

national debt, over the next 10 years. That is progress, paying down the national debt.

I am also often asked, what about taxes? Taxes are too high. Forty percent of the average family's income goes to government today. Twenty-one percent of our economy is consumed by the Federal Government. That tax burden is too high, too unfair, too complicated.

Unfortunately, the President vetoed our effort to eliminate the marriage tax penalty on married working couples, to eliminate the death tax on family farmers, family businesses, because he wanted to spend the money. Now he says he wants to raise taxes by \$238 billion so he can spend more. That is really what we are getting down to in the last few days of this session of Congress. We are getting down to some real fundamental issues.

If we look at the President's budget and the Democratic budget, as well as the Republican budget, there is a big difference. We had a key vote last week. We chose between government waste and social security. We made a commitment that we are willing to cut waste, fraud, and abuse in government by 1 percent, reducing the Federal budget 1 cent on the dollar in order to stop the raid on social security.

That is a fundamental, key vote, because when we think about it, do we want to waste our dollars, or protect social security? We voted in the Republican majority to save social security.

What I was very concerned about is recently the leader of the Democrats, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT) said, and I will quote, "I understand that there is a feeling now that since we have a surplus and since we have to get ready for the baby boomers, that we really ought to try to spend as little bit as possible." What is interesting is he is saying he is willing to spend social security on other things.

Our commitment is to stop the raid on social security. That is an important commitment, because when folks pay into their retirement security plan, called social security, they expect when it is their turn it is going to be there. Washington has been raiding the social security trust fund for far too long.

I was very pleased to note that the Chief of Staff to the President understands what we want to do. The Republicans' key goal is not spend the social security surplus.

Let us work together. We can work in a bipartisan way. Let us stop the raid on social security, let us balance the budget and stop the raid on social security.

THE AFFORDABLE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, many of us have come to the House floor one after another talking about lowering the high cost of prescription drugs, especially for the elderly and underinsured. Unfortunately, Republicans have simply refused to join Democrats to fight the drug companies and reduce these high prices and help protect public health.

Let us look at the numbers. More than 75 percent of Medicare beneficiaries have no coverage or inadequate MediGap coverage for prescription drugs. At least one-third of Medicare beneficiaries have no drug coverage at all. Forty-four million Americans do not have health insurance. That means they also, obviously, do not have coverage to help pay the high cost of prescription drugs.

Meanwhile, drug companies charge Americans higher prices, in many cases twice as high, sometimes three times, four times, five times as high, compared to prices paid by the citizens of any other industrialized Nation.

An average dosage, 60 tablets of Zocor for high cholesterol, costs \$44 in Canada and \$102 in the United States. One month's supply of Tamoxifen for breast cancer sells for \$156 in the United States and only \$12 in Canada.

The drug industry repeatedly tells the American people that any reduction in prices will cause them to dramatically curtail and cut back their research and development efforts. It is difficult for some of us to take these threats seriously. Who pays for a majority of research and development costs for new drugs in the United States, anyway? The answer is American taxpayers.

The fact is Congress, where the drug industry's multi-million dollar lobbying campaign and operation has such great influence, has granted this industry enormous tax breaks for research and development.

At the same time, the National Institutes of Health and non-governmental research organizations fund more than half of all research and development for drug companies without charge. Then drug companies take the information they patented and they market another new and very lucrative miracle drug to Americans, and charge them the highest prices in the world.

It is no secret what is going on here. Drug companies simply are doing what they need to do to maximize profits. Unlike every other industrialized nation in the world, the U.S. does not in any way tamper with or regulate drug prices. What is the effect? Drug companies charge us the highest prices of any country in the world by multiples of two, three, and even four times what other countries pay.

Who are the victims? The victims are always those with the least bargaining power: those without insurance, those who are elderly, those who are poorest. From a market perspective, what the drug companies are doing is appropriate. They are maximizing their profits. That is their job.

It is equally appropriate that Democrats in Congress are taking the lead in protecting seniors and the uninsured, and to address the ramifications of what drug companies are doing to the disadvantaged. That is our job.

Understand, again, 50 percent of all research and development costs for the research and development of new drugs in this country are paid for by taxpayers. Understand also that Congress has bestowed on those drug companies generous tax breaks on the money they do spend on research and development. Then understand that drug companies show their appreciation to American taxpayers by charging us two and three and four times what citizens of every other country in the world pay.

How can we lower prescription drug costs? We can lower prices through competition. I have introduced a bill that would permit competitors, that would permit generic companies to enter the market for drugs when they are unreasonably priced, whether the drug's patent has expired or not. The patent-holder would receive royalties for being the first on the market. Generic companies would compete with them, and Americans would receive a price break fueled by competition.

The bill would require drug companies to publicly disclose audited information justifying the prices that they do charge.

I urge my Republican colleagues to stop stonewalling. I urge them to join Democrats in lowering the cost of prescription drugs. Let us act before it is too late.

A SALUTE TO THE WORLD WAR II GENERATION AND ITS CONTRIBUTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, every day America is losing one of our most precious resources. This resource provided our country what it needed to overcome the economic calamity of the Great Depression. It was a resource that saved the world from the twin threats of Nazism and Japanese militarism, and then, when that job was done, turn to rebuilding a shattered planet and, when they deserved to let others pick up the load, they then went and took on communism, which for decades loomed as a threat to democratic government and individual rights everywhere.

I am, of course, talking about a generation, perhaps the greatest generation, of Americans, which is now passing from the scene. One year ago my father, Donald Rohrabacher, or Lieutenant Colonel USMC retired Don Rohrabacher died. Just a short-term ago, a friend of mine, Bob Smiley, Robert Smiley, Junior, lost his dad.

My dad joined the Marines in the Second World War. Robert Smiley,

Senior, volunteered for the Navy. Later, my father helped develop the method of dropping the atomic bomb from a fighter bomber that helped change the formula during the Cold War, and helped preserve the peace and preserved America's deterrence. Bob Smiley was instrumental in the Polaris Submarine program, which also deterred war with the Soviet Union. Their technological know-how helped deter war with the Soviet Union until communism collapsed under its own weight, under the weight of its own contradictions and evil.

America is losing one thousand of these veterans from World War II from the Saving Private Ryan generation every day. They escorted us to the doorway of a new millennium. As we enter this new era, which will have unimaginable opportunity and prosperity and peace and freedom, let us remember the Robert Smileys and the Don Rohrabachers and the men and women of their generation for the magnificent gift that they have left us.

Ours would be a far darker and more frightening world if it was not for them, if it was not for their service and their courage. In the history of America, few generations have carried such a heavy burden for as long as they did, or confronted more monumental challenges, or gave so much.

□ 1245

Those truly were great Americans. So let us salute this generation as it marches on. Let us keep faith with them by insisting that America remain true to its ideals of liberty, justice, and democracy. Our greatest tribute to those who saved the world from the Nazis and from the Japanese militarists is to keep America the beacon of hope for the oppressed, to make sure that Old Glory keeps waving proud and strong over the land of the free and the home of the brave.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

With gratitude and praise, we are thankful that people of faith can more completely understand and respect each other. O gracious God, as You

have created us as one people and breathed into our hearts the very essence of life, we celebrate our common calling to be people of faith and hope and love and to express that faith in those good works that strengthen the weak, provide food for the hungry, clothing to the needy and shelter to the homeless. While we appreciate our own traditions and heritage, we pray, O God, that we would be better stewards of the great gifts that we share together. Unite us, strengthen us and keep us all in Your grace, now and evermore. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. UNDERWOOD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 29, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on October 29, 1999 at 11:30 a.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits to the Congress an attached notice on the continuation of the Sudanese emergency.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHLL,
Clerk.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-151)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Sudanese emergency is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 1999, to the *Federal Register* for publication.

The crisis between the United States and Sudan that led to the declaration on November 3, 1997, of a national emergency has not been resolved. The Government of Sudan continues to support international terrorism and efforts to destabilize neighboring governments, and engage in human rights violations, including the denial of religious freedom. Such Sudanese actions pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities necessary to apply economic pressure on the Government of Sudan.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 29, 1999.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from James M. Eagen III, Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 27, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC 20515.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House that I have received a subpoena for documents issued by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

JAMES M. EAGEN III,
Chief Administrative Officer.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from John M. Allen, Director of the Office of Communications Media of the House of Representatives: