

that had a naked angel on the label. The BATF pounced. Agents told Lynch that pictures of naked ladies on containers of alcohol are forbidden. So Kermit Lynch looked up the law. He discovered that pictures of women in the all together are permissible on containers of alcohol if the pictures are art. The BATF had to backtrack when Mr. Lynch demonstrated that the picture wasn't really a naked woman, it was really an artistic nude from a 13th century tapestry.

A stunned Kermit Lynch says "The BATF is in the business of judging art. Can you believe it?" In an interview, Mr. Lynch told reporter Paul Kilduff that the Kenwood winery in Sonoma County, California hired artist David Goines to do a label. When Mr. Goines came up with a naked woman standing in a vineyard, the BATF pounced again. So, a now angry Mr. Goines submitted a new label with the skeleton of a woman standing in a vineyard. You guessed it. The BATF approved that one.

How many useless laws and useless police agencies do we really need? Surely, we should throw out what we don't need and keep what we do. Like the law that I'm told exists in Tennessee, that prohibits shooting game animals from moving vehicles. The law has one exception: whales. It's legal to shoot whales in Tennessee from a moving vehicle. Now there's a law that we need.

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

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

TERMINATE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH TERRORIST NATIONS

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

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I have grown up believing, being taught by my parents, in the idea of an America built on unwavering values, rock-solid principles that have been built into this culture based on thousands of years of other people's experience, where freedom is valued more than finance, and where human rights mean more than market share.

It was Thomas Jefferson talking about freedom who said that he would stand before the altar of almighty God pledging to battle those who would try to place tyrannical restrictions over the mind of man. And of course, we have heard de Toqueville say America is great because America is good. And when America ceases to be good, it will then cease to be great.

So I believe our goal is to carry on the proud tradition of Washington and Jefferson, the proud tradition of Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Lincoln, who understood the importance of freedom, the idea of American freedom, and who understood that America needed to be, as Ronald Reagan said, quoting Saint Matthew, that America had to be like a bright light shining on the hill for all the world to see.

That is why this next week, as we start talking about foreign ops, that I hope we will start asking some very tough questions about what is happening in Sudan. I think anybody that studies human rights across the globe, whether they are conservative or liberal, or whether they are Democrats or Republicans, really need to be shocked at what has been going on in Sudan since 1989.

According to United Nations human rights reports, we hear of 7-year-old children being crucified, being killed, we hear of villages being destroyed simply based on people's religious views. And what is America's response to what many call the most tyrannical country in the world? It is actually to allow American businesses to go over and do business with this horrible terrorist state, this state that continues to sponsor terrorism across the globe.

When Occidental wanted to go and do business with this terrorist state, they were not permitted to do so because of the antiterrorist legislation that passed this House and was signed by the previous administration. And yet, all Occidental had to do was go to the administration and ask for a waiver and they received it immediately and began doing business with Sudan, again, this country that exports terrorism across the globe that has been responsible for the deaths of Americans and again is responsible for the most heinous crimes against their own people.

That is why I am going to be introducing an amendment next week dealing with Sudan, and the first thing it will do is terminate diplomatic relations with Sudan and require the closure of all diplomatic and consular offices of Sudan and the United States unless the President determines and certifies to the Congress that Sudan is no longer sponsoring or supporting terrorism. That is something that this administration simply cannot do. Americans have already had to flee Sudan in fear. I think it is time that we get Sudan off of our shores until they stop sponsoring state terrorism.

In fact, we had Jimmy Carter, former President, go over and try to negotiate a peace with Sudan. He has been doing it for years. He was given permission to fly to south Sudan to talk to a village; and before he got there, the Sudanese Government bombed that village and Mr. Carter had to flee Sudan.

I think we also need to stop financial transactions with terrorists. And unfortunately, this is not just limited to Sudan. It seems like our foreign policy has been for sale for too long now and we have been dealing with violators of human rights for far too long.

Again, America is about freedom, it is not about simply financial gain. That is why I believe we have to stop financial transactions with terrorists, and we would once again make sure that no exception under the section with respect to Sudan that would allow American businesses to do business

with Sudan, that no exception would be granted by this administration or by this Congress unless the President again certifies to Congress that Sudan is no longer sponsoring or supporting terrorism at home or across the globe.

Again, when you have a country that so persecutes its own people by crucifying 7-year-old children, by having committed a terror campaign against its own people, and then exporting terrorism across the globe and to the United States of America, it is time to stand up and say enough is enough, we value freedom over financial gain, and we will do whatever it takes to support human rights across the global.

TRIBUTE TO HAZEL SECHLER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mrs. MYRICK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, another part of the genteel soul of America died last Saturday night in the small North Carolina town of Weldon, just off I-95, a town where everyone knows everyone else, where just a short time ago evening strolls ended with neighbors chatting on spacious front porches, where everyone was responsible for everyone else. That is the way it was.

Hazel Sechler was virtually blind, 88 years old, and she lived alone and had for over half a century since her only husband met an untimely death. She threw herself into her church work and into her townspeople's needs, including those of my husband Ed, totally into his life for all of his life. She was truly one of the family.

Hazel Sechler was a genteel woman, no cross words for anyone, and she possessed an awesome positive attitude. Hats and gloves did not separate her from the town wino or other misfortunate. She was truly a lady.

Saturday night, someone cut her telephone line while she was talking on the phone to a neighbor. He forced himself inside her house, raped her, and slashed her throat. A genteel part of America died Saturday night; and in a national sense, virtually no one noticed. Yet, Hazel Sechler, the infirm, blind old lady of Weldon, NC, left perhaps enough in those she touched to rekindle the love of God in other places.

RAISING TAXES IS THE BUSINESS OF THE LEGISLATURE, NOT JUDICIARY

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

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, this week I had the opportunity to testify before a subcommittee of the House Committee on the Judiciary on the issue of judicial taxation. Rockford, IL, is a city of about 150,000 people. It is at the top of the State in more ways than one. It is my home. It is where I grew up. I lived there for a number of years

before I moved to the country some time ago.

The city is under a Federal court order to desegregate the school system of School District 205. And what is happening in Rockford is happening across the Nation today as judges take on the roles of legislators, as judges attempt to be school administrators, school boards, teachers, PTA, and as judges arbitrarily and without taking into consideration the impact have raised taxes on the people of School District 205 in an attempt to resolve the proven segregation that took place years ago in that city.

The legislation that I introduce says as follows: That a Federal judge should follow the Constitution and leave to the legislature the business of raising taxes. Unfortunately, it is impossible to do away with the power of a Federal court to raise taxes, and that goes back to years ago when railroads were issued bonds by municipalities and municipalities defaulted on those bonds and courts had to pose something called a structural injunction in order to pay back those bonds.

What has happened in Rockford is that a court has raised taxes, almost doubled taxation in the past 4 years, and the people of Rockford just got their tax bill 3 or 4 days ago. Taxation went up another 10 to 15 percent. And instead of a remedy bringing together a community, instead of a remedy that looks at the past civil rights abuses and says what can we do to bring this community together in order to redress the past civil rights grievance, the remedy ends up dividing a community; the remedy has increased real estate taxes, lowered property values, made it very difficult for people to sell their homes, made it uninviting for people to want to move into School District 205, and put such a hard press especially on seniors, those who are on fixed incomes, seniors whose taxes are much more than they can afford to pay.

As the seniors call my office and as the families who call my office, many with tears in their voice, and say, Congressman, I do not understand why a Federal judge can raise my real estate taxes and I can be subjected to taxation without representation, when in fact a Revolutionary War was fought in that nation over the fact that we as colonies were taxed without having one person representing us in the parliament in Great Britain.

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We thought that was done away with 200 years ago, but it still continues today. The purpose of my legislation is to send a message to the Federal court that you are not a taxing, that the power to tax is with the legislature. If you dare try to raise the taxes of the people, you have to meet very certain guidelines, the first among which is the fact that a remedy cannot be fashioned without the increase of taxes. Then thereafter, the other guidelines that we set up serve as a curb on the powers of

the Federal courts to raise taxes and to destroy the quality of life in cities such as Rockford, IL.

My bill, the Judicial Mandate and Remedy Clarification Act, is constitutional because it sets up the guidelines which under those very rare circumstances under which a court can undertake to raise the taxes of the local people.

I would encourage my colleagues to become signatories to this type of legislation because when we talk about judicial activism, ultimately it is the U.S. Congress under article III, sections 1 and 2 that has the power to give the jurisdiction to these district courts and the power to set the remedies.

THE GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. WISE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I was struck by an earlier speaker this afternoon who talked about his many concerns about government. I understand that government is not perfect. Government often needs correction. But I think it is time that we also speak about what government does and why government exists and why we believe government is important.

Yesterday this House passed an emergency supplemental bill to assist flood victims not only in my State of West Virginia but across the Midwest and in several other areas. I can testify personally, because I was there when the flood waters were still going down, about the hundreds of sets of eyes that I looked into, that the one thing they were hanging on was the fact that the Federal Emergency Management Agency was there telling them they were going to help them dig out. Right before FEMA got there, the West Virginia National Guard was there. That was government.

I also know that last night, as I drove home, I was reassured to see a police car driving around our block just keeping the calm in our area. Of course right in front of this Capitol, President Clinton addressed a memorial service for fallen law enforcement officers. Those officers fell in the name of government and protecting citizens.

I know that my children and I will sleep secure tonight knowing that we will not be invaded and that even though we live in the richest, in many ways most sought after nation in the world, somebody is on guard protecting us. That is called the military. Yes, we do pay a higher proportion of our budget for military defense than almost any other nation in the world, but I think most of us think that that is a good investment.

I know that my children and I hope they will have the opportunity to go on to higher education just like millions of others before them. And we know that the Government is there providing

those opportunities whether through Pell grants for lower income students or through guaranteed student loans, and indeed, this Congress will debate other means of assisting people to go to college. That is government. I also know that the GI bill, which I consider the single greatest economic development device that the free world has known, which came about following World War II and by which millions of Americans returning home from World War II were able to greatly improve their lives by going to college, they did that through something called government.

I know that my family and I are trying to go see Aunt Connie in a distant State. We will, hopefully, fly to see her over a long weekend. We will depend and fly secure knowing that the air traffic controllers are guiding our planes through the air. Yes, they are government.

I know that when I drive home this evening that I will drive on roads and, quite frankly, no business would build some of the roads between some of the towns in our country. It is just not economically justifiable on today's bottom line, but those roads are built because they are designed to create economic opportunities in the future. Who built those roads? The taxpayer built the roads but the roads were built, the taxpayer built them through something called government.

I understand that nobody likes taxes and I do not either. But when tax day came did anyone point out that the United States of America has the lowest tax burden in the world in the individual tax burden compared to any major industrial democracy. Yes, the tax burden is too high still on low- and middle-income persons but that can be adjusted. But I think it is important to note the value of the services that we receive. I hear concerns about Medicare and Social Security, Social Security is government. It is the single greatest antipoverty program in the world. It dropped the level of senior citizens in poverty by one-half.

Medicare, which is health care for the senior citizen, I might point out, is also insurance for the middle income, middle-age person as well or the younger person because Medicare means that the low-income or middle-income person trying to make a living with a family does not always have to be worrying about supporting their family. Medicare and Social Security are taking care of those aged loved ones for that. That is government.

So it is fair for us to argue about the role of government, but I think we ought to be talking in respect about what government can and does do. It does not always work perfectly. It sometimes fails. But it also has many, many purposes and that it provides. Government, finally, is an expression of the people about what they want to be done as a group that they are not able to do individually.

Finally, the final testament to government is the fact that the gentleman