

reduces the administrative appropriation for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, OPIC, from \$32 million to \$20.8 million. OPIC uses taxpayer money to provide direct loans and risk insurance to Fortune 500 companies, who in turn are firing American workers.

One year ago, Congress and the President put an end to the six-decade floor beneath the aid to families with dependent children, or AFDC, a minimus program justified on the basis of simple humanity and basic morality, yet the corporations want to continue their AFDC program, Aid For Dependent Corporations. With their record profits and management salary and benefits, they have no such humanitarian or moral claim. The cost to American taxpayers and workers cannot be justified.

With the destabilizing effects of corporate downsizing on American workers and their families, we should not be providing incentives for America's corporate giants to invest abroad, taking advantage of low wage cost, lower standards, and often exploitative working conditions of Third World countries rather than reinvesting and creating jobs at home. We need to raise the developing country standards, not lower our own in an ever-increasing global economy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, on June 24, on rollcall 311, I am recorded as not voting. I recall vividly being in the Chamber. It was on the agricultural appropriations bill. I feel that I voted but I was inadvertently not recorded on that vote. Had I been recorded on that vote, I would have voted "aye."

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2266, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 198 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 198

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(1)(6) of rule XI, clause 7 of rule XXI, or section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under

the five-minute rule. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 or 6 of rule XXI are waived. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be fifteen minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COBLE). The gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FROST], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate on this issue only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 198 is an open rule, as is customary for appropriations measures. The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule waives points of order against consideration of the bill for failing to comply with 2(L)(6) of rule XI, the 3-day requirement for availability of the report. The rule also waives points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 7 of rule XXI, the 3-day requirement for availability of printed hearings on appropriations bills. Given the schedule we had have before us and the bipartisan manner with which this bill has been brought forward to the House, I think these waivers are entirely reasonable and fair.

In addition, this rule waives points of order under section 306 of the Budget Act of 1974, which prohibits consideration of bills containing matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Budget. In the Committee on Rules we heard no objection from the Committee on the Budget on this point, so I do not believe this caused anybody any trouble either.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill which do not comply with clause 2 of rule XXI, prohibiting unauthorized appropriations and legislation on general appropriations bills, as well as clause 6 of rule XXI, prohib-

iting transfers of unobligated balances. Again, I wish to advise my colleagues that these waivers have been reviewed by the authorizing committee and we have heard no objection to them.

Mr. Speaker, as we have done frequently in the recent past to bring greater awareness to the membership of potential amendments, the rule grants priority in recognition of those Members who have caused their amendments to be preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The rule also provides that the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone votes on any amendment and that the chairman may reduce voting time on postponed questions to 5 minutes, provided that the voting time on the first in a series of questions is not less than 15 minutes, usual procedure. This is a useful time management tool, one that may be especially welcome during these last hectic days as we seek to conclude the historic budget agreement before the August work period.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with our without instructions.

That sounds like a fairly complicated rule, but actually it is a fairly straightforward open rule for appropriations that has gone through all the proper process. I believe it has been done in a bipartisan spirit.

I wish to commend the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG], the subcommittee chairman, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA], the ranking member, for the extraordinary work they have done in crafting this bill. We sometimes resort to large adjectives and hyperbole in describing work here. In this case, I definitely mean it. This is a very good work product, and an awful lot of hard work has been put into it.

These are lean budget times, as we as know. It is even more difficult to make tough choices about national security under such circumstances. When we find ourselves in occasions such as we have today, we find sometimes tensions and breakdown in communications. Things go wrong. But to the credit of both men, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA], that has not happened, and instead we have a bipartisan bill, as we should with something so important as our national security.

On a personal note, as chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, which authorizes programs within this appropriations subcommittee's jurisdiction, I am most grateful for the level of cooperation, attention, and support we have from the appropriators.

□ 1030

The system of congressional oversight does work. It has worked very well in this area, and I am very proud of our effort.

Mr. Speaker, none of us wants to consider the possibility of threats to our

national security, the risks we face overseas, along our borders, and even here at home that seem to come from an ever increasing variety of threats. But in fact, I would say many Americans, especially the younger generations where there is no firsthand experience with war, seem willing to succumb to sort of a wishful thinking that the world is actually a safe place. This is dangerous and wrong. The world is not a safe place. While the type of threat has changed and the face of the enemy certainly looks different, we must never forget there are organizations, governments, and individuals who actively wish us harm.

Just in a short attention span, if we will focus on the tragedy of Pan Am 103 and take it through the bombing of Khobar Towers and think of all that has happened in between, and we will understand, whether it is civilian or military, whether here or there, there are threats to America and American interests and there are casualties and there are tragedies and victims, and we must pay attention. We must remain vigilant and protect ourselves against threats.

The spending bill before us makes the tough choices to live within the balanced budget agreement, while ensuring that crucial defense programs like missile defense are properly funded, and other programs that are not so spectacular.

Frankly, this bill lays out a challenge to the administration to reverse dangerous trends of below adequate spending in some areas. This bill also provides unquestionable support to our troops, most of the men and women doing the hard work of peace at home and overseas every day on our behalf.

We must never allow our budgetary concerns to tempt us to cut corners when it comes to troop readiness or ensuring our fighting forces have the equipment they need, when they need it, and where they need it.

Lastly, this bill makes an important statement about our missions in Bosnia. We are all so proud of the work the American troops have done in that very difficult and uncertain environment, no matter how we feel about the policy questions. But we do not want their mission to be extended indefinitely, and so this bill includes language to enforce a June 30, 1998, deadline.

To those who think it fashionable or politically useful to cut defense, may I suggest a visit to our troops in Bosnia? I think that Members' minds would be changed. May I suggest a review of the action in Desert Storm, of the work that was done by our military? May I suggest a trip to visit the remains of Khobar Towers, if one thinks it is not dangerous work?

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill. It is a fair rule. I urge my colleagues to support both.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I

rise in support of this open rule on H.R. 2266, the Department of Defense appropriation for fiscal year 1998.

The appropriations in H.R. 2266 provide for our Nation's security and for our defense. Thus, they are critical to ensuring that the United States remains the world's leader. The funds recommended in this bill closely track the authorization levels passed by the House and reflect the major policy decisions which were decided in that legislation.

While the funding levels in this bill do fail to keep pace with inflation, they reflect the reality of budgetary restraints and, consequently, the dollar figures in this bill are those that reflect the overall spending levels agreed upon by both the President and the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the cold war may be over, but we do not enjoy a peacetime that allows our military forces to stand down. Instead, they are being called upon to perform both military and peacekeeping roles all around the world. The soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who serve our country are being stretched to the limit, but they are up to the task and their performance under these trying circumstances should make us all very proud.

Mr. Speaker, longer rotations and longer family separations and more work with fewer people is taking a toll on our men and women in uniform and their families. I commend the committee for putting our troops first by providing for the pay raise recommended by the President, improved housing and for quality of life initiatives. The Congress has an obligation to these men and women who serve us, and I hope the continuing commitment to those improvements will be a top priority for both the authorizing committee and the appropriating committee.

Mr. Speaker, the rule provides for waivers of points of orders against the consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI. This waiver is necessary, of course, because the authorization bill has not yet been signed into law. But as every Member knows, the House has done its work and has passed the authorization, and the provisions of this appropriation closely track that bill.

This is especially true with reference to the major policy decisions and acquisitions in the authorization. I am pleased that the committee has provided funding for the B-2 stealth bomber at the level agreed to by the House in the authorization bill, at a level which will allow those parts of the production line, which had been shut down, to start. The B-2 will continue to serve the Air Force well into the next century and, by providing adequate funding for advance procurement, the Congress will ensure that production of this effective weapons system continues in future years.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the bill provides \$81 million for advanced procurement of the F-22, the fighter of the 21st

century, as well as funding for acquisition of seven V-22 tiltrotor aircraft. Important components in the ability of the particular marines and special forces to deliver combat troops safely and effectively. The bill rightfully concentrates on important operations and maintenance accounts, but also looks toward the future by funding important research and development programs.

A combination of quality of life initiatives, procurement, operations and maintenance, along with research into the future of our military needs, makes this an excellent bill in light of the cutbacks required by our need to balance the Federal budget.

Mr. Speaker, this is a fair rule. It allows any Member to contest the spending levels recommended in the bill, but it does not permit the consideration of legislative issues which have already been decided by the House in the authorization bill.

I commend this rule and the bill to my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Glens Falls, NY [Mr. SOLOMON], the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Sanibel, FL, Mr. PORTER GOSS, the manager of this rule, for yielding me this time, and as the gentleman from Florida and the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FROST], have adequately described the rules of debate, I will not get into that except to say that, obviously, it is a fair and open rule.

On the bill itself, Mr. Speaker, let me just again congratulate the chairman, the gentleman from Florida, Mr. BILL YOUNG, and the ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA], and the entire Committee on Appropriations and their staffs, for once again putting together an excellent piece of legislation under very, very difficult circumstances.

The defense appropriation bill, along with the companion authorization bill, probably is the most important thing we do around here, Mr. Speaker. It is absolutely imperative that this bill contain adequate funding for all of the military personnel in all branches of service who are right now out in the field standing vigilant on behalf of the American Government and the American people.

It is imperative that this bill contain enough quality of life incentives to retain and recruit the best people we can for our military. It is imperative this bill contain enough funding for operations and maintenance, so that our troops can be as highly trained as possible in case they are called into battle. It is imperative this bill contain adequate funding for weapons procurement and for research and development so that our troops can fight and defend themselves with only the very best

equipment and technology that money can buy.

Mr. Speaker, to the best extent possible, I think this bill does all of that, considering the funds that are available. At \$248 billion, the bill adds over \$4 billion to President Clinton's wholly inadequate request. The bill adds \$3.9 billion to the President's request for procurement, which is so important, and \$770 million for research and development over and above what the President had asked for.

These accounts contain adequate funding for the weapon systems of tomorrow, some of which were mentioned a minute ago, such as the F-22 stealth fighter, the B-2 bomber, the Marine Corps V-22 troop carrier, and the next generation of aircraft carriers and submarines.

These accounts also contain funding to bring us one step closer to developing and deploying defenses against ballistic missiles, something for which, and I guarantee my colleagues, we will all be grateful for some day.

This bill contains a 2.8-percent pay raise for our soldiers and adds a significant funding increase for barracks, for family housing, and for child care centers, keeping in mind, Mr. Speaker, that when I served in the military, some 45 years ago, most of us were single. Today, most of them are married and we need adequate barracks, adequate family housing and child care centers in order to continue to attract a real cross section of America. That is so terribly important, especially in an all-volunteer military such as we have.

Despite all of these excellent provisions in this bill, let me go on the record right now to say that we continue to provide inadequate, yes, inadequate funds for this Nation's defenses. This bill will represent the 13th straight year of inflation adjusted cuts to the defense budget. No other account in the Federal budget has been cut so much. Weapons procurement, which has been cut by nearly 70 percent since 1985 alone, remains at least \$14 billion below where the Joint Chiefs of Staff said we need to be in order to retain our technology advantage over potential adversaries.

Our military is vastly smaller and older than just 6 years ago during Desert Storm. Most experts agree today that such a mission would simply be impossible to undertake. Keep in mind, for instance, in 1991 we had 18 Army divisions and used 7 of them in Desert Storm. Eighteen Army divisions, seven used in Desert Storm. Today, we have only 10 divisions, not 18, and we are heading toward 9. Now, think about that, my fellow colleagues.

As former Secretary of Defense William Perry said, we are already at the minimum force structure level that we need in order to retain our role as a global power. Think about that.

Of course, this is not the fault of the Committee on Appropriations. As I said before, they have operated under severe constraints, and they have done

one tremendous job with the dollars that they have had available to them. Those constraints are the balanced budget resolution this Congress has passed and, more importantly, the repeated unwillingness of this administration to pay adequate attention to our Nation's defenses.

Despite his State of the Union pledge a number of years ago, President Clinton continues to cut national defense funding in his budgets that he presents to this body and has fought our defense increases tooth and nail. If we had not persevered, think where we would be today.

Mr. Speaker, that is a scandal, but it is one we can overcome by voting for this rule and for this bill today and then working together to find additional moneys for the No. 1 constitutional duty of this House. And if my colleagues read the Constitution, that constitutional duty is providing for a national defense for all Americans. That is the reason we formed this Republic of States, 200 some years ago. And to do that, it is imperative that we give our young men and women the very best.

Some people, Mr. Speaker, would criticize the military. They would criticize serving in the military. But it is one of the most honorable careers that anyone could ever pursue. Anyone. Today, when our young men and women go in our all-volunteer military, first of all they come from a cross section of America. They are the finest. They are young men and women looking for a career. And when they serve, whether it is for 3 years or 5 years or 20 years, they learn a trade but, more importantly, they learn things like the words "pride" and "patriotism" and "volunteerism" and "community." They learn how not to use drugs.

Did my colleagues know that back in the early 1980's that 25 percent of the military personnel were admittedly using some kind of illegal drugs. And because of drug testing that was implemented by this Congress, a bill that I introduced and Ronald Reagan's Executive order, that through random drug testing of every single buck private all the way up to every general and admiral, that the use of drugs in our military today has dropped 82 percent, and now less than 4 percent are using drugs? If we could only do that with the rest of America, we would solve this drug problem.

Yes, they do learn words like "pride" and "patriotism," and they learn words like "discipline" and how terribly important that is. Many of them come from broken homes, where they do not have a father and a mother, and they do not have a mother that is there during the daytime to help teach them some discipline. Today, they learn words like "courtesy" and "respect," and they even get a little "religion."

Mr. Speaker, serving in the all-volunteer military today is an honorable and respectable career, and that is why we

must do everything we can to give these young men the very best if we are going to put them in harm's way someday. And that is why this particular budget is so important here today and why I again just take off my hat to the chairman, the gentleman from Florida, and to the ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, and their entire committee and staff for the great work they have done in putting this together.

Mr. Speaker, I commend them, and I urge support of this rule and the bill that will follow it.

□ 1045

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio [Ms. PRYCE], a member of the Committee on Rules.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] for yielding me this time, and I rise in strong support of this open rule.

Providing for the national defense is one of the few Federal duties that is very, very clearly defined in our Constitution. As such, we have the responsibility to ensure that the men and women of our Armed Forces have the training and resources that they need to defend our Nation from the global threats that still remain.

Make no mistake about it, Mr. Speaker. Despite the end of the cold war, there are many threats still out there that require the United States to be vigilant and ready for conflict in the sad event it should arise.

The bill which this open rule makes in order is a sound effort to put balance back into our defense priorities. I commend the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on National Security of the Committee on Appropriations for crafting a bill that addresses the many competing challenges facing our military establishment in a very responsible manner.

As in the past, this bill focuses on enhancing quality of life, especially for military families, addressing shortfalls in readiness and training, modernizing our fighting force, and downsizing our Armed Forces overall. And it does so while staying true to the bipartisan goal of balancing the Federal budget.

Most importantly, H.R. 2266 puts the troops first and recognizes that the heart and soul of our defense is the all-volunteer army. By providing the funding for improved military housing, child development centers and even programs like breast cancer detection and treatment, this bill respects the hard work and sacrifices made by our military personnel and attempts to give them the quality of life and standard of living that they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, the safety and prosperity of the American people depend on safeguarding our national security in a changing world. We simply cannot afford to let the gains we have made for freedom and democracy be jeopardized by any insufficient defense strategy. Under this open rule we will have full

and fair debate on preparing our military for the next century. I would urge a yes vote on both measures.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I urge adoption of the rule, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I would simply say that I believe this is No. 8 of the appropriations bills. We have cleared seven in the House. This is the eighth. The Committee on Rules has cleared 2 others, which will make 10. I think there are three left. We are chugging along on schedule doing the work of America. I urge our colleagues to support this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill (H.R. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and that I may be permitted to include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COBLE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 198 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in

the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2266.

□ 1049

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, with Mr. CAMP in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA] each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG].

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume. We are pleased to bring before the committee today what I think is an outstanding bipartisan national defense appropriations bill. The security of our Nation and the protection of our troops and those who serve in uniform should be nonpolitical. It should be bipartisan. This bill reflects that.

This is a bipartisan bill. It was put together with the strong cooperation of the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA], the ranking member on the subcommittee, and all of the members of the subcommittee and the staff who worked with us. We have presented a bill that is reflective of the needs of the military, reflective of the various threats that exist and potential threats that exist in the world, and it has been done in a very bipartisan fashion.

This bill today, Mr. Chairman, is within the constraints and the agreements on the part of the President, on the part of the House, and on the part of the Senate as we dealt with our budget agreement.

We are basically in agreement with the authorizing bills as passed by the House, from the Committee on National Security and also the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, both of which committees we appropriate for their authorization.

This bill includes some \$4.4 billion over the request of the President but, as I said, with the budget agreement that he has agreed to, that obviously is acceptable. This bill goes directly to the heart of our national security requirements. About 70 percent of the money appropriated in this bill goes for the personnel and the operations and maintenance of the force, salaries, allowances, housing, medical care, et cetera, et cetera. We have increased the medical allowances because there was a shortfall. The administration recognized that and asked for an increase; we provided that.

We have made some very specific recommendations and changes in the bureaucracy in the Pentagon, and as we work toward making the Pentagon a triangle, we have been able to reduce funding for civilian consultants, funding for the civilian bureaucracy, and have reduced funding for military bureaucracy where it was duplicative and, in the opinion of the members of the subcommittee, was really not necessary.

Mr. Chairman, all in all, we bring to this House an excellent bill. I think we can move it through here quickly. The authorizing bill from the Committee on National Security received a very large vote. The authorizing bill for Intelligence was passed by this House with a voice vote, and we expect that we should be able to move this bill quickly as well, because it pretty much tracks the contents of those two authorizing bills.

Mr. Chairman, I include the following tabular material: