

of laws which govern how much people can give to support politicians. The biggest concern is the fact that is all hidden."

Mr. Speaker, the American people have a right to know who is giving money to GOPAC and how it is being spent.

Clearly any person who has had dealings with GOPAC has a serious conflict of interest in this case. Yet last week we learned that 2 of the 5 members of the Committee on Ethics appointed by Mr. GINGRICH have had past dealings with GOPAC.

Mr. Speaker, this will not do. The only way that we are going to get to the bottom of this case is to have a professional, independent, nonpartisan, outside appointed counsel to come in here and investigate.

That is what this House had done in every high visible ethics case since 1979. It did it in the ABSCAM case, it did it in the Diggs case, it did it in the Hansen case, it did it in the St. Germain case, it did it in the case of the former Speaker and several others. In each case we have appointed a nonpartisan outside counsel to investigate.

As Mr. GINGRICH said himself in 1988, "The rules normally applied by the Ethics Committee to an investigation of a typical Member are insufficient in an investigation of the Speaker of the House. Clearly, this investigation has to meet higher standards of public accountability and integrity."

In fact, the new chair of the Committee on Ethics, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON], joined Mr. GINGRICH in his campaign for an outside counsel in 1988. The gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON] was one of 71 Republican Members who joined Mr. GINGRICH in sending a letter to the Ethics Committee asking for an investigation of the former Speaker.

She is reported to have supported a call for a special counsel to carry out that investigation in 1988. Now she is backing away from it.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me just say, if past Ethics Committees were not fair or tough enough, why would this one be any different? The standard has been set, the precedent is there. It is time for an independent, nonpartisan outside counsel to come in and look at this issue.

GATT PROVISION REDUCES YEARS OF PATENT PROTECTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRABACHER] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, before I get into the subject I had in mind this morning, I would like to just suggest that there has been a great double standard in this Congress for many, many years. Whenever conservative Republicans do anything, it is worthy of attack and all sorts of suspicion is being cast on whatever Repub-

licans would do. Especially now that we are in control, we sense this double standard.

For example, NEWT GINGRICH's book deal comes under tremendous attack while the Vice President's book deal, which is not substantially different, ends up, "Well, that's just another book deal." Now we hear attacks on GOPAC, and the fact is that there are organizations around this city, environmental organizations, lawyer organizations, public employee union organizations which have the same sort of activities. But the focus has to be on GOPAC.

I would have to say there is a double standard being applied. I would just ask that when the public hears charges made by political figures, that it be taken into consideration that this is a political city and often charges are made for political reasons.

But what I have to discuss today is concerning a specific piece of legislation. Last year I vigorously opposed the GATT implementation legislation because in it was a provision that I and almost every inventor's organization in this country felt would drastically reduce the number of years of patent protection enjoyed by Americans.

This provision was not required by the GATT but was placed in the implementing legislation by powerful interests who would profit by ripping off American inventors and investors. Read that Japanese and other multinational corporations as well as megadomestic corporations that use technology rather than create it.

Covering this legal larceny, the United States Patent Office and the administration aggressively argued that the changes proposed would not—repeat that—would not decrease patent protection. In fact, they brushed off criticism, claiming terms for most patents would be increased by this change in the law. They used the prestige of their office to lie to us and to dismiss the opposition as not worthy of serious consideration.

Well, now that GATT has been passed, a different tune is being heard. On January 16, the New York Times reported an enlightening statement made by Mike Kirk, Deputy Commissioner of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Once the GATT implementation legislation goes into effect on June 8, Kirk now says that filing a patent after that day "could substantially shorten the term of patent." What? "Shorten the term of patent." This is the opposite of what Congress and the American people were being told before the GATT vote.

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Somebody has been lying, which is known to happen when tens of billions of dollars are at stake.

These patent changes, unless corrected will mean billions of dollars in royalties that would be paid to American inventors and investors, will now stay in the bank accounts of foreign corporations. It means technology paid

for and invented in the United States will in a few short years be available to our world competitors to use against us for free.

This crime against the American people can be prevented. I have introduced legislation that will restore American patent rights to the guaranteed 17-year term that was in place before passage of the GATT implementation legislation. This bill, H.R. 359 has over 108 cosponsors. These people are protectionist, free traders, pro-GATT, anti-GATT, liberals, conservatives, Democrats, and Republicans. But what ties us all together is our commitment to do what is right by the American people. H.R. 359 is on the side of the little guy versus the big guy.

We are protecting America's rights. When Americans invest something or they invest in new technology, foreign corporations should not be able to use it without paying royalties to use it to out-compete Americans.

This is the travesty that passed through GATT. It was hidden in GATT. Now we are trying to correct that with H.R. 359.

I ask my colleague in both parties to join me as cosponsors for H.R. 359 and set the law right to prevent another crime against the American people, against American inventors and investors.

On the Senate side I am proud to announce that the majority leader, BOB DOLE, has cosponsored similar legislation which will now be known as the Dole-Rohrabacher bill.

APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE SPEAKER GINGRICH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the need for an outside counsel to investigate Speaker GINGRICH's financial empire grows stronger with each passing day.

Today there is an article in the Los Angeles Times which raises new questions about the Speaker's political fund raising organization, an organization known as GOPAC.

Earlier this month there were details of a secret meeting between the Speaker and Rupert Murdoch and that was leaked to the press. The meeting raised some questions because Mr. Murdoch has billions of dollars of business before the Congress, and at that same time there was a \$4.5 million book deal that was on the table.

The Speaker dismissed this meeting and its content or its import by saying that, "I never get involved in cases like this," but history in fact tells us otherwise. The Speaker has interceded on behalf of companies in the past, including writing a letter to Chief of Staff Leon Panetta asking the FDA to speed

up the approval process of one of his pharmaceutical company's products. Lo and behold, the pharmaceutical company devoted \$30,000 or an amount thereabouts to the Progress in Freedom Foundation's conservative think tank organization that does in fact have ties to the Speaker.

Today's Los Angeles Times has an expose on GOPAC. It provides us with some really rather startling information. GOPAC, again a Republican fund-raising machine, has raised millions of dollars without telling us who the donors are. The amount raised, according to the Los Angeles Times, is much higher than that which is allowed by laws governing campaign fund-raising. One couple, it is reported, have given about \$715,000 over 8 years, and this was a quote from the L.A. Times, "nearly twice what they could have donated directly to all Federal candidates."

Despite claims to the contrary, GOPAC appears to be very involved in getting Republican candidates elected to the Congress. Again, according to the Los Angeles Times and I quote, "GOPAC boasts that half of the 136 elected Republicans since 1990 actively used the group's training materials and followed its advice on how to attack Democrats."

Quoting the former GOPAC chairman, and I quote, "Of course we couldn't have captured the House without GOPAC." How can this be? We have been told, the American people have been told that GOPAC's multimillion dollar organization did not involve itself in more than 10 percent of the time in Federal election issues.

And the American people need to understand this: We have sent this complex issue to be investigated by the House Ethics Committee, where many of the Members could be recipients of help from the very group that they are in fact going to investigate.

Really never has there been a clearer case for investigation by a non-partisan, nonpartisan outside counsel. GOPAC has been too secretive with its finances. People need to know why. Why are the names of the contributors secret? Is it, as was suggested in the Los Angeles Times by the former GOPAC chair, because their donors say, and again I quote, "what if GOPAC did something wrong and I was associated with it?"

Let us open the books. Let us have an open and fair and honest review. Let us make the American public understand who are the contributors to GOPAC, what are their relationships with the U.S. Congress.

We need to have an outside counsel look at this. That is simple, very clear and open, and without any aforementioned judgment, but let us have a look at what this is all about.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I,

the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We remember in this our prayer, O gracious God, those who seek to serve people in their concerns and who endeavor to do Your will. We pray also for all those who are burdened by the pressures and tensions of daily living and who struggle where values are weighed and who are immersed in the complexities and priorities of justice. As people face these concerns we pray that they will be comforted by Your presence and sustained by Your good spirit, this day and every day. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MASCARA] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MASCARA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Hallen, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S.1. An act to curb the practice of imposing unfunded Federal mandates on States and local governments, to strengthen the partnership between the Federal Government and State, local and tribal governments; to end the imposition, in the absence of full consideration by Congress, of Federal mandates on State, local, and tribal governments without adequate funding, in a manner that may displace other essential governmental priorities; and to ensure that the Federal Government pays the costs incurred by those governments in complying with certain requirements under Federal statutes and regulations, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 94-304, as amended by Public Law 99-7, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, ap-

points Mr. D'AMATO, to serve as co-chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 103-227, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican leader, appoints Mr. GREGG as a member of the National Education Goals Panel, vice Mr. COCHRAN.

The message also announced that pursuant to Senate Resolution 105, adopted April 13, 1989, as amended by Senate Resolution 280, adopted October 8, 1994, the Chair, on behalf of the minority leader, announced the following appointments and designations to the Senate Arms Control Observer Group: Mr. BYRD as minority administrative cochairman; and Mr. NUNN as cochairman for the minority.

REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, our Contract With America states, on the first day of Congress, a Republican house will:

Force Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else, cut one-third of committee staff, and cut the congressional budget.

We have done that.

It goes on to state that in the first 100 days, we will vote on the following items: A balanced budget amendment—we have done this; unfunded mandates legislation; line-item veto; a new crime bill to stop violent criminals; welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence; family reinforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and protect our children; tax cuts for families to lift government's burden from middle-income Americans; national security restoration to protect our freedoms; Senior Citizens; Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty; Government regulation reforms; commonsense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits; and congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

TRIBUTE TO THE WORLD CHAMPION SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

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

Mr. MINETA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the World Champion San Francisco Forty-Niners on their victory in Super Bowl XXIX.

I am especially proud to say that the Forty-Niners' headquarters and practice facility is in the city of Santa Clara, in my district, and that all-pro tight end Brent Jones is a graduate of Santa Clara University.

All season, the Forty-Niners displayed a commitment to teamwork,