

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### ADDRESSING AMERICA'S GROWING TRADE DEFICIT

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today we had the latest in a round of disastrous statistics relating to the United States trade policy. We ran a record 1-month trade deficit for May. We ran a near record with Mexico, over \$1.5 billion. We are headed toward a \$20 billion trade deficit with Mexico; \$3.5 billion with that great bastion of democracy and capitalism, the People's Republic of China, a known terrorist nation, oppressing its own people, putting United States citizens in jail, dealing in nuclear weapons, and yet they still have most-favored-nation status.

What is the response of the new Republican majority, the Republican revolution, those who were going to bring change to Washington, DC? Do they defy the established order, the order that has been imposed in Washington, DC, by Wall Street and the multinational corporations? Are they calling for a change in this disastrous trade policy?

We are headed toward a \$170 billion trade deficit this year. If we use our own Commerce Department's statistics, that would mean over 3 million American manufacturing, family-wage jobs will be exported from this country due to unfair foreign trade practices.

True, the Clinton White House, Mickey Kantor, our Special Trade Representative, are complicit in this, also. In fact, they did something probably George Bush could not have done had he been reelected, that is, getting both NAFTA and GATT through the House of Representatives and signed into law.

So we have complicity at the top on both sides, a complicity of silence.

So much of the campaign contributions flow from the corporations that are doing so well, and so few of the campaign contributions flow from the workers and the communities that are being devastated by this trade policy, this export of technology, this export of jobs. It is time to admit that American trade policy is a failure. How can anybody look at a string of annual growing deficits in trade, every billion dollars meaning 20,000 lost jobs here in the United States of America and say this policy is successful?

There is only one major power in the world we run a trade surplus with, and that is Great Britain, because they are crazier about following the edicts of an economist that has been dead more than 200 years, Adam Smith, than we are. They have opened more of their markets and their country to unfair trading practices than even the United States of America has done.

Every other one of our major industry trading partners and our not-so-major trading partners, like Mexico, have figured it out. That is, that you should have a trade policy that creates wealth in your country, you should have a trade policy that raises wages in your country, you should have a trade policy that creates jobs in your country, you should have a trade policy set up so that you do not run annual account deficits to the tune of \$160 billion which puts your currency at risk in the world markets.

All of our trading partners have figured that out. The Japanese laugh at the things we do, the so-called concessions that the Clinton administration got on auto parts. Spark plugs still cost \$8 in Japan, and the same spark plug produced in the United States of America still costs \$1, and you cannot get that \$1 spark plug into Japan or into a Japanese engine because they say theirs are different.

They are not any different. What is different is they are protecting their industry, they are protecting their jobs, and we have done nothing to open those markets. The statistics we got today point to the further failure of that policy.

It is time to begin thinking about a new trade policy for this country. I am urging my colleagues to look at and hopefully sign a letter which I am writing to the President, the Speaker of the House, the majority leader of the Senate and the minority leaders on both sides asking that we name a bipartisan commission to review and investigate our trade policy and formulate a policy that make sense as we guide this country into the next century.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot go on forever piling \$160 billion trade deficit on \$160 billion trade deficit any more than we can go on piling \$200 billion national deficit on deficit year in and year out. You have got to get your trade in balance the same way you have got to get

your Federal budget in balance. It is time for a change. I urge Members to join me in this effort.

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

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

#### GOP POSTER

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of a body that was created to allow for differences of opinion and stands for the kind of bipartisan debate and discussion that provides for true representation of all Americans.

It is with great sadness and considerable regret that I learned that my Republican colleagues believe that, in this great House, there is room only for their political opinions and their lock-step ideology—an ideology that smacks of racism, antisemitism, and sexism.

And, as evident by the latest GOP fundraising tactic—a liberals "Wanted" poster—this is an ideology that provokes violence and the worst possible kind of hatred.

The Republican Party clearly knows no bounds when it eagerly targets lawmakers like myself and likens us to outlaws and criminals.

How shameful, that in the age of terrorism that has already struck in Oklahoma City and has made a virtual fortress out of the Nation's Capitol, the Republicans have made my picture into a virtual bull's eye that dares any right wing extremist to take aim and to shoot.

I will not allow a bounty to be placed on my head or on the heads of other black, Jewish, hispanic, or female Members of Congress. Those of us whose faces are plastered on the GOP's Wanted poster speak for thousands of Americans who have sent us to these hallowed halls so that their voices will be heard.

And even a gimmick as dirty and as sinister as this poster will not silence our voices.

We will continue to speak out loudly and clearly as the members of the loyal opposition who dare to take issue with Republican cuts in medicare; with Republican proposals to do away with student aid; and with a Republican agenda that seeks to disenfranchise all but the handful of rich fat cats that fill the Republican coffers.

It is with bitter irony that, after spending much of my lifetime as a target of the FBI, the Chicago police department, and others, my face appears

on a Wanted poster only after becoming a Member of Congress. And the individuals who put me there are my own colleagues.

I and the American people have seen these Republican scare and divide tactics before. I well remember the days of Watergate and Richard Nixon's enemies list. Now it looks like NEWT GINGRICH and the Republican Party has their own hit list too.

Those of us who are targets of this cheap shot are ready to fight back.

But, ours will be a fair fight.

One that is based on the issues that the American citizens who sent us here care about.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD an editorial from the Buffalo News, as follows:

[From the Buffalo News, July 16, 1995]

NASTY POLITICS FROM PAXON—POSTER TARGETS MINORITIES BUT DEMEANS GOP

The National Republican campaign machine, with a crude "wanted" poster, has identified itself with racial politics again. This time it's a Western New Yorker, Rep. Bill Paxon, coming up with a gimmick that puts an ethnic face on ideas that should be debated on their own merits.

The disproportionate loading of the now-infamous poster with the faces of African-American, Jewish and female members of Congress is hard to read as inadvertent.

The poster says "liberal Democrats" who voted against at least seven out of 10 provisions of the Contract With America are its target. But the pictures below show a group that others might have chosen as demonstrating a positive picture of the diversity of this country—a diversity that is still all too poorly represented in the ranks of Congress.

By Paxon's own statement, more than 170 Democrats "failed the Contract With America test." Yet, of the 28 members pictured, 10 are black and eight are Jewish. Nine also are female.

Those numbers in no way reflect the makeup of the Democratic caucus or Democratic opposition to the contract's regressive, counterproductive provisions.

The poster was released as part of a fund-raising letter by the National Republican Congressional Committee. As head of the committee, Paxon must take full responsibility for its divisive tenor. The Republicans should have learned their lesson after the infamous Willie Horton campaign in 1988 linked the Democratic Party to minorities in a way calculated to frighten white voters. But here, the pattern seems to be repeated.

Paxon, who represents a carefully gerrymandered safe Republican district stretching from Amherst east to Auburn, has little to lose personally no matter what campaign tactics he becomes identified with. But the nation loses when politics sinks to a level that panders to ethnic fears.

The selection of pictures says to the white male voters who increasingly make up the Republican base that the GOP's enemies are the people who don't look like them.

That, in turn, is likely to appeal to the anger many on the economic margin already feel over declining economic opportunities that Republicans want to blame on blacks and women trying to penetrate the job markets.

The incident doesn't say much for Paxon's confidence in the Republican platform or the party's ideology. The Republicans should learn to rely on the power of their ideas to win voters' support.

Paxon and the other party honchos are defending their poster. Instead, they should be acknowledging it as a mistake and backing away from what it implies as fast as they can move.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak out on something which never should have seen the light of day in our political process—a new low in tactics to raise money to win elections.

As part of a recent fund raising drive, the National Republican Congressional Committee has issued a special "wanted" poster. This poster features pictures of 28 Democrats who it claims to be targeting for defeat because they voted against the Contract With America 70 percent of the time.

Ninety Democrats have similar voting records, yet the Republican wanted poster consists almost entirely of people who are seldom associated with Republican fund raising lists—African-Americans, women, Jewish-Americans, and Hispanics. In fact, only 6 of the 28 targeted Democrats are white men who are not Jewish.

Despite Republican protests to the contrary, this wanted poster is less about raising money than it is about raising the ugly specter of racism, sexism, and antisemitism.

It's all about appealing to the most base elements of human nature. It's all about degrading the opposition with thinly veiled personal attacks. It's all about manipulating the political forces of division and hate.

This wanted poster illustrates how far the party of Lincoln has fallen.

Today's Republican Party has been captured by the forces of extremism and intolerance. Moderate Republican voices are being drowned out by a chorus of right-wing ideologues who are far outside the mainstream of American thinking.

This wanted poster sends several messages.

It says that while Pat Buchanan and David Duke may have failed in their efforts to win national public office, they have won the hearts and minds of the national Republican Party.

It says that Republicans would rather run with Willie Horton than run on the issues.

It says that Republicans are less concerned about controlling illegal immigration than they are about whipping up fear over Hispanics increasing their presence in our communities.

It says that women who stand up for the right to choose should sit down and be silent.

It says that the gay-baiting and bashing openly practiced by Republican leaders in the House and Senate is a deliberate policy, not a slip of the tongue.

Finally, it says that Republicans are willing to inflame the anti-Government sentiment which contributed to the Oklahoma City tragedy instead of reminding people that public service is a noble calling.

The Republican wanted poster demonstrates a dark side of the majority party and their politics. These below-the-belt tactics have no place in this Nation and its body politic.

I think the Republican Party needs a new wanted poster, and here's what it should say: "Wanted—Tolerance. Civility. Moderation. Inclusion. If found, please apply to the Republican National Congressional Committee for reward."

Mr. Speaker, bigotry belongs in the trash bin of American history, not in the envelopes of Republican fund raising letters.

It's time for those who instigated this effort to recognize their mistake and apologize to the people who they attacked and withdraw this shameful effort.

It's time for them to pledge to the American people that it will never happen again.

And it's time for them to heed the words of President George Washington who wrote that our Government should be one which " \* \* \* gives bigotry no sanction; to persecution no assistance."

#### AUDIT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. Speaker, on the opening day of this Congress, January 4, there were a number of needed reforms that were passed in this institution. One was an audit of the House of Representatives. In looking back on that period of time, we were talking then about, well, when was the last time that the institution of the House of Representatives, the People's House, had been audited?

We looked back and we looked back and we looked back and found out it had never been audited before ever in the history of the institution. It is about time, and that audit was released today. A number of us as freshmen Members coming into this body had asked for and pushed for reforms of Congress, that the Congress itself had grown imperial and aloof.

One of those things that it had failed to have done was audit itself. It asked for that of all sorts of other institutions, both public and private, but not of itself.

□ 1945

Mr. Speaker, the closet doors were thrown open today with the audit coming forth, and it revealed many problems of the House of Representatives and skeletons in the closet, such as the recordkeeping was so shoddy and haphazard that our auditor would not suggest any definite conclusion on the reliability of the financial statements. Oversight was so flexible as to be nonexistent. It was anything goes for some Members in the past.

Mr. Speaker, computing services in the House were woefully inadequate for modern security needs, and accounting practices were, in effect, run on an inappropriate cash basis instead of an accrual accounting basis to account for debts and earnings.

Congress must not operate in the dark. A regular, independent audit coupled with the other reforms of the institution will keep this place honest, and we will begin to rebuild the people's faith in this body.

As much as I am disgusted by the results of the audit, I am proud to have carried the bill authorizing the audit to this floor in January. It was a good way to begin the year. The House audit is the first and only comprehensive and