed after President Bush came to town, and now congressional Republicans are being disingenuous by attempting to sell their Social Security proposal as a way to prevent the trust fund from being raided in the future.

Republicans are simply misrepresenting their proposal. When asked last week how the government would fund the programs now being funded by the Social Security trust fund money, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. MCCREERY), Social Security Subcommittee chairman, said that the cash can still be used the way it is now. In other words, despite their rhetoric, Republicans would continue to raid the Social Security trust fund.

Americans should not be fooled by this latest privatization proposal. If the President and Republicans are serious about saving Social Security, let us pay back what we owe on Social Security now.

TEN COMMANDMENTS

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, above the Speaker's chair in the people's house are boldly written the words "In God we trust." God. We, the House of Representatives, acknowledge God and have for over 200 years.

Why should it be any other way? Our Declaration of Independence states that we are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights. Thomas Jefferson wrote, "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a belief in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

Now, Madam Speaker, the Supreme Court has ruled that we Texans can gaze upon the Ten Commandments at our statehouse, but the people of Kentucky cannot gaze upon them in their courthouses. This is not helpful. The establishment clause of our Constitution was written to ensure that the State respects all religions, not to declare hostility upon each.

We can and must acknowledge God in public life and in a way that equally respects the Muslim, the Jew, the Christian, the Buddhist, and all people of faith. For when we do, God will continue to bless America.

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH ON IRAQ

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, President Bush has a golden opportunity to level with the American people tonight about Iraq. The question is: Will he?

The President stands at a crossroads. His credibility and the integrity of the

entire administration is on the line. The American people have had enough of administration rhetoric. For a sitting Vice President to dismiss reality and proclaim the insurgency in its "last throes" grossly understates the threat to U.S. soldiers in Iraq and seriously undermines any shred of credibility that the administration has left with the American people. They know that U.S. involvement in Iraq is going badly. Republican Senator CHUCK HAGEL summed it up last week when he said, "The White House is completely disconnected with reality . . . The reality is that we are losing in Iraq."

The American people want the President to deliver a straight story and a realistic plan, something he has been unwilling to do up to now. We will see if we hear it tonight.

WE MUST NOT INDEFINITELY SUBSIDIZE TYRANNY

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, today we will debate whether to keep pouring money into Egypt just to subsidize its military expansion. For the last 25 years we poured billions of dollars into Egypt. Each year we give that country about \$1.3 billion just in military aid in addition to economic aid.

But all the money seems to do is reinforce a regime that refuses change and excuses oppression. It oppresses religious minorities, it obstructs democratic reforms, it censors the media. I think that money can be better spent elsewhere.

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Today, I will offer an amendment re-directing some of this military aid to fighting malaria in Africa, a preventable disease that kills as many as 3 million people a year. Poor nations are most at risk, some 40 million in Africa.

While we have a strategic responsibility to support allies, we have a responsibility to help fight disease where we can, and reducing Egypt's military funding will serve as a wake-up call to a country that votes against the United States over 91 percent of the time in the U.N. We will not indefinitely subsidize tyranny.

Congress has the authority to determine what we subsidize. Today we will make that clear.

MISMANAGING NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND THE POLITICS OF IRAQ

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

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, the President had a historic opportunity in 2003. He had the support of the Congress. He had the support of the United Nations. We had inspectors in Iraq. It

was determined that they had no weapons of mass destruction, and yet the President decided to invade.

Just think what would have happened if instead of on that day an invasion began, the President said, Let's keep this international coalition together. Let's move to Iran with the coalition. Let's ensure that they do not have a nuclear weapon.

Now the new President of Iran is stating that the United States and the world will not get in the way of Iran and nuclear weapons. The United States is more in danger, Israel is more in danger, the world is more in danger, because of the bad decision President Bush made on that day in 2003 when he invaded Iraq.

Instead, we are on the brink of a nuclear Iran and North Korea, and we are in a quagmire in Iraq as we referee an insurgency that will breakout into civil war as soon as the United States leaves.

This is a historic mess. The President had a chance for a Nobel Peace Prize. Instead, he is going to go down in history as someone who completely mismanaged nuclear nonproliferation and the politics of Iraq.

TONING DOWN RHETORIC WITH REGARD TO CONFLICT IN IRAQ

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, a year ago today, sovereignty was returned to the country of Iraq and the Coalition Provisional Authority left. But, Madam Speaker, over the past several weeks, the negative press over our progress and polls here at home seem to have undermined a lot of the good activity that has occurred there.

The goal of the attackers, the goal of the insurgents, is to discourage Iraqis from participating in their own government. A second goal, of course, is to weaken our resolve here at home. Ironically, they seem to be failing in the first choice, but succeeding in the second.

Madam Speaker, every time I have traveled to Iraq, I have been struck by the disparity between what I see on my television here at home in the United States and what is actually happening on the ground in Iraq. Our soldiers should not have to look over their shoulders to see if we support them in their mission.

I urge my colleagues in this House on both sides to carefully consider their rhetoric when they use words like "quagmire" and "civil war" in respect to the conflict in Iraq.

THE SITUATION IN IRAQ

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, last year William F. Buckley, Jr., said if he