

than wishful thinking to fix 200 years of civil strife and gut-wrenching poverty, some of it I am sorry to say caused by the Clinton administration's costly and ill-advised embargo.

It is also obvious that the commitment of 20,000 American troops and more than 1.5 billion American tax dollars, a figure that will pass the \$2 billion mark before this mission ends, have not fixed Haiti's problems at all. Look at a sampling of recent headlines: "Missionary Couple From U.S. Are Shot," "Haitian Slum Residents Sharpening Their Machetes After Deadly Robbery," "Outspoken Aristide Critic Gunned Down in Port-au-Prince," "Violence in Haiti Stops Voter Registration" and the one from today that sums it all up: "To Clinton, Mission Accomplished; To Haitians, Hopes Dashed."

While it is easy enough for the United Nations and the Clinton administration to declare Haiti "safe and secure," it does not make it a reality for people who live there. A marked increase in politically motivated violence has come hand-in-hand with a tidal wave of crime and lawlessness that is threatening to overrun the country. Many of the Haitian and American businesses that managed to stay open, despite the punishing United States-led embargo, are being driven to the brink of closure again by nightly raids on storehouses, regular truck ambushes, and looting at distribution centers. Investors are not being welcomed by the Aristide government or encouraged to return by the deteriorating security situation. In fact, fewer than 10,000 jobs have returned since the embargo ended. Prices are high. Unemployment is at more than 75 percent. People once content to wait for the spoils of Aristide's return are growing increasingly frustrated and prone to crime and violence. This is hardly conducive to establishing a secure and stable environment. Although the Clinton administration has placed tremendous faith in the ability of the interim police force, a force cobbled together from former Fadh members and Guantanamo refugees to provide for law and order as the transition to the United Nations mission is made tomorrow, the truth is that those individuals are not up to the job. They do not command the respect of the Haitian people. Even President Aristide has recently referred to the media as cowardly. They are underresourced.

In Port-au-Prince, for example, 182 of the police share 3 weapons and I do not know if those weapons work. They are afraid to patrol at night, and they are easily intimidated by the vigilante groups that have become a common phenomenon in Haiti. Let me add that when reportedly at the encouragement of President Aristide, armed mobs went out into Haitian cities meting out justice with machetes, rocks, and torches, it has to be clear, even the Clinton White House that something is seriously wrong in Haiti. It is not secure and stable.

Just as disturbing as the lack of security is the lack of progress on elections. There are signs that that process may be seriously flawed and subject to lengthy delays because of increased political violence, lack of public interest and the logistical nightmare of starting from ground zero. Until the elections take place Haiti, has no functioning legislative branch. There is no Congress there. In addition, the judicial branch, weak as it is, has not come back online in Haiti. In other words President Aristide rules without the checks or balances of either the parliament or the judiciary.

Question: How can you have a democracy without a parliament or a judicial branch? Answer: "You can't. It's not a democracy."

I suspect that President Clinton and his advisors will breathe a heavy sign of relief to no longer be in charge of what happens in that small Caribbean nation in the weeks ahead. But the White House and Congress still have a job to do because the policies pursued in Haiti by this Clinton administration have made Haitian Affairs our business. American tax dollars still flow into Haiti at an alarming rate. More importantly, 2,400 of our men and women in uniform will be part of the United Nations mission in Haiti until at least February 1996, although indications are that that deadline may slip even further by the time the new President is supposed to be installed.

Mr. Speaker, all is not well in Haiti, and all the wishful thinking in the world, all the White House spin doctors, are not going to change that. The reality is we have spent an awful lot for a very little, and it is appropriate for full accountability for the events to date. We hope to get that from the White House, and it is also appropriate to have realistic planning to deal with the mess that remains. It is a mess, and we owe them some assistance and recovery.

□ 1445

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. OWENS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

OSHA'S REGULATORY EXCESSES HURT SMALL BUSINESSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. NORWOOD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I bring today a new story from what is now getting to be a very old textbook.

Mr. Speaker, it is a common misconception among people that OSHA's regulatory excesses only hurt big businesses. I have spoken on this floor many times about the pain OSHA has

caused small businesses. However, today, Mr. Speaker, I bring to you the nightmare OSHA has caused a non-profit charity organization.

A good friend of mine, Merle Temple, headed a charity group that worked to produce health care for the disadvantaged. They worked very hard to give the elderly, the shut-ins, and the disabled health care services they so badly needed.

They worked to help get these people to become self-sufficient, particularly in their own homes. They set up a food bank to try to get food to people who needed help toward the end of the month. Merle's group did the types of things, Mr. Speaker, we should champion in this Nation.

As is the case with many non-profit organizations, Merle's group was heavily dependent upon contributions to make ends meet, and they were barely scraping by. In an effort to keep their costs low, they ran their services out of a basically run-down office. They did not spend money on extravagant office furniture and machines. That would have taken away money from those people who really needed the help.

Soon after moving into their low-rent office, Merle discovered that the attic had a problem with squirrels. Again, always thinking about cost, Mr. Temple chose to take care of the squirrels himself. He could have spent money on an exterminator, but that would have taken money away from the needy.

However, this turned out to be a very large mistake. In trying to get rid of the squirrels, he put mothballs in the attic. The mothballs ran off the squirrels but it attracted the skunks.

Someone complained to the local OSHA office about the smell of these mothballs, and in a sweep, the OSHA storm troopers rushed in. OSHA fined a non-profit organization, an organization dedicated to bringing health care to the needy, \$700, \$700.

Merle appealed the fine, and the sweethearts over at OSHA relented. They reduced the fine to a mere \$350. They could not possibly let Merle's group off the hook completely. After all, they didn't have the standard OSHA workplace poster; \$350 for a poster from a non-profit group trying to take care and help people. Mr. Speaker, that \$350 would have stocked their food bank for a month.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, my friend Merle paid the \$350 out of his pocket, but OSHA really did not care where they got the money from, only that they got the money.

To those of you on the other side who complained long and loud about Republicans taking food from people, to those of you who think that Government is always the answer, I would suggest that you take a look at how Government regulation can take food from the needy right now.

Mr. Speaker, OSHA just doesn't hurt big business. OSHA just doesn't hurt