

knowledge of Iraq's procurement networks, and the names of many more suppliers, than would otherwise have been the case. The cooperation with governments which has been obtained, and national prosecutions which have or are taking place, testify to the effectiveness of the policy. A complete understanding of Iraq's supplier networks is the most potent instrument in preventing the reactivation of these networks. The Special Commission already has evidence of certain attempts by Iraq to do so and has been able to prevent the export or to interdict the items concerned on their way to, or upon their arrival in Iraq.

In addition to measures already taken, especially those under the plans approved by the Security Council, the most effective step to deter future transfers to Iraq of dual-use items would be the early adoption by the Security Council of a resolution approving the mechanism for export/import control of Iraq designed by UNSCOM and the IAEA. Under the mechanism, all states would be obliged to notify UNSCOM and the IAEA of intended exports (including transshipment) to Iraq of such items. The proposed mechanism has just been transmitted to the Security Council where we hope for very early action.

I would be happy to meet with you on one of my visits to Washington to explain this matter further to you if you consider this would be useful. One of your staff could telephone my office at (212) 963-3018 to make arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

ROLF EKEUS,
Executive Chairman,
Office of the Special Commission.

HONORING MAYOR ROBERT ROSEGARTEN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and the members of the Great Neck Lawyers Association as they meet to present Robert Rosegarten, mayor of the village of Great Neck Plaza with their most prestigious Community Service Award.

While maintaining an active business enterprise, Mayor Robert Rosegarten established a model of civic responsibility and participation that served to enhance the lives of all the citizens of Great Neck. He has received both State and national acclaim for developing the economic revitalization programs in the downtown shopping region of Great Neck Plaza and for his work to enhance the beautification of Great Neck Plaza. He has served as mayor of the village of Great Neck Plaza since 1992, and as its deputy mayor for 8 years. Under his leadership, the village of Great Neck Plaza has emerged as an effective municipal government with many of its programs being replicated throughout New York State.

In his role of enhancing the village of Great Neck Plaza, Mayor Rosegarten has shared his many talents with a wide array of community organizations providing both leadership and creativity in addressing community concerns. Among his many community roles, Mayor Rosegarten serves as president of the Great Neck Village Officials Organization, commissioner of the Great Neck Central Police Auxiliary, and board member of Great Neck's Unit-

ed Community Fund, Chamber of Commerce, and the Great Neck Arts Center. In addition, he is the vice-president of the Great Neck Plaza Management Council and director of the Water Authority of Great Neck North. In 1988, Mayor Rosegarten received the Great Neck United Community Fund's prestigious Leo M. Friend Award for community service.

Mayor Rosegarten's guiding tenet in public service has been to make a positive difference in the lives of his village's citizens. In that undertaking, he has dramatically succeeded. I am most proud to join with so many in honoring him.

THE REPUBLICANS' ATTEMPT TO DISGUISE THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the Republicans' attempt to draw attention away from their lifethreatening budget, by attacking the President's budget proposal, are trying to disguise his proposal as a legislative measure. The President continues to be upfront with the Republicans. He has openly voiced his commitment to protecting Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment. And, the President has openly warned the GOP that he will veto measures which threaten the quality of life of the American people.

Yet, for some reason, our Republican colleagues just don't get it. What does it take for them to realize that they cannot hide from their budget massacre. The GOP budget will adversely affect the lives of millions of children, seniors, the disabled, veterans, and families across the country.

No matter how many times the Republicans show that they can pass a measure that will devastate the lives of the American people for generations to come—still does not make it right. As we gather here now, to vote on the Republicans' spin on the President's budget, the GOP is attempting to take the American people through another smoke and mirror budget maze.

Mr. Speaker, we do not have time for more of the GOP's pranks. The time the Republicans are wasting here today should be being invested in completing action on the rest of the appropriations bills that are needed to reopen the Federal Government. If the Republican budget could stand on its own merit, the GOP would not have to resort to extremist tactics like we see here today. This action, coupled with the Republicans' politically staged shutdown of the Federal Government, to avoid real debate and serious negotiations on their budget, is not only ridiculous, it is in fact irresponsible.

The American people must be asking themselves, when will the Republicans stop playing games with our lives: When will the Republicans take the needs of the American people seriously? And, most importantly, are the Republicans capable of negotiating, and passing a budget that is compassionate to children, seniors, the disabled, veterans, and hard-working families?

Mr. Speaker, so far the Republicans' positive response to these critical questions re-

mains to be seen. I urge my colleagues to put an end to the Republicans' pranks, and to strongly urge our Republican colleagues to negotiate a compassionate budget. The American people deserve nothing less.

RETIREMENT OF JOHN M. COLLINS FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a distinguished servant of the Congress and the Nation in the area of national defense and national security. On Wednesday, January 3, 1996, John M. Collins will retire after 22½ years as the Senior Specialist in National Defense of the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Since 1972, Mr. Collins has provided authoritative, in-depth, and profound analysis and advice to the Congress on a range of national defense issues unparalleled in its breadth and scope.

Mr. Collins' retirement closes a lifetime of Government service which mirrors the tumultuous history of the past 50-odd years. A native, I am proud to say, of my State of Missouri, he began his public service with his enlistment in the U.S. Army in May 1942—after being rejected by the Marine Corps, a fact he reiterates with great delight and good humor to numerous Marines and friends over the years. As a young enlisted soldier he came ashore over the Normandy beaches a few days after D-day, in 1944. As a captain he served in the Korean war. As a colonel he served as Chief of the Campaign Planning Group in General Westmoreland's headquarters in Vietnam during 1967–68—managing to get involved in, and survive as the winner, a point-blank shootout with a North Vietnamese soldier in the ruins of Hue City in early 1968.

In between these wartime duties he served in intelligence and contingency planning posts in Japan and the Middle East; training assignments in the United States; commanded a battalion in the 82d Airborne Division; was one of the principal planners for the possible invasion of Cuba which, fortunately, never had to take place during the fateful days of the Cuban missile crisis in October–November 1962; and graduated from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He closed his 30-year Army career as a faculty member and chief of the strategic studies group at the National War College during 1968–72.

Immediately upon retirement from the Army, Colonel Collins joined the Congressional Research Service as Senior Specialist in National Defense. From the beginning of his CRS career he showed a willingness to examine fundamental assumptions. One of his first CRS reports examined whether the strategic nuclear triad of bombers, ground-based ICBM's, and submarine-launched ballistic missiles had been arrived at rationally, and whether it was in fact the only possible method of constructing U.S. strategic nuclear forces. At the height of the first Arab oil embargo, in 1975, he and a CRS coauthor, Clyde Mark, poured cold water on the idea that seizing Arab oil fields by military force would be an easy task. He

wrote a book-length examination of overall U.S. defense planning processes, and how they might be improved.

John Collins' single greatest service to the Congress and the Nation, however, was provided in the form of a series of book-length reports, beginning in 1976 and running through 1985, which meticulously documented the relentless military buildup and geostrategic expansion of the Soviet Union and its client states in almost every category of military power and area of the world. His comparisons of United States Soviet military forces, together with the respective allies of both countries, demonstrated with clarity and precision how American military capabilities, relative to our interests, were steadily declining, and those of the Soviet Union were increasing. Widely read, quoted, and debated, John Collins' works on the United States-Soviet military balance unquestionably played a role in persuading the American people and their elected representatives that, by the early 1980's, major increases in United States military forces and defense spending were required to restore our national credibility and deter and prevent Soviet expansionism. This was not an easy time for John Collins. Some were not happy with what he had to say about the shifting balance of military power in favor of the Soviet Union, and he had to withstand considerable bureaucratic and political pressure to continue to do his job. However, those who exerted such pressure against him are gone. He and his works remain.

By helping alert the country to the growing menace of Soviet military power in the late 1970's and early 1980's, Mr. Collins can also said to have played a role in the ultimate demise of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact. Without the American military resurgence of the 1980's, it is difficult to see how the Soviet military-political juggernaut of the mid and late 1970's could have been halted, turned inward, and forced to collapse of its own internal strains. Indeed, in October 1985, only a few months after Gorbachev assumed power in the Soviet Union, he presciently suggested that "the whole Soviet security apparatus in Central Europe is coming unraveled."¹

The thawing of the cold war and the eventual demise of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact in no way lessened Mr. Collins' output. He produced authoritative studies of military space forces, United States and Soviet special operations forces, lessons learned from America's small wars, and a host of other reports and analyses. During the Persian Gulf war, he was frequently interviewed on national and international radio and television, and wrote numerous short analyses of possible issues and problems related to war with Iraq. At one point, well over a hundred congressional staffers gathered to listen with rapt attention to this veteran of three wars outline not the possible nature of a ground war with Iraq—not just in academic, and analytical terms, but how ground combat was "close up, and personal, and dirty." Within the past few years, his talents have turned to as diverse a set of subjects as counterproliferation, U.S. prepositioned military equipment, nonlethal weapons, and criteria for U.S. military intervention overseas. His last CRS report, finished

just days ago, deals with the military aspects of NATO enlargement.

Mr. Speaker, although John Collins is completing almost 54 years of total Federal service when he retires from CRS, he has no intention of remaining inactive. General Shalikhovich, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has had the eminent good sense to agree to provide Mr. Collins with some office and study space at the National Defense University at Fort McNair. With the time he now will have, plus the assistance from DOD, Mr. Collins intends to write books on military geography and military strategy. He will have more time to spend with his wife Gloria, to whom he has dedicated many of his books; his son Sean, holder of a doctorate in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from MIT, and a contributor to national defense and security in his own right in the field of ballistic missile defense; and his grandchildren.

Few people have devoted so much of a long life to the service of the United States as has John Collins. I wish him well as he enters yet another stage of that service.

OPPOSES SECURITIES LITIGATION CONFERENCE REPORT VETO OVERRIDE

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Mr. DE FAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose the motion to override the President's veto of the Securities Litigation Conference Report.

The laws governing securities litigation can certainly stand to be improved, but the language of this conference report does much more harm than good. This legislation—written by and for the large securities firms—is anti-small investor and anti-working family.

The conference report reduces consumers protection. An investors ability and right to sue unscrupulous securities firms should not be stifled or circumscribed by Congress. For example, the language includes a sweeping loser pays provision that will make it extremely difficult for anyone without a multimillion dollar trust fund to challenge a large corporation in court.

Supporters of this legislation claim that there is an explosion of frivolous suits. The fact is that the number of securities class action suits has shrunk over the past 20 years. During the last several years, suits have been filed against only 120 companies annually—out of over 14,000 public corporations reporting to the SEC.

The President was correct in his veto. This conference report goes against the interests of working people and small investors. I sincerely hope that the Congress will sustain the veto that we can then enact true reform of our Nation's securities litigation laws.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CHANGE

HON. SUSAN MOLINARI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 20, 1995

Ms. MOLINARI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the December 8, 1995, editorial

from one of my local papers, the New York Post, which sums up exactly a sentiment most of us, I think, feel about Newt Gingrich. In these times of overt partisanship, the editors write that they,

[H]ope that Gingrich takes heart, stands his ground and stays the course. Opportunities to change the direction in American politics don't come around often; and if the Republicans don't succeed in disrupting business as usual in Washington now, the chance will likely pass.

We have no choice, for the sake of our children, but to balance the budget and I urge Speaker GINGRICH to continue his effort to focus this nation into realizing fiscal sanity.

[From the New York Post, Dec. 8, 1995]

THE GINGRICH INQUISITION

House Minority Leader David Bonior (D-Mich.) and other congressional Democrats have been trying for more than half a decade to pin ethics violations on Speaker Newt Gingrich. To this end, they and their allies in the land of the left leveled endless charges against Gingrich. Indeed, over the course of the last 15 months, the House Ethics Committee has considered 65 separate counts.

On Wednesday, the committee ruled that with respect to 64, the speaker has been completely or partially exonerated. (It should be noted that one of these charges turned on Gingrich's book contract with HarperCollins, a publishing concern owned by News Corp., which is also this newspaper's corporate parent.)

Only one of the 65 charges was deemed worthy of further exploration by an independent counsel. Pardon us if we suggest that this six-year fishing expedition has produced decidedly unimpressive results.

The committee voted to retain a special counsel to explore whether or not the speaker violated the law by using tax-deductible contributions to finance a college course he taught at Kennesaw State University in Georgia. Gingrich has expressed confidence that he will be fully exonerated on this seemingly narrow and highly technical charge. In light of the fate of all the other accusations lodged against him, it's hard not to credit this possibility. Many critics on both sides of aisle have contended that, in general, the standards for appointing independent counsels are exceedingly low; the Ethics Committee's decision here would seem to confirm this observation.

It is worth recognizing a distinction between the ethics problems allegedly swirling around Gingrich and those that brought down ex-House Speaker Jim Wright, a Democrat. The latter came under investigation after years of abusing his power. While Gingrich (as a back-bencher) played a leading role in the campaign against Wright, even loyal Democrats—in the end—couldn't ignore the ex-speaker's transgressions.

House Democrats, by contrast, have tried to demonize Gingrich ever since his success in that effort. And from the day the Georgia Republican became speaker, the "get Newt" campaign has been a central concern of the official Democratic party leadership.

Such prejudice suggests that what bothers Bonior & Co. about Gingrich has nothing to do with whether or not tax-deductible contributions were mistakenly used to help finance his political science lectures at Kennesaw State. The Democrats object to the fact that Gingrich—the most able parliamentarian in recent memory—is an energetic conservative who's mounted a serious challenge to the national ideological status quo.

Similarly, it is not the mere existence of the speaker's political action committee,

¹ Collins, John M. What Have We Got for \$1 Trillion? The Washington Quarterly, Spring 1988: 49, based on testimony before the Defense Policy Panel, House Armed Services Committee, October 9, 1985.