

the first district was transferred, departing residents left behind nasty surprises by opening gas valves, causing several small fires. "For the next transfer, we put soldiers on top of the valves," he says. That created a new problem: "They knew the gas was off, so it made it easier for them to take meters and regulators."

In each area where the 353rd operates, rebuilding is complicated by Bosnia's simultaneous conversion from socialism to free markets. Smoothing that change is the main task of two 353rd members detailed to the World Bank office here. "It used to be the ministry would tell [banks] to lend money to a certain concern, and at the end of the year they'd get an interest payment," says Col. Renato Bacci, in civilian life a vice president of the American-services unit of ABN Amro Holding NV, the Dutch bank holding company.

Col. Bacci, a Chicagoan, is teaching Bosnian bankers about cash-flow statements and balance sheets. His colleague, Lt. Col. Gerry Suchanek, a former Special Forces officer who teaches economics at the University of Iowa, says that "everything I do at home is teaching capitalism. Everything I do here is similar."

Asked what business book best applies to his unit's work here "Managing Chaos" perhaps? Brig. Gen. Thomas Matthews says his soldiers are writing the real book. "Let's put it this way," says the commander, who is a district sales manager for AT&T's Lucent Technologies Inc. spinoff. "The art of war is very mature. It goes back thousands of years to Sun Tzu. The art of peace is much newer. . . . We're learning about it here."

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

[Mr. RIGGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### AMERICA'S ECONOMIC LULL BEFORE THE STORM

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I intend to get into something else, but just on what the gentlewoman from Ohio has just mentioned, let me say this: Some people think because the stock market is at record highs that that means that everything is OK, but I think we need to ask ourselves, are we really in the lull before the storm? Because in the last 3 years, 1.5 million people have lost their jobs due to corporate downsizing, and as one of the national newscasts reported a few days ago, almost all of the people, unlike in the eighties, almost all of the people who lost their jobs in the nineties have stayed out of work on average about twice as long as in the eighties and they have had to take jobs at far less pay than the ones they lost.

In addition to that, we had a \$153 billion trade deficit last year, and every leading economist will tell us that conservatively we lose 20,000 jobs per billion dollars. So that means we lost over 3 million jobs due to poor trade policies just in the last year.

And then, even more importantly than that, Mr. Speaker, our unemployment rate is relatively low but our underemployment rate is terrible. We have millions of college graduates who cannot find jobs in the fields for which they were trained, and we are ending up with the best educated waiters and waitresses in the entire world. We need to work on these things if we are going to straighten this country out and make it a land of opportunity again, as it should be.

#### LIBERAL BIAS OF NATIONAL MEDIA

Mr. Speaker, tonight I wanted to get into the very liberal bias of the national news media.

Mr. Speaker, a couple of weeks ago, the superintendent of the Prince Georges County, MD school system revoked an invitation to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas to speak at a graduation ceremony.

Another high-ranking Prince Georges official called this action the "epitome of intolerance and bigotry."

She was certainly correct.

Today, in the U.S.A. Today newspaper, columnist Richard Benedetto, has written an outstanding column about this and about the very unfair way in which the liberal national news media treats conservatives.

In fact, this liberal bias, this double standard, is so obvious that longtime CBS correspondent Bernard Goldberg, wrote recently that "the old argument that the networks, and other media elites have a liberal bias, is so blatantly true that it's hardly worth discussing anymore."

In fact, the Freedom Forum and U.S.A. Today recently conducted a poll of Washington reporters and Bureau chiefs and found that only 2 percent classified themselves as conservatives.

At any rate, back to today's column by Mr. Benedetto.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article for the RECORD.

[From the U.S.A. Today, June 10, 1996]

#### MEDIA SILENT ON RIGHT'S RIGHTS (By Richard Benedetto)

Picture this: Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is invited to speak at an awards ceremony at a suburban Washington, D.C., school. A member of the school board who is also a member of the Christian Coalition objects because Ginsburg supports abortion rights.

The board member threatens demonstrations. The school superintendent, seeking to avoid a messy scene, withdraws the invitation.

Of course, this never happened. But imagine it did.

Women's groups would have been outraged. The American Civil Liberties Union would have denounced it as an egregious breach of free speech. The hue and cry in the media would have made it a national cause celebre. Liberal politicians would have been incensed.

A similar incident did occur last month, except the Supreme Court justice was not Ginsburg—it was Clarence Thomas, a conservative and the only black member of the nation's highest court.

Remarkably absent from the debate were the free-speech groups that usually rush to

the defense of those being prevented from legitimately expressing their views, no matter how controversial. Black and civil rights groups also took a pass.

And the national news media largely ignored or played down the story.

It's the kind of thing that provides ammunition to anyone who believes the media are in the clutches of liberals. In this case, the complaint wouldn't be that a liberal bias crept into how the story was reported, but that it influenced how the story was played—or not played.

Why hasn't more attention been paid? Maybe it's because Thomas doesn't hold the "right" opinions.

In the lexicon of political correctness, support of abortion rights is good; opposition to affirmative action is bad. And for those with the temerity to go against the grain, the laws of free speech and rules of civility apparently don't apply.

One of the few national columnists to defend Thomas was Richard Cohen of The Washington Post. While he doesn't subscribe to all the jurist's views, he argued Thomas has a right to be heard. "The black inner city has gone to hell in a handbasket while (Thomas' critics) have been leading the African-American community," Cohen said. "If they are so sure that their path is the correct one, they should spend less time vilifying Clarence Thomas and more time engaging in a battle of ideas."

The invitation for Thomas to speak at the school followed a student field trip to the Supreme Court. There, Thomas was the only justice to invite the students into his chambers. For 90 minutes he patiently spoke and answered questions. The invitation was extended by the PTA as a thank you.

Thomas, unlike the other justices, routinely visits with students when they tour the court.

These days we walk around wondering why our young people seem to be in the grip of a moral and spiritual crisis. When public officials, community leaders and news media demonstrate such double standards, the reasons why should be clearer.

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#### BURNING OF BLACK CHURCHES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JONES). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this poignant picture in the Washington Times says it all. It is a parishioner praying in a church in North Carolina that has been under siege and burned down last Thursday.

As we reflect on the Constitution of the United States, we realize that the first amendment is one of the more fundamental rights of this Nation. In that amendment, in addition to the right to free speech, is the right to freedom of religion, the opportunity for all of us as Americans to be able to worship in peace and as we please.

In fact, as this Nation was founded, we were founded on the very tenets and underpinnings of religious freedom. It seems, however, a few in this Nation would want to lay siege upon the Constitution of the United States of America. I find it both outrageous and inexcusable and, therefore, am calling upon all of those of goodwill to rise up in opposition to what may be random, what

may be conspiratorial but what may be ugly and deadly.

I join my colleague, the gentlewoman from North Carolina, in supporting her resolution calling upon this Congress to denounce these vicious activities. I rise this evening in the shadow of two very serious burnings in Texas, my home State. I rise as a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, having participated in hearings just a week or so ago calling upon the President and the Attorney General to first of all organize a coordinated effort to attack this siege and I am glad to say that as of this weekend, after a meeting with ministers of churches who have been burned, such a coordinated effort was first established along with an 800 toll-free number and, yes, of course, an increased effort to determine the cause and the perpetrators of these heinous acts.

Tomorrow the House Committee on the Judiciary will mark up legislation dealing with the penalizing and the effort to obstruct those who would lay siege upon the Constitution of the United States of America.

I would simply say the tragedy in Texas has determined that there were at least three perpetrators. But the one thing we do know is that the houses of prayer, no matter where they are, should be sacred institutions of which all of us respect their existence and the right of those individuals to worship.

It is important also that we acknowledge the racial underpinnings of these acts and certainly not run away from the tensions that have been created in the last 2 years amongst our people in this country. It would simply ask, as the ministers have asked, that we pray and that we have the opportunity to join together as humankind to stand up against these tragedies and atrocious acts.

I call upon my colleagues in the U.S. Congress to support this resolution of outrage, and I call upon the President and the Attorney General to seriously emphasize that the perpetrators, wherever they are, will be caught and brought to justice. If need be, I would ask that we entertain the idea of the National Guard being sent into these respective places, so that we can find some sense of solace and comfort to those who feel they are under siege.

I do ask those who are part of the investigatory process to be sure that they do not make those who are the members of the churches the victims and that the investigation be done in a manner that respects the tragedy that has occurred. We certainly want to get to the bottom of it. We do not want to throw stones. We do not want to have misinformation. But we certainly want to get the right information, the best information, the information that will allow us to fairly solve these crimes.

And most of all, Mr. Speaker, we ask that we will have the ability to save lives and not have something similar to the atrocity and the very sinful and terrible act of the 1963 church bomb-

ings that took the lives of four little girls.

I stand here because I want to save lives. Let us join together in this investigation, taking it extremely seriously. Let all parties join together and provide the necessary information on the toll free act. Let us swiftly pass legislation that may in fact prosecute those individuals more quickly and certainly let us rise together as a house to denounce these atrocities collectively in a resolution sponsored by my colleague from North Carolina to denounce these church arson burnings.

Let us join together as Americans so that we can safely and freely pray together in our houses of worship.

#### OUR NATION'S DRUG POLICY

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House tonight to talk about a situation as serious as the one my colleague has just enumerated with the burning of the black churches in this country. Certainly I support her comments, and everything should be done in that regard to resolve this situation.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about another serious situation, and that is the lack of a national drug policy. I represent central Florida, a beautiful area between Orlando and Daytona Beach. I am so fortunate. Other areas of the country sometimes have problems, and we have problems. But it is normally a very tranquil place. People work and go to school. But lately I get home, got home last weekend and turn on the television. I do not know whether I am in Washington, DC, with the murders, with the atrocities that are being committed by certain individuals in our society or whether I am in Detroit or New York or wherever. Sometimes you read the conflicts. But last weekend, we had a 13-year-old car hijacking. We had the incident of 18-year-olds involved in murders, some double murders. I look out in the community, and I have seen people that I have worked with who have lost family now in this drug war. I wonder where our Nation's drug policy is.

Really, what you sow, I guess, is what you reap in this business. I am really disappointed in the President and this administration. I come before the House tonight to talk about the drug policy. I am afraid that under the President, it has been an absolute disaster. I guess when you take some actions like the President has taken, first thing he did was dismantle the drug czar's office and fire everyone in the White House with only a handful left working on the drug czar.

Then he appointed Joycelyn Elders our Nation's number one health official. And what did she say? She said: Just say maybe, maybe we should legalize drugs. Then we stopped sharing the drug information with our South

American and other allies in the drug region. We saw how our policy was a disaster in that regard, only through an uproar in Congress did some of that get changed.

Then we witnessed the destruction of our drug interdiction program, how we found recently assets that were destined for drug interdiction got diverted to Haiti, to other projects, how the Coast Guard, who in the Caribbean had a \$630 million budget and now is getting up to maybe \$370 million to fight drugs, a dramatic decrease in interdiction because this President wanted the money to go for treatment. I submit to my colleagues tonight that treating just folks in this drug war is like treating the wounded in a battle.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen the results. The results are absolutely startling. Tonight I want to talk about a report that is out by the Drug Abuse Warning Network which talks about the increases of cocaine, which talks about the increases of marijuana, which talks about the increases of heroin. It is not just among our adult population. It is now in our children.

Look at this chart, which details, and you can see from the 1980's, how drug abuse and drug use are going down. In 1992, when this policy kicked in, you see what has happened here, with 12th graders, with 10th graders, and even 8th graders. This is not an acceptable situation.

Let me read from this report that just came out last week. The Drug Abuse Warning Network, commonly known as DAWN, collects data from hospitals and other reporting agencies. The news according to this report is terrible.

Let me quote it: Compared with the first half of 1994, which was the high water mark for drug related emergency room cases, cocaine related emergency increased 12 percent, from 68,000, to 76,000. In heroin related episodes, that rose 27 percent. Marijuana related episodes increased 32 percent and methamphetamines and some of the designer drug cases grew by about 35 percent. So we have seen the results in our emergency rooms and our communities, with some of our children, some of our young people out of control.

Mr. Speaker, let me also cite this report that we have seen what has happened with cocaine prices. On cocaine prices, we see the consequences of the changes in this administration's policy. Cocaine prices actually went down, and we made cocaine more available. Prices were from \$172 a gram to \$137. So in interdiction where we have dismantled the program we see the direct results.

I serve on the committee that oversees our drug policy. Let me tell you, the report that we came up with on our assessment of this situation is detailed in this report released in March. I brought it before the Congress. It should also be startling to everyone in the media, everyone in the public, and everyone in this Congress. This details