

He said that his standards did not condemn the entire industry. Nearly half the 385 H.M.O.'s he now rates are in the A or B categories, with another 32 percent in the C rating group.

THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, the Balanced Budget Act of 1995 could be the best holiday gift that we ever give our children and grandchildren. This legislation could be the first step in paying off the ever-mounting debts we have accumulated for future generations. And this legislation could be the catalyst for new and better paying jobs for America's workers and for students who will be entering the job market.

But this legislation can be none of these things until the President joins us in our commitment to a true balanced budget.

The Nation's job-creating businesses are alarmed that the President has not joined the Congress in bringing fiscal discipline to the Federal establishment. Last week, Dr. Richard Leshner, President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, wrote to President Clinton to express his views on the veto of the Balanced Budget Act.

I believe that Dr. Leshner has raised important points in his letter to the President, and I would like to share it with my colleagues. Dr. Leshner's letter follows:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, December 6, 1995.

The PRESIDENT,
*The White House,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: On behalf of the world's largest business federation, representing 215,000 businesses, 3,000 state and local chambers of commerce, 1,200 trade and professional associations, and 75 American Chambers of Commerce abroad, I am writing to express our extreme disappointment over your vetoing H.R. 2491, the "Balanced Budget Act of 1995."

This historic legislation was the culmination of Herculean efforts by Members of Congress and the American people to bring about real fiscal discipline at the Federal level. It reflected a delicate balance between streamlining the Federal government, providing economic stimulus through tax relief to America's families and businesses, and ensuring that necessary government services remain strong and directed to America's truly needy.

Large and small businesses alike embraced H.R. 2491 as a means of improving the nation's economic climate and job creation. Eliminating our nation's annual deficits will lead to lower interest rates, increased savings and investment, greater productivity, additional and better paying jobs, and an overall higher standard of living for all citizens. Further, tax relief for America's families and businesses will increase capital investment, preserve family-owned businesses, and modernize outdated tax laws while making the goal of a balanced budget more attainable.

From national polls, to town hall meetings, to telephone calls and letters, the American people clearly believe the tax and spend approach of big government is unac-

ceptable. We agree. If H.R. 2491 is not the answer, it is incumbent on you and your Administration to put forth specific proposals which respond to the call for a seven year balanced budget plan.

The impending fiscal crisis threatens every level and aspect of our lives: from our competitive stance, to our standard of living, to those critical services for the needy, nothing escapes its clutches. This moral imperative is too critical to be responded to by political rhetoric and no solutions. All of us must rise above politics, exercising true leadership by coming to a timely agreement.

That is what we expect of you and our congressional leaders. The time is now for you to provide the leadership to finally achieve an agreement to balance the budget for America's future.

Sincerely,

RICHARD L. LESHER.

TRIBUTE TO COL. WILLIAM J. DALECKY, USAF

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, a friend of the Congress and a long time leader in this Nation's Air Force fighter aircraft weapons systems, Col. William J. Dalecky, is retiring from the U.S. Air Force on 1 January 1996. His most recent position has been as the Chief, Weapons Systems Liaison Division, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Washington, DC. In this position he has been responsible to the Secretary of the Air Force for legislative liaison for authorization of all Air Force weapon systems budget requests.

Colonel Dalecky has had a distinguished career of nearly 26 years of military service. After being commissioned through the U.S. Air Force Academy in June 1969 and graduating 11th in his class, he attended graduate school at the Anderson School of Management, UCLA and was awarded an MBA degree. He then entered undergraduate pilot training at Webb AFB, TX, graduating with distinction in 1971. Colonel Dalecky's first operational assignment was as an F-4D aircraft commander with the Triple Nickel—555 Tactical Fighter Squadron—Udorn, Royal Thailand AFB. During his tour in Southeast Asia, Colonel Dalecky flew extensively over North Viet Nam, logging 200 combat missions.

His next two decades of service continued to contribute directly to the aerospace defense of our Nation. After his tour at Udorn, Colonel Dalecky served as an F-4 instructor pilot at Luke AFB, as an F-4D Squadron flight commander at Spangdahlem AB, then as a T-41 instructor pilot at the U.S. Air Force Academy, instructing cadets in basic flying skills in preparation for pilot training, and finally, as an A-10 aircraft commander at England AFB. His final operational assignment was as deputy commander for operations and later commander, 52 Operations Group, Spangdahlem AB. During this assignment, he deployed two of three assigned Wild Weasel squadrons to combat against Iraq, with no losses due to enemy activity.

Colonel Dalecky attended the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College in Ft. Leavenworth, KS and the Naval War College, Newport, RI.

Colonel Dalecky also holds an MS degree in International Relations from Troy State University, a masters degree in Military Art and Science from U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and an MS degree in National Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. Colonel Dalecky has received numerous awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, and the Legion of Merit.

Colonel Dalecky is married to the former Elisabeth Houle. They have three daughters, Natalie, Selene, and Amanda.

Colonel Dalecky plans to continue his work in fighter aircraft programs in a civilian capacity in the Washington area. On behalf of my colleagues and the congressional staff who have known and worked with Colonel Dalecky, we wish him and his wife Betty the very best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO REV. SAMUEL G. SIMPSON

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. Samuel G. Simpson who was honored by friends and members of the Bronx Baptist Church on Sunday, November 12, for his 31 years of service in this ministry in my South Bronx congressional district.

Reverend Simpson has faithfully led the congregation since the beginnings of the church, when it started as a mission of the First Baptist Church, in Brooklyn. That same year the congregation moved their meeting place at 2024 Honeywell Avenue, in the Bronx. The number of worshippers continue to grow and a larger location was secured, in 1970, at 331 East 187th Street.

Born in Jamaica, Mr. Simpson attended West Indies College. Soon afterward, he moved to New Jersey and obtained a bachelor's degree from Northeastern Bible College. He also holds an M.P.S. from the New York Theological Seminary, a D.D. from Asia Bible College, and a D.D. from Martha's Vineyard Theological Seminary.

Always anxious to learn, Reverend Simpson broadened his education by completing courses at New York University, New York Institute of Photography, and at Oxford University.

Besides his passion for learning, Reverend Simpson has been an active member in the community. He holds numerous memberships and has presided over many religious organizations. Among these Reverend Simpson was the president of the Baptist Convention of New York, the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association Pastor's Conference, and of the Bronx Division of the Council of Churches. He continues to preside over the Clergy Coalition of the 47th Precinct and is the chairman of the board of the Bronx Baptist Day Care and Learning Center.

Reverend Simpson's commitment to spread the gospel and to help the members of the community has been recognized by many organizations. The Bronx Council of churches honored him with the "Man of the Year" award. He was also recognized in "Who is Who, Among Black Americans," and received

the Community Services award from the Seventh Day Adventist Church of New York City, and the Community Appreciation award from the Bronx Shepherd Restoration. A highly educated man, Reverend Simpson has published numerous works, including, "Seven Beginnings."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of Reverend Simpson and his untiring service to the Bronx Baptist Church in the South Bronx community.

RETIREMENT OF DONALD ROACH

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to express my congratulations and admiration to Mr. Donald Roach of Indianapolis, IN, as he retires from Allison Transmission.

In his nearly 50 years in the work force, Mr. Roach served his community and country in several capacities.

A weapons expert in the U.S. Army in the early 1950's, Mr. Roach brought his military expertise to Allison Transmission in Indianapolis in 1981. He began as a specialist on a battle-tank development project at Allison and then served as Allison's Audit Coordinator at the U.S. Army Tank Plant in Lima, OH, for the balance of the 1980's.

Donald Roach would conclude his years of service as a regional account manager, sharing his lifelong experience and expertise with both customers and fellow Allison employees across the country.

Even in this retirement, Donald Roach will remain active in various community service organizations and social clubs, and especially with his family. He has a wife, four children, and many grandchildren with whom he can enjoy the next phase of his life. I wish Donald Roach the best as he reflects on the many memories of the last 50 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SONNY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. BONO. Mr. Speaker, on the morning of Wednesday, December 6, 1995, I was unavoidably delayed and missed roll call votes 838, H. Res. 290, the rule for the Securities litigation Reform, H.R. 1058. Were I present, I would have voted "aye" on the rollcall vote in support of House Resolution 290.

NATIONAL FUEL FUNDS DAY

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the safety net for millions of low-income and elderly families striving to keep

warm this winter is wearing awfully thin. Budget cuts and funding delays have left the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program [LIHEAP] struggling to get off the ground as the coldest winter weather approaches. This year as never before, needy households will be turning to private fuel funds to safely warm their homes and make it through the winter.

Today is National Fuel Funds Day. Sponsored by the National Fuel Funds Network, it is a time to remember the more than 285 private fuel funds around the country and to show our support for their work to warm the lives of our fellow citizens. Americans are a generous people. In fact, Americans donated more than \$72 million in support of this Nation's private fuel funds in 1993 alone. That figure pales, however, in comparison with the more than \$1 billion in fuel assistance provided annually by the Federal Government and the magnitude of the cuts currently being proposed for this vital program. The House has recommended eliminating energy assistance from the 1996 budget while the Senate is contemplating a more than 30 percent reduction in funding.

Let us remember, then, our private fuel funds on National Fuel Funds Day and support them as they fight against the tide to shore up the safety net for millions of needy American men, women, and children.

1995 ORDER OF EXCELLENCE FOR BEST NURSING HOME

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Department of Veterans Affairs and particularly the Tucson VA Nursing Home for being awarded the 1995 Order of Excellence for Best Nursing Home by the nursing home industry journal, *Contemporary Long Term Care*, which sponsors the annual competition.

The Tucson facility scored first among both public and private nursing homes around the country with fewer than 135 beds. Tucson is the first VA nursing home to win the award. In fact, this is the first time the award has been given to a public facility.

The Tucson 120-bed center serves more than 600 elderly veterans in southern Arizona through a variety of special rehabilitation programs aimed at returning the veterans home or achieving independence. In addition to physical rehabilitation, the center provides interim neurologic treatment for dementia and stroke, psychiatric and hospice care, and respite care.

I am very proud that a VA facility has won recognition as a nationally outstanding care provider. Congratulations, Tucson, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

OPPOSE THE SALE OF ADVANCED MISSILES TO TURKEY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on December 1, DOD's Defense Security Assist-

ance Agency notified the House International Affairs Committee of the sale of 120 Army Tactical Missile Systems [ATACMS] to Turkey. Essentially a massive, guided cluster bomb, each missile is accurate at a range of up to 100 miles and delivers 950 small bombs. Many of the munitions fail to detonate, remain on the ground, and become a mortal threat to noncombatants. I rise today to voice grave concerns about this sale and question the rationale and timing of this deal. I also want to point out possible consequences of this sale and underscore the danger of unconditional military support for an unstable regime which routinely commits massive human rights abuses against its own citizenry.

Mr. Speaker, my main concern about this sale is that Turkey's regime could use these missiles against civilians as it pursues its ruthless campaign against Kurdish guerrillas. Tragically, Kurdish terrorists have killed hundreds of innocent civilians. Yet in response, Turkey's military has killed thousands, tortured and maimed countless others, destroyed almost 3,000 Kurdish villages and forced 3 million people from their homes. On November 20, 1995, Human Rights Watch detailed in a 171-page report the Turkish military's widespread use of United States-supplied equipment in campaigns which inflict death and destruction against civilians. The atrocities detailed in this report are appalling. The report cites more than two dozen eyewitness accounts and substantiates a June 1995 State Department report which also concluded that U.S. equipment was used to violate the human rights of civilians.

Mr. Speaker, advocates of the missile sale argue that Turkey would not use ATACMS against civilians because of the system's high cost and because such use can be easily detected. Both rationales are preposterous. Over recent years, Turkey has spent an estimated \$7 billion per annum fighting its internal war. The supposed deterrence due to United States detection capabilities also rings hollow given that this administration, despite overwhelming evidence that Turkey uses United States-supplied weapons against civilians, refuses to condition Turkey's use of United States equipment. I am particularly disturbed that the State Department's Office on Democracy, Labor and Human Rights has lent its support to this sale when it had opposed the sale of ordinary cluster bombs to Turkey earlier this year. The sale of such weapons appears to indicate that the United States Government is willing to ignore Turkey's ruthless suppression of its Kurdish population because of Turkey's value as a strategic and economic partner. It is worth pointing out, Mr. Speaker, that the prime beneficiary of this \$132 million contract will be the LORAL Corp., which manufactures ATACMS in Camden, AR.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey is undeniably located in a troubled and unstable region of the world. But Mr. Speaker, extending assistance to a fellow member of NATO does not mean we must shut our eyes to their violations of basic human rights. This administration has prioritized the halt of missile proliferation, and I would further question the introduction of advanced missile technology into this unstable region on these grounds.

On October 17 of this year, Mr. Speaker, a New York Times editorial entitled "America Arms Turkey's Repression" concluded that "[A]ny further [military] aid should carry human