

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GINGREY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET DOES LITTLE TO CLOSE ACHIEVEMENT GAP IN EDUCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, President Bush recently announced his opposition to the affirmative action plan used by the University of Michigan in admissions. It is troubling that the academic achievements of white students and African American students at Michigan are markedly different, but it is troubling for a reason that President Bush apparently did not consider. It is troubling that almost a half century after the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* there remain such disparities in the academic achievements of white students and African American students.

Mr. Speaker, the public schools are where we deliver on the promise of equality of opportunity. The public schools must deliver on that promise to white children; to black children; to children whose parents do not speak English in their homes; to the children of parents who care passionately about their children, who read to them every night, who join the PTA and volunteer at their children's schools; to the children of parents who are themselves children and are as little prepared to be parents as their parents were before them.

Just days after President Bush announced his opposition to the University of Michigan's affirmative action plan, he announced his proposed budget. We see from that budget what he would do to close the achievement gap so that universities can achieve a diversity in population without affirmative action plans like Michigan's. Mr. Speaker, he would do very little.

The very programs that are most effective in closing the achievement gap and delivering on the promise of equality of opportunity for every child are hardest hit. The proposed budget cuts No Child Left Behind by \$9 billion. The act gives a nod to the promise of equality of opportunity, but the budget breaks that promise.

The budget cuts after-school programs by more than 40 percent, teacher training by almost \$200 million. It cuts

individualized instruction in math and reading for disadvantaged children. President Bush's budget guts Head Start, our effort to reach disadvantaged children who now arrive for kindergarten so far behind they can never catch up.

□ 1330

I sat in a first grade class in my State and had one child after another read out loud to me. Some children read effortlessly in a sing-song voice because the material lacked such challenge. Other children read laboriously, sounding out every word, getting every third or fourth word wrong.

When those children apply for college 13 years later, I fear there will be the same differences in their academic achievement, and we will still need affirmative action plans like Michigan to achieve diverse populations in our colleges.

Mr. Speaker, it is not acceptable to me that our children's chances in life depend so greatly on the circumstances into which they were born. President Bush's budget shows that he is not bothered by that.

SECURING AMERICAN BORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I brought forward to the House a picture and a little story about an individual who died on the border last August. His name was Chris Eggle. Mr. Eggle was an employee of the United States Government acting in the capacity of a park ranger down in the Oregon Pipes National Park in Arizona. He was killed in the line of duty by people who had come across the board after being involved in some sort of drug altercation where three others were killed in Mexico.

The point of my presentation yesterday was to explain to the Members of this body that we have, in fact, a war zone on our southern border, and to a certain extent, on the northern border.

Today, unfortunately, I have the sad occasion to bring to Members' attention another young man named Jorge Salomon Martinez. Mr. Martinez was brutally murdered in Mexico just a short time ago. He was a Border Patrol agent working for the United States. Mr. Francisco Javier Rosas Molina, who is 18 years old, is in custody, and the Mexican authorities continue to search for others that they say have probably fled across the border into the United States.

Mr. Martinez had apparently met Mr. Rosas Molina earlier in the week near the border town of Naco. They began to party together and converse, and Salomon had originally identified himself to the group as a member of the Border Patrol, as employed by the Border Patrol. Then they met some other

people and Rosas Molina evidently told the other members of the group that Mr. Martinez was indeed a Border Patrol agent, and what happened next is described as the following.

He said that is when Rosas Molina identified him to the others as a Border Patrol agent, and that appears to be the reason that they killed him. Martinez was beaten and his head bashed in with rocks. His Ford pickup was stolen along with other belongings, including a gold chain and a medallion. A passerby discovered the body early Wednesday and notified Mexican police. Later police received a tip about the slaying and robbery of a U.S. Border Patrol agent. The caller led agents to Rosas Molina, who had the agent's truck and medallion. Rosas Molina has admitted involvement in the slaying.

The purpose of the slaying, as it appears from the evidence gathered, is because Mr. Martinez was a Border Patrol agent. He is not the first Border Patrol agent to be killed in the line of duty on the border, he is not the first Border Patrol agent to be accosted. It happens all too frequently. It is because our borders are war zones. We were are in the process of debating whether or not, and the President is in the process of determining whether or not to send Americans off to fight a war in the Middle East. Without discussing the merits of that particular decision, I will tell Members there is a war going on on our borders. People are being killed on our borders. Troops are needed on our borders.

Our homeland needs to be defended. These people need to be defended. They need to be trained, and they need to be protected. We have to make a decision as a Nation as to whether or not we want borders or not. If we choose not to enforce our borders, we should move away from them and let people come into this country at their will. We should stop this process of sending a few people down to our border, put them into harm's way, and then refuse to actually secure the border.

Mr. Martinez, before him Mr. Eggle, and others, are examples of this kind of policy, this policy that puts people at risk without really having a desire on the part of this Nation to defend those borders or to protect our people on those borders.

Mr. Speaker, our hearts go out to the family of Mr. Martinez. Our prayers go out to that family. I hope that we will not forget his face or his story.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. BIGGERT addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WINNING WITHOUT WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) is recognized for 5 minutes.