

Where is the Combined Federal Campaign, he asked?

He called the Finance Office. The Finance Office said, "Don't look at us."

He called the Chief Administrative Officer's Office. The CAO's Office said, "Don't look at us."

He even called the CAO's new one-call service. He called again the next day. He called again yesterday. Nothing to report.

Is it just administrative incompetence by the CAO?

I wish the answer was that easy.

But a few more calls have unearthed the discovery, and the answer my employee finally received is not a good one.

All fingers point to the Speaker.

This is the same Speaker who told us all about Boys Town and the benefits of non-government solutions to our problems.

Well, Mr. Speaker, if you'd check with the Combined Federal Campaign, you'd discover that Father Flanagan's Boys Home is one of the worthy organizations that is going wanting while you procrastinate.

What's the hold-up?

Is it incompetence, inefficiency, or neglect when every other agency of Government has completed their Combined Federal Campaign, and the House has yet to begin? It's a fair question.

Maybe it's because we're so busy this year.

But even the U.S. Senate has found time to conduct their Combined Federal Campaign—it concluded on November 15.

Maybe just maybe, we're facing one more unfathomable facet of the radical conservative agenda. Are there left wing groups benefiting? Is this just one more part of the Istook effort to cut off your enemies?

Only the Speaker can tell us for sure.

In the meantime, people in need supported by the Combined Federal Campaign's many charitable organizations may go without.

And generous House employees wait to see when the Speaker will catch the spirit of Christmas and let the Combined Federal Campaign go forward as it has for many years in every Federal agency.

REMEMBERING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDONESIAN INVASION OF EAST TIMOR AND CONDEMNING THE HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN EAST TIMOR

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of several anniversaries. As Americans we cannot forget that 54 years ago today our nation was invaded and attacked and lives were lost at Pearl Harbor. Today we remember those who lost their lives and honor those who bravely served in our Armed Forces and defended our borders.

Today is also the anniversary of another invasion. Twenty years ago today the nation of Indonesia invaded the territory of East Timor and 1 year later forcibly annexed it. Within a matter of hours and days after the invasion entire families were wiped out. And since December 7, 1975, over 200,000 Timorese have been killed—one-third of the entire population.

What has happened in East Timor over the last 20 years has been sarcastically called by John Pilger, an Australian journalist, "one of the world's great secrets." Indonesia severely restricts access to East Timor, making it difficult to monitor abuses, while human rights organizations and activists are subject to harassment and threats from the government. Still, well-respected organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch/Asia have been able to report on the continuing human rights problems in East Timor.

In addition to the thousands killed over the last 20 years, the Indonesian Government has unleashed a reign of terror over the East Timorese which includes detaining political prisoners, torture and rape, and disappearances. According to Roman Catholic Bishop Ximenes Belo, an outspoken defender of human rights in East Timor and a Nobel Peace Prize nominee, "There is always fear. We lack freedom to speak, to walk where we want, to have different opinions. If people talk, they know they will be interrogated. They will be tortured."

Because of Bishop Belo's strong defense of human rights, the Jakarta Government is actively seeking his replacement as leader of East Timor's Roman Catholic Church. The government's attempt to control the church is an attempt to control even the spiritual life of the East Timorese people. In addition to the campaign against Bishop Belo, Amnesty International reports that church officials are subject to surveillance, including the tapping of phones and interception of letters. Members of the clergy also face harassment and intimidation by security forces and Indonesian troops.

In October of this year young people, unable to tolerate the suppression any longer, protested against the Indonesian Government. The response of the military was swift and violent. Over 200 people were injured by gunfire, while 150 others who were attending a meeting at a convent were arrested and detained. Many of those who were detained were reported to have been tortured with electric prods or beaten while in custody.

Mr. Speaker, the territory of East Timor has been held in captivity for 20 years by the Indonesian Government and there are few indications that the reign of terror will soon end. On this day, when we remember that our own nation was once invaded by another nation, we must not forget the people of East Timor who have not known freedom and peace since the Indonesian invasion on December 7, 1975. And unlike the attack on Pearl Harbor where we were able to overcome the invaders, the invaders of East Timor have yet to be defeated. We can only imagine what life must be like, denied the right of self-determination and other basic human rights. But the words of one man who has spent the last 20 years of his life under the Indonesian dictatorship might help us understand: "We the people in East Timor call it the biggest prison island in the world. You must understand that. For us who live here it's hell."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, due to the illness of my mother-in-law, I was unable

to vote on December 6. I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 290 waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill H.R. 1058 to reform Federal securities litigation, "yes" on final passage of the conference report on H.R. 1058 and "no" on the motion to recommit the conference report on H.R. 2067, the Commerce, State, Justice and the Judiciary appropriations bill.

U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE EMPLOYEES PROTECTION ACT OF 1995, H.R. 2737

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on October 31, 1995, the House International Relations Committee held full committee hearings on the matter of the U.S. efforts at international narcotics control.

We were pleased among the witnesses that day to hear from the DEA and the U.S. Customs Service. Both these fine agencies are engaged in the difficult and often unappreciated battle to prevent these deadly drugs from ever entering our Nation and infecting our cities and schools, where they soon destroy the lives of so many of our young people, and many others.

During the hearing, we examined our efforts along the Southwest border to prevent drugs from entering the United States from Mexico. We also discussed the phenomena of the drug trafficking port runners, who our border control people now face frequently along our vast border with Mexico.

These port runners are individuals who load up cars or vans with large quantities of drugs, then await the chance to race illegally across the border at high and very dangerous speeds past the U.S. Customs Service checkpoints; sometimes even heading across the U.S. border going against oncoming traffic in the southbound lanes.

Needless to say, there is real danger and the potential for serious tragedy from these madmen willing to risk the lives of innocent people, including our Customs Service inspectors, and other Federal officials, who they seek to avoid detection by in their dangerous dash across the Mexican-United States border, loaded with illegal drugs headed for the streets of America.

During the hearing, we learned of the case a few years ago of an individual driving a 1976 Dodge van from Mexico loaded with drugs intended for entry at El Paso, TX. A U.S. Customs Service inspector working with an Agriculture inspector in the primary inspection lane attempted to stop the fleeing driver when suspicions arose about the illicit cargo he was carrying.

In the ensuing struggle, the Customs inspector held on to the passenger side of the vehicle in an attempt to stop the van. The Customs inspector was then thrown from the vehicle about 300 yards from the primary lane, suffered massive head injuries, and died 1 day later at a local hospital.

One more victim of the deadly drug trade was claimed that day, and this Customs Service inspector, and so many others, like the five DEA agents killed in a plane crash in the