[Mr. HORN 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 Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

□ 1330

COMMAND SOCIETY VERSUS FREE SOCIETY

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

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, it is safe to say that we now live in what we call a command society, we do not live in a free society where social and economic problems are solved through voluntary and free market solution. Whether it is food for the poor, homes for the homeless, medical care for the sick, we endlessly call on the Government to use force to redistribute wealth and distribute our production of welfare, with total disregard for the conditions required to produce the wealth.

In this misdirected humanitarianism, great harm is done to the very people who are supposed to be helped, both the recipients, as they are forced into a degrading dependency, and the working poor, who bear the greatest tax and inflation burden. In a command society, the Government continuously says, do this, do that, and we obediently do it. But smoldering anger and resentment results, confusion arises, because all the Government does is supposed to be good and helpful.

We are endlessly forced to get licenses for all that we do. Rules and regulations are all around us, from morning till night, cradle to grave. We tax life, we tax death, we tax success, and we tax savings. We suffer from double and triple taxation. Taxes are everywhere, as we work half the time for our Government.

We meet Government regulations and rules and paperwork everywhere we go. We cannot walk, talk, pray, or own a gun without a Government permit. We cannot drive a car without bells and buzzers and horns and belts and bags, without being reminded that Big Brother is watching, just waiting for one misstep, while the rapists and murderers go unpunished. We are intimidated by political correctness to the point that an innocent joke is a crime and the laws are a joke.

Our businesses are subject to invasion at will by Government bureaucracy without warning, pretending to save us from ourselves, while destroying our freedoms. As the bureaucracy thrives, the command society expands.

I see no evidence, sadly, of a reversal of this trend. We continue to tinker with the bureaucracy through disbursement and talk of great benefits of block grants and local controls and never talk of the philosophic or moral principles that permit the command society; that is, the concession that the arbitrary use of force to mold personal behavior in the market in our entire society is permissible.

Without change in our philosophic approach to government, we will find all the adjustments and revamping of the command society will not and cannot succeed. It cannot change the course upon which this Nation is set.

Placing confidence in pseudo-reform does great harm by postponing the day we seriously consider the moral principles upon which a free society is built. I am anxiously waiting for that day.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I enter into the RECORD this recent commentary by one of America's leading television newsmen, Hugh Downs. During his May 10, 1997, radio program ''Perspective,'' this commentary was broadcast, making many of the same points I have made today.

BATF'S IN THE BELFRY

(By Hugh Downs)

Not too long ago, the California State Legislature passed a law permitting women to breast feed their children in public. Legislators felt obliged to pass a law about this despite the fact that courts have already upheld the practice. Also breast feeding has long been recommended to women by their physicians as the feeding method of choice. And quite aside from the legal precedent and the medical advantage, breast feeding is the natural way to feed infants; obviously women are equipped to serve sustenance to their offspring this way and it is the safest way to nourish an infant. So why would we need a law to state the obvious?

A law permitting public breast feeding is part of a tradition of inane legal redundancies generated by America's criminal justice empire. I say empire because legislators, by nature, think they possess, like Roman Caesars, the imperium, as if the laws they pass somehow wield supreme power over the universe. For example, in the past, legislators in Arkansas prohibited the river in Little Rock to swell any higher than the bridge. That's right, the river, by law, was ''commanded'' not to flood. Wasn't that wonderful? This inane and redundant bit of arrogance reminds me of Canute, the ancient Danish King of England. Canute put his throne on the beach and commanded the sea to retreat. You will not be surprised to hear that the sea dragged Canute, throne and all, to a watery embarrassment. Legislators, from Canute to Congress, can imagine themselves as imperium, because the power to create law seems as if it should include the laws of nature, or the laws of the universe, or let's be honest about it, the laws of the Almighty.

I've also heard that, in the past, legislators once passed a law that forbade chickens to lay eggs before 8 o'clock in the morning and no later than 4 o'clock in the afternoon. I'm told this law is, or at least was, on the books in Norfolk, Virginia. Legislators commanded chickens, under penalty of law, only to lay eggs between the daylight hours of 8 and 4. (If you're looking for ''bird brains'' here, you could have trouble figuring out which species had more of them.) I wonder what the penalty was for laying eggs after 4 o'clock? Maybe criminal chickens were threatened with being ''cooped up.''

To be fair, a lot of stupid laws are just old laws that may have seemed liked a good idea at the time but now seem quaint. When automobiles first appeared around the turn of the century, legislators rushed laws to regulate them. Since early automobiles made enough noise to spook a horse, several states passed laws that required runners to precede automobiles so that horse riders and buggy drivers could be forewarned of the approaching menace. I can only imagine what modern Interstate highways would look like if such laws were enforced today. I heard that in Pennsylvania somewhere, there is still a law requiring motorists to pull over at the sight of a team of horses and cover the vehicle with a cloth that has been painted to match the local foliage. I looked in my trunk the other day and noticed that I don't carry a camouflage cover. I hope I never need one in Pennsylvania.

Many old laws seem dumb and dumber today, and are innocently amusing. Who cares if it's against the law in Grand Haven, Michigan to toss an abandoned hoop skirt in the street? It may have happened in the 1860's but it'll never happen today because women don't wear hoop skirts anymore. In addition to antiquated laws, some laws can be ludicrous prohibitions that deal with situations that are patently obvious. Is it really true that someone passed a law in Alabama prohibiting motorists from operating a motor vehicle while blind folded? What was in their beverages? And what about that Florida law prohibiting sex with a porcupine? I'm not kidding. This is supposed to be a real law. What were these lawmakers thinking? At least sex with a porcupine must be one crime with a very low rate of recidivism.

Obviously, hubris can propel legislators well beyond the asinine to the really dangerous. America's burgeoning criminal justice empire doesn't just churn out useless laws, it also creates unnecessary law enforcement agencies—whole police forces that we don't need. We don't need them because we already have local police departments. The DEA, or Drug Enforcement Agency is anything but local. The DEA performs a job that used to be done by the War Department during World War II. The DEA sends American GI's into foreign countries and wages war. Prosecution of a drug war sounds like a policy hatched by Dumb and Dumber. Without a war there would be no need for the DEA, or its staggering budget.

Of course, the DEA does not police alcohol and tobacco. We have a completely separate police force (the Dumber half of this duo) just to deal with cigarettes and liquor. The BATF, or Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, is what you might call an ''offbeat'' police force. The name itself is off the wall?

You might wonder why we need a completely separate organization to police things that are all legal, especially when local police already do that. Local police have been doing it for centuries in America. But lawmakers, anxious to serve in the drug war, decided that extra federal agencies were needed too. We may have too many laws and too many agencies. After the catastrophes at Waco and Ruby Ridge, the BATF came under Congressional scrutiny as an unnecessary organization that sometimes over-steps its bounds.

When they're not being investigated by Congress, the BATF is tracking down dangerous criminals and keeping America safe. For example, America was recently threatened by a naked angel—that's right a naked angel—and the BATF fought valiantly to repel her. They lost. Kermit Lynch, a wine merchant in northern California, reports that he tried to import some Chianti wine

that had a naked angel on the label. The BATF pounced. Agents told Lynch that pictures of naked ladies on containers of alcohol are forbidden. So Kermit Lynch looked up the law. He discovered that pictures of women in the all together are permissible on containers of alcohol if the pictures are art. The BATF had to backtrack when Mr. Lynch demonstrated that the picture wasn't really a naked woman, it was really an artistic nude from a 13th century tapestry.

A stunned Kermit Lynch says ''The BATF is in the business of judging art. Can you believe it?'' In an interview, Mr. Lynch told reporter Paul Kilduff that the Kenwood winery in Sonoma County, California hired artist David Goines to do a label. When Mr. Goines came up with a naked woman standing in a vineyard, the BATF pounced again. So, a now angry Mr. Goines submitted a new label with the skeleton of a woman standing in a vineyard. You guessed it. The BATF approved that one.

How many useless laws and useless police agencies do we really need? Surely, we should throw out what we don't need and keep what we do. Like the law that I'm told exists in Tennessee, that prohibits shooting game animals from moving vehicles. The law has one exception: whales. It's legal to shoot whales in Tennessee from a moving vehicle. Now there's a law that we need.

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

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

TERMINATE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH TERRORIST NATIONS

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

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I have grown up believing, being taught by my parents, in the idea of an America built on unwavering values, rock-solid principles that have been built into this culture based on thousands of years of other people's experience, where freedom is valued more than finance, and where human rights mean more than market share.

It was Thomas Jefferson talking about freedom who said that he would stand before the altar of almighty God pledging to battle those who would try to place tyrannical restrictions over the mind of man. And of course, we have heard de Toqueville say America is great because America is good. And when America ceases to be good, it will then cease to be great.

So I believe our goal is to carry on the proud tradition of Washington and Jefferson, the proud tradition of Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Lincoln, who understood the importance of freedom, the idea of American freedom, and who understood that America needed to be, as Ronald Reagan said, quoting Saint Matthew, that America had to be like a bright light shining on the hill for all the world to see.

That is why this next week, as we start talking about foreign ops, that I hope we will start asking some very tough questions about what is happening in Sudan. I think anybody that studies human rights across the globe, whether they are conservative or liberal, or whether they are Democrats or Republicans, really need to be shocked at what has been going on in Sudan since 1989.

According to United Nations human rights reports, we hear of 7-year-old children being crucified, being killed, we hear of villages being destroyed simply based on people's religious views. And what is America's response to what many call the most tyrannical country in the world? It is actually to allow American businesses to go over and do business with this horrible terrorist state, this state that continues to sponsor terrorism across the globe.

When Occidental wanted to go and do business with this terrorist state, they were not permitted to do so because of the antiterrorist legislation that passed this House and was signed by the previous administration. And yet, all Occidental had to do was go to the administration and ask for a waiver and they received it immediately and began doing business with Sudan, again, this country that exports terrorism across the globe that has been responsible for the deaths of Americans and again is responsible for the most heinous crimes against their own people.

That is why I am going to be introducing an amendment next week dealing with Sudan, and the first thing it will do is terminate diplomatic relations with Sudan and require the closure of all diplomatic and consular offices of Sudan and the United States unless the President determines and certifies to the Congress that Sudan is no longer sponsoring or supporting terrorism. That is something that this administration simply cannot do. Americans have already had to flee Sudan in fear. I think it is time that we get Sudan off of our shores until they stop sponsoring state terrorism.

In fact, we had Jimmy Carter, former President, go over and try to negotiate a peace with Sudan. He has been doing it for years. He was given permission to fly to south Sudan to talk to a village; and before he got there, the Sudanese Government bombed that village and Mr. Carter had to flee Sudan.

I think we also need to stop financial transactions with terrorists. And unfortunately, this is not just limited to Sudan. It seems like our foreign policy has been for sale for too long now and we have been dealing with violators of human rights for far too long.

Again, America is about freedom, it is not about simply financial gain. That is why I believe we have to stop financial transactions with terrorists, and we would once again make sure that no exception under the section with respect to Sudan that would allow American businesses to do business with Sudan, that no exception would be granted by this administration or by this Congress unless the President again certifies to Congress that Sudan is no longer sponsoring or supporting terrorism at home or across the globe.

Again, when you have a country that so persecutes its own people by crucifying 7-year-old children, by having committed a terror campaign against its own people, and then exporting terrorism across the globe and to the United States of America, it is time to stand up and say enough is enough, we value freedom over financial gain, and we will do whatever it takes to support human rights across the global.

TRIBUTE TO HAZEL SECHLER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. MYRICK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, another part of the genteel soul of America died last Saturday night in the small North Carolina town of Weldon, just off I–95, a town where everyone knows everyone else, where just a short time ago evening strolls ended with neighbors chatting on spacious front porches, where everyone was responsible for everyone else. That is the way it was.

Hazel Sechler was virtually blind, 88 years old, and she lived alone and had for over half a century since her only husband met an untimely death. She threw herself into her church work and into her townspeople's needs, including those of my husband Ed, totally into his life for all of his life. She was truly one of the family.

Hazel Sechler was a genteel woman, no cross words for anyone, and she possessed an awesome positive attitude. Hats and gloves did not separate her from the town wino or other misfortunate. She was truly a lady.

Saturday night, someone cut her telephone line while she was talking on the phone to a neighbor. He forced himself inside her house, raped her, and slashed her throat. A genteel part of America died Saturday night; and in a national sense, virtually no one noticed. Yet, Hazel Sechler, the infirm, blind old lady of Weldon, NC, left perhaps enough in those she touched to rekindle the love of God in other places.

RAISING TAXES IS THE BUSINESS OF THE LEGISLATURE, NOT JUDICIARY

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

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, this week I had the opportunity to testify before a subcommittee of the House Committee on the Judiciary on the issue of judicial taxation. Rockford, IL, is a city of about 150,000 people. It is at the top of the State in more ways than one. It is my home. It is where I grew up. I lived there for a number of years