

the fact that there were many in the leadership who knew very clearly what the positions of Justice Thomas were, yet they supported him because he was an African-American.

The danger in the African-American community now, the danger with respect to the leadership at this critical time is that we are going to again be taken in by the fact that the old standard of the black bourgeoisie is allowed to predominate. Anybody who is educated, any, African American who achieves becomes a person we look up to, becomes a person we will not criticize. The standards within the African-American community for leadership, the standards get diluted.

You do not have to clearly stand for policies, public policies, which are in the interests of the masses of African-American people. People who back away from those standards can still serve as leaders. They can enjoy the status of leaders. They can pronounce themselves as leaders and get away with it.

It is important that at this critical moment we understand that many people who made the error of supporting Justice Thomas because he was an African American are the kind of people we must avoid in the future, the kind of people who have to come to grips with what are the basic policy provisions that should be set forth in the African-American community at a critical time like now.

Can we have people voting for B-2 bombers which may cost \$31 billion over a 7-year period and at the same time they are cutting Medicaid, at the same time they are cutting school lunches and at the same time draconian measures in the area of housing? The rescissions bill that was passed today cuts low-income housing by \$7 billion. Can we have leaders who fail to understand that those are the public policies that impact on the greatest number of African-American people? And they have a duty to fight to see to it that those policies which are detrimental to our people do not go forward.

Can we understand that there must be an evaluation of leadership so that we do not have an elected bourgeoisie carrying out their own private personal agenda while they ignore the public agenda of the African-American community?

This decision by the Supreme Court and all the other things that have happened in the last few months are a warning. If we do not understand that there is a state of emergency now, we will never understand that. The Clarence Thomases have clearly proclaimed where they stand. There are some Members of the Congress, some black Members, who clearly proclaim they do not want to be part of the Black Caucus. They do not want to represent black interests.

I admire people who clearly say where they stand. On the other hand,

the Benedict Arnolds we must worry about.

I want to close with a statement that I sent out to all of the African-American leadership. It is kind of a convoluted, indirect statement because during the time when Justice Clarence Thomas was under consideration for the appointment, even after the congressional Black Caucus was taking a position opposed to his appointment even after the NAACP had taken a position, even after the leading civil rights organizations had taken a position, there were leaders who came forward and said because he is black, we should not oppose him.

One of those leaders wrote an article in the New York Times, and it particularly struck me at that time as being devastating to our position. One of those leaders in the cultural field wrote a very piercing op-ed piece for the New York Times where she said, "I know that he is guilty of not running the EEOC in accordance with the law. I know he has trampled on our interests on many occasions. I know this, I know that. All of this is true, but, still, he should be given a chance." And I have that ringing in my ears every time a Supreme Court decision comes down, "Still, he should be given a chance. He will change."

That was Maya Angelous, a poet I respect a great deal, a poet that has become more famous since her famous poem was recited at the presidential inauguration. I think Maya Angelous and the other leaders who supported Clarence Thomas now need to go talk to Clarence Thomas. They need to also let the rest of the African-American community understand the implications of what is happening.

So I have written a little statement here, Maya Angelous, I am addressing it to:

#### GO TALK TO CLARENCE THOMAS

Maya talk to Clarence please  
He's knocking us down to our knees  
Clarence is talking real loud  
Running with the wrong crowd  
Dangerous opinions he always writes  
Hurling our people toward long poison nights  
Maya talk to Clarence please  
In the name of Black ancestors who drowned  
in the seas  
Talk to Clarence  
End his heathen roam  
Haul him to his heritage home  
Maya you recognized his record of public sin  
You promised that Clarence would be born  
again  
The miracle of Hugo Black and Earl Warren  
would be repeated  
Maya you promised ideological addiction  
would be defeated  
Maya time to make your move a sacred  
point you still have to prove  
Maya talk to Clarence please!

I would say that to all the other leaders who supported Justice Clarence Thomas. I would say that to all the other leaders who support compromise and are ready to forget about the interests of the thousands of African Americans out there who are suffering because public policies are being perpet-

uated, public policies are being perpetuated which will hurt them directly.

The rescission bill, with all of its cuts of low-income housing, would hurt African Americans directly. The B-2 bomber, being taken as a priority over Medicaid, over free lunches, will hurt African-Americans directly.

It is time we all understood that there is a state of emergency in the African-American community. The African-American leaders will have to rise to the occasion and lead in the interests of all African-Americans.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today, on account of personal reasons.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. ENGEL) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH, for 5 minutes, today.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 483. An act to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 to permit medicare select policies to be offered in all States.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 962. An act to extend authorities under the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994 until August 15, 1995.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.