

they want to do, with no monitoring and being able to spend the money however they want.

I think Americans have been proud of the school lunch program. It has been a program that works, it has been a program that has been efficient, it has had national standards, and we have seen the results through our military recruitment. I would hope this body reconsiders what happens and try to undo some of the damage we have seen by the block grants that are coming forward.

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#### REPORT ON UNITED STATES MILITARY OPERATIONS IN HAITI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, it is day 162 of the occupation of Haiti by United States troops. The costs are about \$850 million, heading to \$1 billion, but every American can feel safe and secure that the Haitian military is not going to invade us.

Congress put itself back into the Haiti policy loop last year, after some of the concerns we had about the way it was being handled by the White House, by requiring reports. I have the report from February 1 submitted by the White House to Congress. The report, a bit self-congratulatory, documents the success of operations in Haiti to date. Indeed, it does that. It is a short report.

What it does not do is document the problems we are facing and the risks we are facing and the costs we are obligating our taxpayers to at all, and that is something that needs to be done.

I read from the report. It says the purpose of our mission down there was to use all necessary means to secure the departure of the coup leaders. Many will remember they have left, and I think we have primarily former President Carter, General Colin Powell, and Senator SAM NUNN to thank for that. Certainly the threat of the force of our U.S. military was part of that. But the fact is, maybe we did not need to send 21,000 of our assault troops to that friendly, neighboring country to accomplish the removal of those coup leaders.

But let us go on to the next point, restoring the legitimate, democratically elected Government of Haiti to power. The administration is claiming great success for that. Well, they have not restored the Government of Haiti to power. They have restored President Aristide to power in his White House, but we no longer have a Parliament in Haiti, which is an essential part of government, and we certainly do not have much of a judiciary system. Any student of the Constitution in this country will understand that a functioning democracy has to have those three branches of government, which they do not have in Haiti.

You also have to say that in Haiti that the Haitians are not the power. The Government of Haiti is certainly not the power. It is the U.S. military that is the power down there now. To say that it has been restored to the Haitian people is a further mistruth, because it is only to select Haitian people.

If you go to Haiti today and say how do you feel about the United States troops, you will get a number of answers, depending on who you talk to. The people who are pro-Aristide will say we are very friendly. The people who are not pro-Aristide, which is about 30 percent of the country or so, will say we think everything the U.S. Government is doing is backing Aristide, and it is very pro-Lavalas, and we are being identified with one man's power, one man's presidency in that country, and that is a dangerous place for our foreign policy to be.

But moving forward from those points, when we talk about whether or not the Haitians can run Haiti yet, it is clear they cannot, and even though we and the United Nations have declared that it is a secure and stable environment, we saw just last week that they had a massacre as soon as our troops left one of the enforcement areas, the police station up in a town called Limbe. Our troops left, the mob went in, grabbed the people out of the station, beat them to death, burned them, and at least had the decency to bury them after that.

That is an isolated incident, I agree. But I suspect as our forces leave, we need to be on guard. To say things are secure and stable may be stretching the point just a little bit the way things are in Haiti today.

That police force is supposed to provide some of the stability. Some observers now are saying they are being politicized, deliberately politicized by President Aristide; he is bypassing passing some of the screening process put in to build a professional police force. This is a serious problem and we need to know a lot more about it.

I think that the report that we are talking about, restarting the Haitian economy, which is very important, signals something very curious for us as American taxpayers. We have about \$1.6 billion pledged for our military support, and another \$1 billion pledged for some type of aid support over the next year or so, I think would be a fair statement, and yet it is all at the top. It is not down at the bottom. We are not getting the money and the expertise down at the working level on the front lines of commerce.

Talking to businessman after businessman after businessman, our program there is misdirected, and that is something we have to refocus very quickly, especially for that kind of money.

We are paying a very heavy price in Haiti as taxpayers, as I said. What are we spending money on? We are buying troops from other countries. We are paying foreign soldiers, paying them at

the rate of about \$1,000 a month to foreign governments, who are taking a handling fee to put their troops into Haiti as part of a joint task force. Our troops down there are being used right now for things like garbage collecting, writing speeding tickets, making traffic flow work, that kind of thing.

In this report, interestingly enough, the White House says we must have to cover a \$2.6 billion shortfall in our defense spending because without it the net effect will be a significant decrease in overall military readiness.

In other words, our military readiness is at threat because our troops are picking up the garbage in Haiti. We need a fuller report from the White House.

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#### SSI EXTENSION TO GUAM AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Guam [Mr. UNDERWOOD] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to correct the fundamental flaw in the Republicans' welfare reform proposal contained in the Contract With America. Their proposal would substantially undermine the public assistance program by sending block grants to the States, limiting the Federal spending, and dropping millions of children and adults from the rolls, thus jeopardizing them to a future of poverty, joblessness, and hopelessness.

The Republican proposal to restructure the welfare system is fraught with provisions to exclude noncitizens from receiving many public assistance programs. For instance, they would be ineligible for Medicaid, SSI, and a variety of food, housing, and health care programs. The denial of these services to low-income children and families is cruel and would only exacerbate their poverty and dim their hopes for a better future.

While there should be strong and vigorous debate on the inclusion of noncitizens, perhaps it is not clearly known that not all U.S. citizens are included in the benefits. Let me repeat this: Not all U.S. citizens are eligible for SSI.

I am concerned about a major omission in the majority's welfare reform bill, which fails to address the need for Supplemental Security Income coverage for the territories. Since the implementation of the SSI Program in 1974, the citizens of the insular areas have been excluded from participating in this program. The Republican bill continues to deny SSI benefits to the U.S. citizens living in these offshore areas. The bill I am introducing today would extend the SSI Program to Guam and the Virgin Islands, and I understand that the extension of SSI to American Samoa and Puerto Rico will be addressed in separate legislation.