

The Mexican economic crisis began in late December 1994, and President Ernesto Zedillo was inaugurated as the Mexican President on December 1, 1994. Is Mexico really in dire straits?

The President of Mexico claims to make \$8,000 a month. This past weekend in an article the Mexico Civil Alliance has found that the Mexican President has a secret fund of \$86 million approved by Mexico's Congress for 1996 to use at his discretion. The Mexican mayor received a \$100,000 Christmas bonus.

Again, did we really need to bail Mexico out without any questions? Or did we simply give their Government more money to use at their discretion to give bonuses and have secret funds?

No more executive orders for bail-outs. Where is the economic accountability for our taxpayers?

#### UNFREEZE THE REPORT

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, at this time of year communities all over America are organizing their fall coat drives to help the less fortunate. Well, as my colleagues might imagine, here in the Gingrich Congress it takes a little different twist. Speaker GINGRICH, instead of organizing a coat drive, has organized a giant ice bucket drive, and I brought my ice bucket along. He is asking Members to turn in their ice buckets.

Now why do my colleagues imagine that speaker GINGRICH needs so much ice?

Mr. Speaker, the reason is clear. There is an ethics report here in this Congress that is sizzling, it is hot. He needs as much ice as he can dump on that report to keep it in the deep freeze until after the election.

We say to the Speaker, we wish him well in his ice bucket gathering, but there is not enough ice in this Congress to keep in deep freeze the report of your ethical misconduct. We call on the Speaker and the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to release the report on the tax violations, on the misconduct.

Stop pouring ice on it, Mr. Speaker. Do something constructive in these waning days. Unfreeze the report.

#### JUST SAY NO TO UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHIES

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

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about trust and the violation of privacy. Two highly publicized unauthorized biographies, one to be written by a Democratic consultant and another by a Republican consultant, are examples of a problem that transcends partisan politics and resonates throughout our culture.

We are a nation that values an individual's right to privacy, yet time and time again unauthorized books are written based on rumor and innuendo that purport to expose the private lives of public figures for all to see.

There was a time, Mr. Speaker, when trust and loyalty were cherished and truly personal matters were kept private. But today, if pecuniary interests are at stake, anything is fair game. This is symbolic of the lack of discretion and respect that is permeating our society and contributes to a breaking down of integrity in relationships. In the end analysis, sensationalism sells, truth is denigrated, and all unauthorized biographies become suspect.

Our courts may find that unauthorized biographies filled with inaccuracies and insinuations cannot be prohibited in our free society. However, we can just say no and refuse to buy them. Perhaps then, without profit to publish, this rubbish will disappear from our culture.

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#### FDA CRAZINESS

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, by the way, I agree with the previous speaker.

Mr. Speaker, drug use by teenagers has exploded in this country, yet the President only seems to want to ignore it.

Now we have found out that the FDA is trying to prevent parents from purchasing a home drug testing kit.

Why? Because families won't be able to address the issue correctly, and it will cause family discord.

Can they be serious? A recent poll showed that 96 percent of parents felt they should have the right to direct and control the upbringing and discipline of their children.

The President wants to let the FDA eliminate smoking and cigarettes, but he won't even give parents a chance to handle their own teenager's drug use.

This is the last straw. The President and the FDA have lost it. Maybe they did inhale.

I yield back the balance, urging the FDA to just don't do it.

#### THE 104TH CONGRESS IN REVIEW

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, we are about to reach the end of the fiscal year. As they like to say, why do we not have a year in review, or rather, how about the 104th Congress in review?

Let us see. In the spring of 1995, the Republican majority brought us cuts in the school lunch program. I do not un-

derstand that, why we would take funds away from a vital program that helps young people get decent nutrition so they can learn. At any rate, the Democrats fought back.

Then in the summer of 1995, they brought us \$270 billion in cuts in Medicare, and also cuts in Medicaid, to finance big tax breaks for the wealthy, people like your local Congressman, your doctor, your local lawyer, your accountant. They do not need big tax breaks. We certainly need to protect the integrity of Medicare.

Then in the winter of 1995 and 1996, they gave us two Government shutdowns because they could not get their way. Even when President Clinton submitted a balanced budget approved by CBO they were not satisfied. Those Government shutdowns cost the taxpayers a whopping \$1.4 billion and caused tremendous hardship.

Then we had the spring of 1996 stop-and-go government because they wanted to cut education. I do not think the grade is going to be very good.

#### WHITE HOUSE BURIES CRITICAL DRUG REPORT

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, here it is, the Washington Times headline for today: "White House Buries Critical Drug Report."

Mr. Speaker, let me quote the story. The Clinton administration, which has cut drug interdiction efforts by nearly \$630 million since 1992, is sitting on a Pentagon commission report suggesting that President Clinton's shift to a drug treatment strategy has failed. The report, sent to the administration officials in May but never made public, said interdiction was the most successful and cost-effective way of dealing with the Nation's drug problem.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot believe that the White House actively suppressed knowledge of this report. It boggles the minds to know that when confronted with evidence of failure of their own policies, that the White House would look the other way. It is simply too much to accept that the President would do virtually nothing, knowing full well of the explosion of teen drug use. This is unbelievable.

#### VICTIMS RIGHTS

(Ms. FURSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday a Congressman tried to stop Congress from forbidding sale of guns to child abusers. Shame. Yesterday in Portland, OR, my town, a man opened fire in a church, injuring four people, including a pregnant woman.

The NRA opposed the Brady bill. The NRA opposed the assault weapon ban. I

believe the time has come when we must stand up for the rights of victims of gun violence, not the rights of perpetrators of gun violence. We Americans have a basic right. It is the right to be safe in our homes, on our streets, and in our churches.

#### THE MESS IN HAITI

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, President Clinton sent our troops into Haiti, spending over \$2 billion there, and now calls Haiti a foreign policy success.

Three weeks ago, the President rushed 46 armed Federal agents to Haiti to protect President Preval and to purge members of Preval's own United States-trained palace guard who may have killed two opposition leaders.

If President Clinton's agents fail, he may have to salvage this success story by sending our troops back into Haiti.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress and the American people are entitled to know just what has gone wrong in Haiti and why.

Regrettably, the President has invoked executive privilege to withhold key documents from our International Relations Committee's oversight review.

This is a blatant abuse of power hiding a foreign policy failure. Neither President Reagan—in Iran-Contra—nor President Bush—in Iraqgate—ever used executive privilege to keep the Congress in the dark.

Our committee will be holding a hearing tomorrow morning to get to the bottom of the mess in Haiti.

#### URGING MEMBERS TO SUPPORT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR RELEASE OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL'S REPORT ON SPEAKER GINGRICH

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as Ghandi once said, "Noncooperation with evil is as much a moral imperative as is cooperation with good." Over the course of the last week, I have stood on this House floor and called repeatedly for the release of the outside counsel report on the ethical violation of Speaker NEWT GINGRICH.

My colleague, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER], has stood repeatedly to object to my speaking about this matter. I understand why the gentleman would not want me to discuss this issue; it does such little good for his friend, the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes the rules must be confronted in the face of injustice. This was the case when I participated in the sit-ins and the freedom rides of the 1960's, and it is true today regarding the outside counsel report.

Mr. Speaker, today, once again, the Members of this House have a chance to vote for the release of the outside counsel report. I urge Members to support my resolution. To do otherwise is to risk being accused of participating in a Newt Gingrich ethics coverup.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE BARBARA VUCANOVICH

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

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a distinguished lady who is retiring after seven terms as a strong voice for Nevada: BARBARA VUCANOVICH.

BARBARA VUCANOVICH has represented the massive Second Congressional District since it was created in 1983. She retains the distinction as the first woman elected to Federal office from Nevada.

Many of you know BARBARA as one of the first women elected to the House Republican leadership and as the only woman to chair an appropriations subcommittee.

But to me and her fellow Nevadans, BARBARA is much more than our Congresswoman. She is a dedicated, warm, energetic, caring, public servant whom her constituents respect and have depended on to advocate the issues vital to the "Silver State."

BARBARA has fought for the jobs of Nevadans by protecting the mining and gaming industries from repeated assaults.

BARBARA led the fight for over a decade to repeal the unfair source tax levied on retirees.

Because of her leadership, the quality of life of our Nation's Armed Forces is better than ever.

Most importantly, BARBARA is a pioneer for women. As a brave survivor of breast cancer, BARBARA has worked tirelessly to educate women about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and to increase the availability of mammograms.

Even though BARBARA VUCANOVICH is heading home, she will continue to serve Nevada in other capacities.

Please join me in thanking BARBARA for her unique contributions and a job well done. I wish my good friend all the best.

I wish her God Speed and God Bless.

#### CALLING ON ETHICS COMMITTEE TO RELEASE REPORT ON SPEAKER GINGRICH'S ACTIVITIES

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, seven times the half Republican, half Democrat Ethics Committee has found speaker GINGRICH guilty: of using the House floor, this Chamber, to advertise his 1-800 number, guilty; using his of-

fice to commingle political and office resources, guilty; using the House floor to advertise his Political Action Committee, guilty.

The bipartisan Ethics Committee rebuked Speaker GINGRICH because he, and I quote, "capitalized on his office and exploited his office for personal gain," when he signed his \$4 million book review with a major Republican contributor.

Now taxpayers have spent \$500,000 to investigate his other activities, yet Speaker GINGRICH has squelched this Government report; \$500,000 of the taxpayers' dollars spent on the investigation, yet Speaker GINGRICH has squelched this Government report.

Mr. Speaker, show us the report. Release the report.

#### THE 104TH CONGRESS, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONGRESS IN A GENERATION

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, this Congress has been the most significant Congress in a generation. We have changed Washington and we have ended the culture of spending.

In less than 2 years, we have enacted congressional reform, the Telecommunications Act, the Freedom to Farm Act, health insurance reform, and genuine reform of welfare.

And when the Medicare Board of Trustees said that Medicare was going bankrupt, Republicans in this Congress listened and we responded with a plan to save Medicare so that our parents and grandparents would be protected. But Bill Clinton vetoed that plan and liberal Democrats here in Congress have resorted to the rhetoric of fear and demagoguery.

Mr. Speaker, this Republican Congress has a record of accomplishment it can be proud of. We have introduced the cool, clear water of common sense into a dry and parched land. And we will continue the fight for a smaller Government and a brighter future for America.

#### REPUBLICANS UNIFIED BEHIND BOB DOLE

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, people are talking behind your back. They say that you Republicans are not a unified party. That you're running away from the top of your ticket. But, I think you are united behind Bob Dole.

Just look at the way that your hand-picked Ethics Committee is hiding the truth about the Gingrich scandals. It's a page right out of the Bob Dole playbook. Look at the similarities. Bob Dole won't tell us the truth about his tax-cut plan—and the Ethics Committee won't tell us the truth about NEWT's tax-return scam.