

crook. Formerly Congressman NEWT GINGRICH had alternatively referred to former Speaker Tom Foley, former Speaker Jim Wright, and America's beloved Speaker Tip O'Neil as traitors, thugs.

Jim Wright was asked for a response to the current Speaker's most recent attack and, although I do not have time in this 1 minute to read former Speaker Wright's account, I will herein place it in the RECORD and would read the first sentence which said, "It would demean the office of the Speaker and the institution of Congress itself for me to respond in kind to Mr. GINGRICH, and I shall not do so."

Mr. Speaker, the remainder of former Speaker Wright's speech is calm and measured, and I place it in the RECORD so my colleagues may see it:

STATEMENT OF JIM WRIGHT

It would demean the office of the Speaker and the institution of Congress itself for me to respond in kind to Mr. Gingrich, and I shall not do so. It is not for me to call him ugly names or attribute dishonesty to his business transactions. I guess I'm just not a piglet who likes to wallow in the mud.

So far as my personal integrity is concerned, it needs no defending from remarks by Mr. Gingrich who seems to devote a great portion of his career to trying to malign other people. That's not my style, and I like to think my 72 years of living and serving speak for themselves.

When I resigned from the Speakership in 1989, I expressly offered up my job "as a propitiation for this season of ill will," thus hoping to help Congress move forward without the distractions of the bitter name calling and "mindless cannibalism" which had characterized a series of deliberate personal attacks that I regarded as unworthy and most people realized were untrue.

I am saddened by the lack of dignity and civility which any Speaker must endeavor by example to instill.

SUPPORT THE UNFUNDED
MANDATES REFORM ACT

(Mr. BURR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, today we will continue consideration of H.R. 5, the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act. I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this legislation that is embodied in the Republican Contract with America.

I have received letters from the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Conference of State Legislators, as well as the Democratic Governor of my home State, North Carolina, the Honorable Jim Hunt, all expressing strong support for this legislation. Governor Hunt articulated the problem well when he said, "While these mandates may reflect well-intentioned policy goals, they often imposed substantial costs and regulatory burdens on the States that deny them the right and responsibility to set the priorities that best meet the needs of our citizens."

For too many years we in Congress have made laws that we did not hold ourselves accountable to and then mandated to both the State and local

governments, as well as the private sector, that they not only abide by the laws, but also come up with the money to pay for them.

UNFUNDED MANDATES DEVASTATING
TO RURAL COMMUNITIES

(Mr. CAMP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss how unfunded mandates are particularly devastating to rural communities throughout the country. In Michigan, for example, the estimated costs for fiscal year 1994 as a result of 12 major unfunded mandates was nearly \$400 million.

For example, municipal water systems in my district are required by the EPA to follow the same drinking water tests as Hawaii to monitor for a herbicide used on pineapples, which are grown only in Hawaii. Municipal water systems in Michigan are not only required to report these chemicals not found in the water supply, but they have to pay for it as well. This is wrong.

This example is just one of hundreds of costly, unnecessary, unfunded Federal mandates that leave Washington and fall into our backyards at home.

If there is one theme, one goal of the 104th Congress, it must be to become more accountable. No longer should we be able to pass legislation, pat ourselves on the backs, and pretend it did not cost the taxpayers a dime. The reality is that we leave it to our States and our communities to shoulder the burden and those days must end.

□ 1430

IN SUPPORT OF THE BALANCED
BUDGET AMENDMENT

(Mr. NEUMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, this new Congress is working hard to fulfill its promises to the American people. The most significant change this Congress must make will be done through passage of the balanced budget amendment with its three-fifths tax provision. Right now, every American's share of the national debt is over \$18,500—for my family of five that's \$92,500. Today, the deficit stands at \$176 billion. That is about \$700 for every man, woman, and child in this country. Something must be done to balance the budget. This Congress needs to act now by passing the balanced budget amendment.

The Barton amendment will ensure that the Federal Government cannot spend more than it takes in, and Congress cannot add to the Federal debt unless approved by a three-fifths majority vote of Congress. We need the discipline of a balanced budget amend-

ment to completely change the spending culture of Washington.

I urge my colleagues to pass the balanced budget amendment, not for ourselves, but for the future of our children and grandchildren.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

BALANCING THE BUDGET

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the balanced budget amendment that this body will soon consider. The American taxpayers demand it. It is our duty to pass the balanced budget amendment and answer their outcry.

Mr. Speaker, if we pause and listen carefully, we can hear the giant sucking sound of the special interests draining the American people's money from Capitol Hill. I say it is time to plug that drain by passing the balanced budget amendment.

No longer should Americans be asked to stand by and watch their tax dollars be wasted away. No longer should hard-working citizens be forced to hand over their paychecks, only to see them thrown into the abyss of big bureaucracy.

I am proud to support this greatly needed balanced budget amendment and urge my colleagues to join me.

RURAL COMMUNITIES AMONG
THOSE TO BENEFIT FROM PAS-
SAGE OF UNFUNDED MANDATES
REFORM ACT

(Mr. LATHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 5, the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

On November 8 the American people sent a clear message that they were tired of having Washington pile ever-increasing mandates on their backs. The types of smaller rural communities such as those I represent bear the heaviest proportional burden of unfunded mandates. Instead of using their tight budgets to improve schools, police forces, or infrastructure, they have increasingly found themselves spending scarce dollars to satisfy Federal rules and regulations that have no positive impact on their communities.

Mr. Speaker, we owe them our prompt support of this important reform bill. I hope we can lay aside the gutting amendments that have been

filed on this bill, pass it promptly, and move on to the next important item on the people's agenda, the balanced budget amendment.

BIG CHANGE PROMISED 2 YEARS AGO

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago President Clinton was sworn in to office promising big change. But it became clear that the change America wanted was not going to come from the Clinton White House. So tomorrow the President delivers his State of the Union speech to a historic 104th Congress and a country that is no longer waiting for change to come from 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

With an unquestionable mandate from the American people, this Congress is responding to the call for smaller, less intrusive government. We are going to reverse the trend of the Federal Government handing down rigid, one-size-fits-all mandates to our States and localities without even considering the costs we are passing on to them.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to set ourselves on a course to a balanced budget. We are doing that now. We are going to make government smaller and more responsible and more attractive. America is going to keep watching. They are going to keep watching this Congress because this is where the change is happening.

THE GANGSTERS OF CHINA AND BURMA AND THE TRADE ISSUE

(Mr. ROHRBACHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, America is grasping for principles to guide our foreign policy decisionmaking in the post-cold-war world. Let me suggest two simple standards. We should be for freedom, and we should be against aggression.

The current administration has decoupled any discussion about trade with any consideration of human rights. This is wrong, and it does not work. By winking at the dictator in Beijing, we have encouraged that gangster regime to go on to even further criminal activities.

I am placing into the RECORD an editorial of the Wall Street Journal detailing the results of an alignment between the gangster regimes in Peking, China, and in Burma.

As for America, we should be on the side of those who are struggling for freedom in Burma and China. In the long run, it is not only what is right but it is what will work for the betterment of the entire world.

Mr. Speaker, the information from the Wall Street Journal to which I referred is as follows:

[From the Wall Street Journal, Jan. 11, 1995]

ASIA'S DRUG WAR

Trade and information aren't the only things that have gone global. Try drug addiction. Around the world, the U.S. is often portrayed as a society sinking under the weight of drug abuse. But where the U.S. has about 600,000 heroin addicts, Thailand probably has that number in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces alone. According to the Straits Times, Singapore is treating 7,700 addicts (up from 5,700 in 1990). Assuming, improbably, that these are the only ones, Singapore still has an addiction rate 12% higher than the U.S. Malaysia claims about 100,000 addicts, Taiwan about 50,000, and the standard estimate for Vietnam is 500,000.

Without much doubt these figures understate the severity of the problem in some countries. When Taiwan seized 1,114 kilos of heroin in 1993, officials claimed the bulk was for domestic consumption. Hong Kong clinics have registered a 50% jump in female addicts since 1993, which they attribute to the price of a gram of heroin plummeting to \$40, half the price of three years ago.

While the big money is made on the streets of New York and Los Angeles, most of Asia's opium is consumed in Asia. So the explosion in production in the Golden Triangle, especially Burma, is deeply troubling. Opium output has trebled since 1988, to about 3,500 tons, according to Asian officials. Prosecutions are still launched against longtime traffickers in places like Thailand, but in fact the business has rapidly migrated into the hands of new Chinese gangs.

The quality has gone up, and the purity has improved by a factor of 1,000% or more. To understand why, look no farther than Burma's emergence as China's economic satellite.

In the late 1980s, China began courting the Burmese regime, then in bad odor with the rest of the world for slaughtering hundreds of demonstrators. Beijing dropped its support of the Communist Party of Burma and other ethnic rebel groups and opened the long Sino-Burmese border to trade. That pried the lid from a Pandora's Box whose contents are now spilling out into the world through China.

The ex-insurgents, led by the Wa tribal followers of Burma's Communists, nowadays devote themselves to the heroin business. Dozens of refineries have opened along the border, with the drugs moving overland by courier through China and finally out via Hong Kong and Taiwan. These mainland routes have already eclipsed Burmese drug warlord Khun Sa and the Thai export routes under his control.

For the time being, the Rangoon government has reached cease-fires with most of the ethnic rebels in the north, Rangoon leaves them to their drug trafficking, and probably even rakes off a share of the profit, while concentrating its main energies on building up the army and crushing urban dissent. No doubt these cease-fires are temporary: The Burmese military is reportedly set to renew its offensive against the Khun Sa operation, armed with a fresh supply of weapons from Beijing. In time, the army probably hopes to subdue the rest of Burma's minorities as well.

But that goal has eluded the Burmese military for 50 years and for now the local militias still call the shots in the mountainous north. Poppy cultivation has boomed under the spur of competition for buyers. For their part, the Chinese see their Burmese clients as an economic and military bridgehead into Southeast Asia. What they got in the bargain was an opium bridgehead into China.

Junkies are suddenly proliferating along the drug routes through Yunnan and Guangxi, in the inland provinces and even among Beijing's yuppies. China recently admitting to having 300,000 "registered" addicts and called the situation "very grim." Health officials put the real number at 2.5 million. In 1992, the People's Armed Police was sent in to clean out a smuggling center protected by corrupt Yunnan officials. The battle lasted 11 weeks and netted nearly 1,000 kilos of drugs.

China hasn't forgotten that tens of millions were junkies early in the century. Biochemistry being what it is, the simple fact of drugs being available is likely to produce a growing addiction crisis. When Lee Brown of the U.S. Office of National Drug Control Policy toured the region last June, several governments urged him to restart anti-narcotics cooperation with Burma. But the Burmese regime is still in the doghouse with Congress over its human rights record and the detention of Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi.

In any case, the old school, which sees U.S. and European consumers as the main drivers of the heroin trade, may be out of date. Malaysia recently nabbed a high-school-age heroin dealer. Police suspect that pushers are trying to lock in a new clientele among upwardly mobile young users. Asia's wealth is driving a big part of the business these days. And while the U.S. can help, China is the real key to Asia's developing drug crisis.

PROVIDING DISASTER ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN IN RESPONSE TO EARTHQUAKE OF JANUARY 1995—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COMBEST) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on National Security and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I have directed the Secretary of Defense to provide appropriate disaster assistance to the Government of Japan in response to the devastating earthquake of January 17, 1995. As required by section 404 of title 10, United States Code, I am notifying the Congress that the United States commence disaster relief operations on January 18, 1995, at 11:06 p.m., eastern standard time. To date, the U.S. military has provided 37,000 blankets. In addition, the following information is provided:

1. Disaster relief assistance is being provided in response to an earthquake affecting Kobe and Osaka, Japan.

2. Reports indicate at least 3,100 people have died, nearly 900 are missing, over 16,000 are injured, and an estimated 240,000 are homeless. The destruction of basic physical infrastructure poses a threat to the lives of the survivors.

3. Currently, U.S. military involvement has been limited to 15 U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules sorties. Further requests for U.S. military assistance in the form of transportation, supplies, services, and equipment are unknown at this time.