

The increased payment by retirees would not be substantial. An average Social Security recipient would be \$10.60 ahead each month after collecting the Social Security cost-of-living increase and having the higher Medicare premium withheld.

But Clinton said it was preferable to furlough hundreds of thousands of federal employees Tuesday, suspending a wide variety of services for the public. He made it sound as though he did that to preserve hospital care for the elderly, or to avoid driving them into bankruptcy. He said he cast the veto because he refused to "destroy" Medicare.

Such talk is highly misleading. It frightens people unnecessarily. It tarnishes public debate by creating anger and suspicion that are unwarranted by the facts. President Clinton is known to have advisers who want him to project a more centrist, more reasonable image in the hope of winning moderate support in the next election. If he is ever to succeed at that, he must first learn to keep his Medicare demagoguery under control.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great patriot, statesman, warrior, peacemaker, and national leader.

Yitzhak Rabin was all of these things and more. He was a brave, tough, dedicated man who served his country faithfully for almost 50 years. He was a reserved public figure and a loving family man. He was a brilliant soldier who could plan successful military campaigns—and, paradoxically, he was also a visionary who could see the need for a peace agreement between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Yitzhak Rabin began his service to his country before Israel even existed. He fought with the Haganah under British in Palestine during World War II. He fought in the Israel war of independence in 1948. He rose to the ranks of the Israeli Army and helped to build the military machine that won the Six-Day War in 1967. He served as Israel's Ambassador to the United States and as Israel's Defense Minister. Finally, he has been honored twice with the country's most important office—Yitzhak Rabin served as Prime Minister of Israel twice—nearly 20 years apart. In his first term as Prime Minister, he helped to negotiate the disengagement of Israeli and Egyptian forces in the Sinai Desert, paving the way for the Camp David accords. In his second term in office he embraced a bold plan to make peace with the Palestinians. This action cost him his life.

This gifted man—a man of great complexity and courage—was gunned down Saturday by one of his own countrymen, whose actions deprived Israel of the services of a wise, decisive

leader at a critical time in the Middle East peace process.

All Americans share the grief of the Israeli people as the attempt to come to grips with the aftermath of this revolting murder. Our country, too, has seen important national leaders like Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King murdered by assassins just at the time when we needed their guidance and wisdom most. The assassination of other great Americans—John and Robert Kennedy being the most prominent—have undermined our faith in human nature and destroyed our sense of security and unity. Inevitably, political assassinations strike at the heart and foundation of civilized nations—particularly nations with democratic governments. Assassination is the antithesis of democratic government, which is predicated upon the peaceful resolution of conflicts between competing beliefs and interests.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the Israeli people as they mourn this tragic loss. It is my fervent hope that this tragic loss will not derail the ongoing peace process, but that the successful conclusion of negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians will be a lasting and most fitting tribute to the memory of this great man.

