

modernization and renovation of family quarters and of course bachelor or single person quarters.

Also on the hardware side, we funded eight C-17's for the next fiscal year. I am pleased to hear that the Air Force has decided to request a total buy of 120 C-17's over the next several years. That is important because of the threat we face. It is important because we have brought many of our military people home from overseas. And when regional conflicts occur, it is important to be able to get back there. So this additional capability is something which I believe is much needed.

In addition to that, we continually send carrier groups to sea. The protection, the defense for those carrier groups is a system known as the Aegis system which is incorporated on our destroyers built here in this country, and in the gentleman's district from Mississippi, I might add. And these destroyers, which will be funded this year, will provide for three new Aegis destroyers which I might again say are state-of-the-art ships.

We have also provided for an additional 20 fighter and attack aircraft, 20 new Army helicopters, and we propose to spend \$110 million to modernize the M-1 tanks.

I might just say on this last point that it is especially important inasmuch as we saw what tank technology did for the American soldier during the last war in the Middle East. The new threat for tanks comes not from the front of the tank, not from the rear of the tank but from new weapons that have been developed to kill tanks from overhead. So it is of vital importance that this goes into place as well.

So, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to bring these items to the attention of the Members, and hopefully within the next few weeks we will be in a position to vote finally for this defense authorization bill.

EDUCATION FUNDING

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

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, if young people are the gateway to the future—and they are—education is the key to gaining access through those gates.

Many young people in America have made a choice—a choice to get an education, to get a job, and to pursue a career—a choice that gives them a chance.

The Republican Party now wants to take that chance from them—to take their choice.

Last year, millions of students held jobs under work study, got low interest loans, did not have the burden of paying interest on their loans while in school, and received grants.

Many will not have those opportunities next year.

In total, over the next 7 years, more than \$10 billion will be taken from col-

lege students and given to the wealthiest Americans. They call these cuts a savings.

I call it a tragic loss for America's future.

What is education? Education is knowledge. Education is development. Education is knowledge and development acquired through a process.

The process is one that takes time, and it takes a commitment of resources. Since the process of education is a necessary path to good citizenship, then it is clear why, here in Washington, in the Congress, we are making the fight to preserve education.

However, rather than promoting education some have an extreme agenda—obstructing education.

They go too far in cutting Head Start by \$137 million—abandoning 180,000 children nationwide and almost 4,000 in North Carolina.

Healthy Start is being cut by 52 percent—exposing infants and children, in the very dawn of their lives, to the perils of infant mortality and other threats.

Children can not learn if they are hungry—yet the Republicans are cutting \$10 billion from nutrition programs, including the school lunch program. This is not promoting education.

Title I is being cut by \$1.1 billion—denying critical basic and advanced skills assistance to 1.1 million students nationwide and 20,500 students in North Carolina. Twenty-two million dollars of title I funds will be cut from North Carolina next year.

They go too far in cutting Drug Free School funding by 59 percent—this program is currently used by 129 of the 129 school districts—and almost a million children in North Carolina.

The program is designed to keep crime, violence, and drugs away from students and out of our schools. And, the Republican majority wants to gut the program.

The Goals 2000 Program is completely eliminated—381 schools in North Carolina will be denied this vital program.

And, more than 40 States have already signed onto Goals 2000, seeking higher standards for our schools.

Despite the Republicans, we have a chance through education and training to build a better and brighter future through our young people.

Young people are the gateway to the future—education is the key to gaining access through those gates.

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TRIBUTE TO GREEN CHIMNEYS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AL-LARD). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mrs. KELLY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise at this time to acknowledge the ongoing commitment of an organization in my community called Green Chimneys.

Green Chimneys is a nonprofit agency that successfully adheres to its mission to provide care and concern for all living things. This center, located on 150 acres of farm land in Brewster, NY, is a treatment center and special education school for emotionally disturbed and learning disabled children. The rural setting provides a therapeutic environment which helps children learn to work out their problems. By incorporating the rehabilitation of orphaned or injured animals into their daily regiment each child can learn to feel needed and gain a sense of purpose and responsibility. As a result, Green Chimneys is teaching both the children and the animals how to survive in their natural habitat.

This fine organization has found a way to reach troubled youths without dipping into the pockets of the taxpayers. Their innovative solutions to address problems in the Hudson River Valley is not only admirable but is extremely commendable.

A perfect example of Green Chimneys' work is Eddie Lugo. Eddie, 14, was sent to Green Chimneys by the Manhattan Family Court because of his threatening and abusive behavior toward his family. Three and a half years later, he is leaving Green Chimneys with the desire to become a police officer or veterinarian because he doesn't like people who mistreat other people or animals. Eddie is only one of hundreds of children who have been helped by Green Chimneys. What better legacy could an organization like this hope for?

At this time I would like to thank all of those involved in Green Chimneys, whether it is a donation of time or money, for ensuring that the future of this country is in good hands. However, I would like to especially single out their director, Dr. Samuel Ross, whose tireless support has been invaluable to our community. It was Dr. Ross who sent me this hat. And I would urge all my colleagues to give Green Chimneys a big tip of the hat to this extremely worthy organization. They are truly the epitome of America civic-mindedness and compassion, and for this I say, "Thank you" not only as your Representative but also as your neighbor.

THE TERRIBLE RESULTS OF REPUBLICANS' WELFARE REFORM PACKAGE

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, today the Executive Office of the President, the Office of Management and Budget, released a report describing the impacts of both the House-passed welfare bill and the Senate-passed welfare bill and, most importantly, its impact upon the children of this Nation. This report notes that those two pieces of legislation can have a very severe

and substantial impact on those children because this legislation threatens to take children who are not now living in poverty and put them into poverty by virtue of the withdrawal of resources that are available to those children in those families, and that we ought not allow to happen.

The report also points out that we have seen the number of people, just recently, who are living in poverty in this Nation decline, that in 1994 there were 1.2 million fewer poor people living in poverty than in 1993. We also see that the changes that this Congress and the administration made on the earned income tax credit for working families where we provide some subsidy to low wages in those families to keep people in the work force as opposed to the welfare rolls, that that has also reduced the number of families that go to work every day but simply work at wages that are insufficient to keep their family out of poverty.

So that is the good news. That is the good news of what this administration has done and changes that Congress has made.

But now the report tells us that, if we were to enact the Senate welfare bill, that we could expect as many as 1.2 million new children, who are currently not in poverty, to be placed in poverty, and God forbid if we were to enact the House-passed welfare bill, we could see as many as 2.1 or 2.3 million children who are not now in poverty being placed in poverty.

Now to understand what this means, Mr. Speaker, if you read the recommendations of this report from the administration, it becomes very clear that within these recommendations we can have historic and dramatic welfare reform that conforms with what our constituents want to see happen, what people on welfare want to see happen, and what we want to see happen, and that is that we put in place a comprehensive and concerted plan to move people from the welfare rolls to the payroll, that people are required to go to work when they have the skills and the talent to do so, and we were willing to help people gain those skills and that talent to move them off of the welfare roll.

We can do all of that and not hurt the 1 or 2 million children that we see will be hurt if the Republican-passed bills are passed, and that currently seems to be the intent of the conferees who are meeting on this matter.

If in fact we do that after receiving this report, we must understand that we are now knowingly, knowingly selecting policy options to place children in poverty that are not now in poverty. That decision reaches a moral dimension, and we ought not, those of us who are fortunate enough to be elected to positions of public policy, who have the trust of our constituents and the trust of this Nation, should not be selecting policy options that knowingly put children into poverty that are not in poverty today.

This is not a contest between the status quo because the status quo with respect to welfare is unacceptable. The President has made it clear that it is unacceptable to him, the Republicans have made it clear that it is unacceptable to them, and the Democrats have made it clear that it is unacceptable to us. This is about whether or not we design policies to put families to work, to make sure that the day care they need is in place, their children will be taken care of and they can move off of the welfare rolls, as this Nation expects those individuals to do. But all of that is threatened by the passage of either the Senate or the House bill and its infliction of terrible, terrible results on the children of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, those bills should not be passed.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION EXCELLENCE

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

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted, as we wind down the defense authorization conference, and I think we are going to have a bill very shortly for the country, I just wanted to talk a little bit about what we have done with that bill.

You know, our chairman, the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE], who is the first Republican chairman of the Committee on National Security in 40 years, put together an excellent bill this year, and he worked hand in glove with the chairman of the defense appropriation, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG], to see to it that we had side-by-side packages that addressed a number of concerns of both the people who were the uniform in the armed services, and of course all Americans who are concerned about national security, and I just wanted to go over a couple of the things that we did.

One thing that we did, and very basically, was we plused up the budget. We added money for equipment in very basic areas that is important to all uniformed people. I call it readiness spending. We spent money on ammunition. In my estimation we have about half the ammo that we need if we are going to fight two regional conflicts, and that means that the Marines, or the Army, or other services who are engaged in land conflict might find themselves running out of ammo about halfway through that fight. So, one thing that we did with this budget under the leadership of the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE] is to put in about \$1 billion extra for ammunition, all the way from M-16 rounds to those so-called precision guided munitions that we saw on television during Desert Storm where the world's luckiest Iraqi taxicab driver just made it across the bridge before that one precision guided bomb went in and hit

that one strut on the bridge and blew it up. We added those extra dollars for ammo because that is the best service you can do for your uniformed people because that is what keeps them alive in a fight, in a conflict.

Another thing we did was increase sealift and airlift. We do not have enough ships and enough airlift to get our people to the battle in time, and because of that in the last war we had to actually go out and rent a bunch of ships. It is kind of a well-kept secret, but if our allies had not agreed with our purpose in Desert Storm, we might have been very much hurting for sealift, but the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE] saw to it that we plused up sealift, plused up airlift, and we are now on our way to developing an excellent C-17 aircraft that will be able to take big cargo into very short airstrips in troubled spots around the world.

Another area that we involved ourselves in was missile defense, and I think, if there is any hallmark to this chairman's position, his tenure as chairman of the Committee on National Security, his hallmark is that he recognizes that we live in an age of missiles and that this Nation, the people of this Nation, have a right to be defended against incoming ballistic missiles, and our troops in theater should also be defended against some of those slower moving missiles like the Scuds that hit our troops in Desert Storm. So we have undertaken an aggressive program to provide what we call theater missile defenses. Those are short-range defenses against a slower moving ballistic missile so, if our troops are in Saudi Arabia, or on the Korean Peninsula, or other places around the world, and they are shot at by slow-moving ballistic missiles, we will be able to destroy those missiles before they reach our troops. The Republican leadership and the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE] have been the architects of that program.

We also initiated a national missile defense, and the interesting thing is most Americans think we have one already, but, as you know, Mr. Speaker, we do not. We have no defenses against incoming intercontinental ballistic missiles, but we directed this administration to develop and deploy a national missile defense, and I think it is a step we should have taken a long time ago. Under this chairman FLOYD SPENCE, our Republican chairman of the Committee on National Security, for the first time in 40 years we have taken that very important step.

So we have an excellent package, Mr. Speaker, and I wish I had time to tell you about all of the things and the provisions that we have in this particular bill, but I think we can say to the American people that they will be more secure because of the chairmanship of the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE] of the Committee on National Security and because of the extra dollars that we are putting