

[Mrs. SMITH of Washington addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

#### THE SHRINKING MIDDLE CLASS

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, there is a rising tide of despair and growing resentment all across this Nation. The American dream is being snuffed out for more and more American families.

This is directly related to the decline of the middle class. The rich are getting richer, but the middle class is being assaulted today by the flight of family wage jobs overseas, by high taxes, by the disparity of income between the rich and the middle class. The middle class has shrunk, as many families no longer have the income to buy a home, save money for their children's education or prepare for their retirement.

The number of millionaires is dramatically increasing. That is great, unless at the same time more people fall out of the middle class to become the working poor, descending into poverty.

Many say that the Republican Party is the party of the rich. I say this Republican Congress is the party with the duty to resurrect the middle class.

My dad quit school and went to work at age 16 on his first job for \$1 a day. That was the pay, \$1 a day on his first job. Just 10 years later, he made enough working in a mill in Marysville to support a family, built his own house and, 2 years after that, to build his own small commercial fishing boat. And all that was paid for at that time.

Today with both husband and wife working, many families cannot get ahead. They are caught in a cycle of what we have to call the working poor. We must ask ourselves, what is happening to America? What is happening to the American dream? What is the cause? Is it the flood of immigrants who are desperate, who will work for anything, pennies, just to get to live in America? Is it the giant multinational cartels of this era? Is the Government

wasteful and inefficient? Is it the former Congresses who voted us \$5 trillion of debt? Is it the interest on that debt that now costs hundreds of billions of dollars each year just to pay the interest, hundreds of billions of dollars each year?

I believe this Congress has no more important duty than to find out what went wrong, to report to the American people exactly what went wrong and the steps American must take to fix it.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

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.]

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

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

#### TRIBUTE TO MAYOR JAMES THOMAS WIGGINTON

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

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House of the passing of one of Tennessee's valuable leaders, Mayor James Thomas Wigginton. Tommy Wigginton, mayor of Michie, TN died earlier this month at the age of 52.

Mayor Wigginton dedicated his life to the service of others. He was a man who portrayed undying Christian principles in everything he did, every day of his life. He was a blessing to his family, his friends, and every citizen of the community of Michie. Mayor Wigginton served the community as mayor, wholeheartedly, for the past 19 years. He was also a benevolent contributor to the lives of the residents of McNairy County, which has a population of more than 23,000 people. Mayor Wigginton played a key role in the education of McNairy County's school children, and he was the transportation supervisor for the McNairy County school system.

Superintendent of Schools Billy Joe Glover said of Wigginton: "Tommy was a valuable part of the department of education. He had really worked hard and had been concerned about drivers, buses, the children and the problems that related to all of them. He worked to do the right thing, the Christian thing in dealing with others. He was constantly concerned that everyone around him be treated fairly."

The residents of Tennessee and the community of Michie owe a great debt to Tommy Wigginton. He was a man who lived every day for the betterment of the community. Tommy was an excellent leader in many aspects of his life. He will be missed greatly by all of the people he affected while on this Earth.

I want to extend my sympathies to his wife, Elizabeth Ann, and his three sons: Tommy, Shea, and Jim, and let them know Tommy's contributions to his community are greatly appreciated.

Let us remember Mayor Wigginton, as a man of honor, honesty, and patriotism.

#### DONALD DUGAN'S WIDOW'S LETTER

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to yield some time to Mr. DORNAN of California because he was reading a letter of a widow of a great American and he was not through with it.

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I just found another paragraph in Miriam Dugan's letter, the widow of Donald Dugan, the handsome 35-year-old, 17-year Army sergeant who died in the presence of the children that he was trying to save from a land mine.

I just wanted to read the opening of her letter and the whole letter will appear in the RECORD for anybody interested who watches our proceedings on C-SPAN.

I am writing this letter on behalf of my husband, Specialist First Class Donald H. Dugan, and my family. My husband was killed disarming an explosive device while deployed in Bosnia. I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know he was not the type of person that the media has represented him to be. He was portrayed as careless for trying to disarm the explosive when specific guidance had been issued to leave explosives alone. He was not careless.

Mr. KINGSTON. I hate to interrupt this great letter but are you saying to me that a war hero, right after Memorial Day, was depicted by the U.S. Army for being careless and irresponsible because he was trying to save children's lives?

Mr. DORNAN. It started the very week Don Dugan died, when I went to a big military dinner and a four-star general says to me, without knowing the facts and did not even know his name, Well, I hear he was way out in front of his troops and he was not doing what was right.

I looked at this four-star and I said, we are not developing a story here so that Clinton bears no blame for sending these people to Bosnia. I said, you

better be careful here, general. To have a widow, through the Army Times, have to beg people, Mother of his four children, not to portray him in a bad light. She said, "He was not careless. He was caring. He was a loving and devoted husband, father and military leader. My husband made the ultimate sacrifice. He gave his life to save others."

She talks about the cards and letters she had received from his friends who I told you called him McGyver. Since when does a widow have to beg, do not think ill of my husband who had told his men the day before, the week before and that morning, we are here to save these children in Bosnia from blowing themselves to bits by these mines?

Mr. KINGSTON. This was a woman whose husband went because of the Commander in Chief sending them into harm's way.

Mr. DORNAN. His was one of the first vehicles to cross the Sava River. Get this peculiar thing, of being the first man, he was in A company, A troop of the first company of the first squadron of the first battalion of the first brigade of the First Armored division. He was one of the first to cross the bridge.

The media could highlight with a little brightened circle and say, here is Donald Dugan, one of the first men into Bosnia. He gives his life, and he has probably saved other lives because now everybody is backing off the explosives. There will be kids losing legs and arms and their lives with these land mines that all sides planted there.

To have the widow beg, through the Army Times, Please do not think ill of my husband, he was not careless, he was caring, is symbolic. That is why I say, all of our people in Bosnia on the ground are a form of hostage, relieving European men and women from being there, outside of the NATO mandate that they should take care of this on the ground.

Mr. KINGSTON. The gentleman from Arizona has joined us. I yield to Mr. HAYWORTH.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Georgia. As always, I am heartened and, yes, frankly troubled by the statements of our good friend from California. For once again, our friend from California points up a disturbing pattern of denial on the part of this administration.

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As we said on the evening when we debated the whole notion of sending our troops there, this is not for fighting men and women to pull the zebra stripes of the referee in an athletic contest over their camouflage. Our fighting men and women are exactly that. They are not referees, nor are they social workers.

And far more disturbing, my colleagues, in addition to the disinformation, the denial, the disavowal of this man's sacrifice, now word comes that the President of the United States would like to extend this

mission in Bosnia past the deadline of 1 year, perhaps to silence critics that said this could have been a political move, or perhaps fitting into a pattern of inconsistency that has beset the foreign policy of this administration, a foreign policy typified by the irrationality—

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARTON of Texas). The time of the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] has expired.

#### PARLIMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, is it in order for this gentleman to make a unanimous-consent request that we continue to speak until 12 midnight?

Mr. DORNAN. Ask for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has the right under the rules to request a unanimous-consent request that he address the House for 5 minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. KINGSTON. Is it not true we are about to end the 5-minute session?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. If there are no other 5-minute requests under the Speaker's previous announced policy, the minority will be recognized for 7½ minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. And is it not true, if the minority is not here, then we can request unanimous consent to use the balance of the time if the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] does not give a 5-minute request?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair does not know that the statement the gentleman from Georgia made is correct at this time.

Mr. HAYWORTH. I, rather than requesting—

Mr. KINGSTON. No, no.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Ladies and gentlemen, we are consulting on this.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

#### DISTURBING TRENDS OF THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION

The SPEAKER pro-tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] is recognized for until midnight as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HAYWORTH. I thank the Speaker pro tempore for taking us through that process which is required because, after all, this House operates by rules, and we attempt to bring some rationality to this process that some would call highly irrational.

But as I was saying a moment ago, what I find completely irrational are

the flip-flops of this administration as stewards of our foreign policy for once again, remarkable to me upon my election to this institution was hearing the suggestion, far from modest and far from realistic, that this Nation provide the technology for nuclear reactors to be construed in the outlawed Nation of North Korea. I asked the Secretary of Defense at a brunch we held, and I thanked the Secretary for coming by, and essentially he told me:

Congressman-elect, you need a better briefing on the subject.

It was my good fortune to run into the Honorable Jean Kirkpatrick, our former ambassador to the United Nations, who was far more candid in her assessment when she said:

Congressman-elect, you do not need a fuller briefing. You correctly identified the problem.

And it is this disturbing trend of this administration that would put Americans in harm's way, that would deal with the most irrational policy around the world that should give all Americans grave concern, for this administration is typified not by what it can accomplish but how it can explain away its problems this time, what verbal contortions and rhetorical gymnastics can be brought to bear to explain away an unfortunate snafu this time? Woe to us if we fail to develop a rational, consistent foreign policy that has paramount interests of the United States of America as its clearly defined goal.

No good people can disagree, but I maintain this administration, perhaps with the best of intentions, has made the worst of decisions.

I yield to my friend from Georgia.

Mr. KINGSTON. If the gentleman would yield, now on this subject of what is reality I have one that I want to share with you. It is a little bit off the military path, but is true.

Last night I attended a Georgia Farm Bureau dinner in Washington, and the speaker was Clinton appointee Richard Rominger. Now he was speaking on accomplishments of the Clinton administration. Well, as did everyone else in the audience, I thought it was going to be a real short evening with that being the topic, but as it turns out he was claiming everything with the conviction of the rooster taking credit for the rising sun, and so it was rather lengthy.

But one of the things that he said was the Clinton administration is claiming that the national debt has fallen \$15,000 per family of four.

Now our colleague, MAC COLLINS, a Ways and Means member and number cruncher, says how is that possible? The national debt has risen for the last 3 years the Clinton folks have had the White House; how could it be falling? And without blinking a shameless Clinton appointee said:

Oh, it is easy. The annual deficit had been going up at a certain rate, and since it is no longer going up at that rate, then the savings that we calculate, the \$15,000 per family, is in the anticipation.