Florida, Mr. Jay Kislak. A Florida resident for over half a century, Jay is known to be one of the State's leading citizens, with an outstanding record of charitable projects and personal achievements.

Jay's involvement in our community has included leadership roles in organizations like the Florida Council of 100, the Florida Historical Society, the Historical Association of Southern Florida, Mortgage Bankers Association of America, the University of Miami, the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, Miami Dade's Arts in Public Places Trust, Mount Sinai Medical Center, and the American Red Cross, among so many others.

Jay's participation in our community is only matched by his involvement in the preservation of Florida's dynamic history. Over the years, and together with his wife Jean, Jay has collected countless rare books, maps, and art that capture the history and the culture of Florida, focusing especially on the early years of European exploration.

Jay's collection is certainly one of the most comprehensive in the Nation. In 2004, Jay made an extraordinary gift to our country. He donated more than 3,000 of these rare books, manuscripts, and other objects to our Library of Congress. Known as ''Exploring the Early Americas'', this collection is now on display in the library's historic Thomas Jefferson building right across the street from us.

□ 1715

This gift is one of the most significant gifts ever received by the Library of Congress.

To give a sense of the extent of this collection, let me just name a few of the major pieces:

A vast collection of Mayan cultural and religious works and carvings.

The first printed nautical map of the entire world, the Carta Marina from the year 1516.

A 1524 map on which Florida is first named.

Original documents signed by the famed explorers Cortes, Pizarro, and Las Casas.

From 1598, the first atlas to include Florida.

The journal of Cabeza de Vaca in which he narrates his wanderings across Florida and the Southeast after his shipwreck off the coast of the present-day St. Petersburg.

Also, the 1589 hand-colored engraving by Baptista Boazio of St. Augustine, Florida, the earliest engraving of any locality in the U.S.

Also, one of George Washington's personal journals from his time spent at Mount Vernon.

And letters from John Quincy Adams and James Monroe pertaining to the purchase of Florida and to the foreign policy of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, these are just some of the major items that are in Jay's impressive collection.

In support of this collection, the library now hosts an ongoing lecture series, program of exhibitions, research, and public education programs named after Jay Kislak. And this week the Jay Kislak Foundation held one of its annual lectures right here in Washington at the Library. The event included historian Jonathan Spence, one of the foremost experts on modern China and the Sterling Professor of History, Emeritus, at Yale University.

Jay's philanthropy continues to astound in its breadth and its scope. Through Jay's substantial contribution, countless generations will be able to view a window into our past as Americans and as Floridians.

Jay, thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do on behalf of our Nation and our home community. Thanks from a grateful Nation.

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

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

AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I join with several of my colleagues today as an original cosponsor in the introduction of H.R. 5015, legislation that would require the President to submit to Congress a plan and a timeline for the safe, orderly, and expeditious deployment of United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan, including military and security-related contractors.

This legislation would also implement greater oversight and planning measures to reduce our reliance on contractors in Afghanistan and to curb waste, fraud, and abuse in contracting practices which continues to breed corruption at the expense of the Afghan people.

I would like to thank Representatives MCGOVERN, JONES, and Senator FEINGOLD for their leadership and for their hard work and collaboration on this very vital legislation.

Also, I would like to commend Congresswoman WOOLSEY for her stand and her work for global peace and security. Tonight I understand is her 350th time coming to this floor sounding the alarm against these wars, and I would just like to congratulate her for her steadfastness. She actually introduced the very first resolution calling for the redeployment of our young men and women out of Iraq.

It has been nearly a decade now since I voted against the authorization for the use of force, and this was on September 14, 2001. This was an authorization, mind you, that I knew then was a blank check to wage war anytime, anywhere, and for any length. That was a resolution that really authorized wars without end. H.R. 5015 provides the President and the Congress the opportunity now to change the trajectory of United States foreign policy from one of open-ended military conflict towards a strategy which counters terrorism and extremism around the globe in a sustainable and more effective manner.

I continue to believe United States economic and national security as well as our values are undermined by a military first strategy that many of us fear may lead us down a path of unending war in Afghanistan.

In September, 2009, General McCrystal stated very clearly, ''If the people are against us, we cannot be successful. If the people view us as occupiers and the enemy, we can't be successful.''

Top military officials and experts agree that winning the hearts and minds of the Afghan people should be the focal point of the United States mission in Afghanistan. Yet I remain convinced that this will not be accomplished at the barrel of a gun. With every death, with each increase in troop deployment, and with every additional military contractor airlifted into Afghanistan, we provide a rallying point for al Qaeda, whose propaganda depends on the perception that America's aim is foreign occupation.

It is our stated policy, and President Obama has said this many times, the United States does not seek a permanent military presence in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, or elsewhere. We have already sent more than $1 trillion to the Pentagon for the ongoing wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the administration has yet to provide an estimate for the long-term costs of the United States military operations in Afghanistan.

It has been estimated that roughly one-third, mind you, one-third of every tax dollar paid by the American people in 2009 went to the Pentagon and military related expenditures. The fact is we cannot even begin to talk about reducing the budget deficit without talking about reducing our military spending, and this legislation sets us down that path by ending a policy of open-ended war in Afghanistan that has ultimately made America less safe.

I have been clear in my conviction that the situation in Afghanistan will not be resolved with a military solution, and I think many agree with that. That's why last October I introduced H.R. 3699, which would prohibit any funding for increasing troop levels in Afghanistan beyond current levels.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee and as Congress considers the President's $33 billion supplemental funding request for operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, I will be working to ensure that Congress is provided an opportunity to go on record regarding this grim prospect, mind you, of continued military escalation. Rather than increasing our

military footprint in Afghanistan, setting a timeline for the redeployment of our troops and military contractors is the single greatest step we can take to empower the Afghan people and their government while stripping al Qaeda of our indefinite foreign military presence used to justify the insurgency and the acts of international terrorism.

So I hope we pass this legislation. It puts us on the right path to getting out of Afghanistan and to ensuring our national security.

SPENDING SINCE TARP

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I was in my office today, Mr. Speaker, and I was watching the Joint Economic Committee. And one of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle was talking about how one of his companies had 300 employees that were in entry level positions and they were getting minimum wage and the employer was telling him how they were going to have to lay a lot of them off because of the inability of them to get loans and for other reasons.

The reason I came down to talk about this is because there is no question that if we have a tight money policy that it's going to affect small businesses. In addition to that, when we load additional regulations and costs onto small businesses, it's going to cause them problems and they are going to have to lay people off.

I was reading in the paper this week the new health care bill is going to cost AT&T $1 billion. They are going to have to take that out of their bottom line. It's going to cost the John Deere & Company $150 million; Caterpillar, $100 million; Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, $90 million; AK Steel, $31 million; Valero Energy, $20 million. All of these companies are going to pay for that, and they are either going to have to take it out of their profits or they are going to have to take it out of the hides of their employees by letting some of them go or they will have to send some of their operations offshore.

As long as we have more government and more government programs, it's going to cost jobs. Because somebody has to pay for those. The money doesn't come out of the sky. So if an employer gets a regulation that costs him money, if an employer is taxed and it's going to cost him money, then he has to find someplace to get that money in order to have a bottom-line profit, unless you believe the government should run everything and we should have socialism in this country or a socialized economy. And some people think that's where we are headed, and I think that is very unfortunate.

But let's just take a look at some of the things that the administration has done since they have taken office that have been a burden to small business and has cost us jobs.

Incidentally, I would just like to say that all the great programs and plans that the Obama administration had was supposed to keep unemployment below 8 percent, and it's still around 9½ to 10 percent and there is no indication it is going to go down.

But, anyhow, the Economic Stabilization Act, which part of it was this year and part of it was last year, in 2008, so we can't blame all of that on Obama, but the TARP bailout was $700 billion.

And then in January we had $73.3 billion in the State Children's Health Insurance reauthorization, a worthy program, but it costs a lot of money.

The stimulus bill was $1.16 trillion when you add in the interest, money we don't have.

In February, we had the omnibus spending bill, which was $625 billion when you add in interest.

In June, $105.9 billion in the supplemental.

Last year we had the consolidated appropriations mini omnibus bill of $3.55 trillion, again money we don't have.

And then in March of this year, we had the health care bill, which was estimated to cost, if you talk about 10 years of taxes and 10 years of coverage, about $3 trillion or $2.5 to $3 trillion.

You load all this on the back of small business, and there's no way that you can continue to keep everybody employed. You're going to tax them.

Mr. WAXMAN, the chairman of the Commerce Committee, is bringing before his committee the CEOs of AT&T, Deere & Company, Caterpillar, because he says they really shouldn't be telling people these things because these aren't accurate figures. Well, they are accurate figures: the $1 billion it is going to cost AT&T, the $150 million it is going to cost John Deere & Company, the $100 million it is going to cost Caterpillar, and on and on. They have to report that by law, and because they have reported it, Mr. WAXMAN wants them to come before the committee to try to make them look like they are blowing these figures up. The fact of the matter is business and industry in this country is suffering and because of that we're going to see more unemployment.

Now, you add to that by the end of this year the tax cuts that were put in by the previous administration are going to expire, and the President has said he's going to let them expire, which means those tax cuts are not going to be there. So that again will, in effect, be a tax increase. And then you add to that Mr. Volker, as I said in my previous 1 minute, is talking about a value-added tax of about 15 to 20 percent. That's going to be a terrible thing for the economy and for jobs.

So I would like to say to my colleagues, if you want to create jobs, cut taxes and cut spending. That's the answer. And cut government regulation.

FOR THE 350TH TIME . . . BRING OUR TROOPS HOME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on April 20, 2004, I rose in this Chamber to say that we needed a new approach to national security. To say for the very first time before any other Member of Congress was brave enough to say it that it was time to bring our troops home from Iraq.

□ 1730

I have continued to speak out almost every night that the House is in session, but I never imagined that almost 6 years later I would be here to talk about Iraq and about Afghanistan for the 350th time. But that's what I'm doing today, and it's because our service men and women are still in harm's way in both Iraq and Afghanistan on missions that violate core American values and undermine American security.

We have come a long way in building a movement across this country that opposes these military conflicts, but still our leaders stubbornly cling to a disastrous policy.

What we're doing in Iraq and Afghanistan is disgraceful. It is a stain on our Nation. It will someday be remembered as a shameful episode in American history.

Seven years ago, Mr. Speaker, in fact it was 7 years ago this week, Baghdad fell. Remember? That was the moment when Iraqis were supposed to throw flowers and weep with gratitude that we had invaded their country.

But how did Iraqis recognize the sixth anniversary of their so-called liberation? With massive, colorful protests against the continued presence of American troops; protests that brought Shia and Sunni together; protests organized around the very idea that national unity against the U.S. occupation is stronger than Iraqi sectarian divides that are centuries old; protests that included the trampling of American flags; protests, in one case at least, that featured the burning in effigy of President Obama and Vice President BIDEN.

Meanwhile, one of the big developments out of Afghanistan this week is the death of several civilian bus passengers at the hands of American gunfire near Kandahar. This tragedy comes at the very moment and in the very region where U.S. forces are prepared to launch a major offensive. The push to defeat militants in Kandahar will require strong support from the civilian population, but instead, this incident has people taking to the streets shouting ''Death to America'' and ''Death to Infidels.''

Seven years in Iraq, 8½ years in Afghanistan, and we still haven't figured out that we can't win people's affection, loyalty, and trust by waging war on their country. To truly capture