

The President just wants to use Social Security surplus funds as a slush fund for his failed Social Security policy, for his failed foreign policy as well. Mr. Speaker, that money belongs to our seniors. American seniors need it and deserve it, and we must make sure that they get it. Mr. President, do not spend away our Social Security money.

□ 1015

CONGRESS MUST REMAIN COMMITTED TO BRING PEACE TO ALL OF IRELAND

(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my condemnation of the brutal March 15 killing of human rights attorney and mother Rosemary Nelson.

Rosemary Nelson died after a bomb ripped apart her car in Lurgan, County Armagh in the north of Ireland. Forty year old Rosemary, mother of three, had previously represented the nationalist Garvaghy Road residents coalition in nearby Portadown over the long-running Drumcree Orange Order Protest. Her death mutes a powerful voice in the quest to bring lasting peace to the north of Ireland.

Congress must remain strongly united in its commitment to the condemnation of bombings and acts of terrorism and continued human rights abuses. We must remain committed to bringing peace and justice and prosperity to all of Ireland.

That is why we must pass my resolution, H. Con. Res. 54, to honor the 1-year anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Accords. I urge my colleagues to stand firm on the United States' support of Irish peace by joining the 77 co-sponsors of H. Con. Res 54, and the U.S. Senate is passing that resolution today.

STOLEN NUCLEAR SECRETS

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, this New York Times headline says it all: "China Stole Nuclear Secrets for Bombs, U.S. Aides Say: Espionage Case at New Mexico Lab is Said to be Minimized by the White House."

Why would a case that intelligence experts consider to be worse than Aldrich Ames be minimized by the White House?

The reason is clear to all those who have followed the campaign finance scandal of 1996. It would also be clear to all those who followed the administration's China policy.

First, when this scandal came to light in 1995, and then more conclusively in April of 1996, the White House was under fire for taking campaign

cash from the Communist Chinese army.

Second, this stunning revelation of nuclear espionage would have threatened the administration's policy of what they call engagement with Communist China.

That is why the White House would have a clear incentive to avoid notification of Congress and to reject the clear evidence that our most sensitive nuclear secrets have been stolen.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE ON NEW HEADQUARTERS IN INDIANAPOLIS

(Ms. CARSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the American College of Sports Medicine on the completion of a vast new addition to its headquarters building in Indianapolis.

In the early 1980s, Indianapolis' corporate leaders and city officials advanced a visionary plan to make the city the amateur sports capital of the Nation.

We have had immense support from the corporate community in Indianapolis. On December 15, 1983, Mayor William Hudnut broke ground for the ACSM National Center, which has become one of the anchor projects of the Canal area redevelopment. He referred to it as "A cornerstone in the Amateur Sports Capital."

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the American College of Sports Medicine on the completion of a vast new addition so that it would be able to advance the immense amount of work that it has done in terms of sports medicine.

CAMPAIGN CASH AND ESPIONAGE SCANDAL

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, the outrage continues to grow over the campaign cash and espionage scandal involving the Chinese and this administration.

Quoting the lead editorial from this morning's Wall Street Journal, "Bad enough that the Chinese have stolen the technology for a nuclear warhead that will make their own missiles more threatening to U.S. national security; far worse is the casualness with which the White House greeted the news. Sandy Berger says he was briefed on this in April of 1996, which happens to be the same month Al Gore traveled to California for his infamous Buddhist fundraiser."

And from the lead editorial in this morning's Washington Times. "It is clear that Sandy Berger has no credibility. Rather than cooperation, he of-

fers blame shifting. Rather than credible explanations, he offers excuses."

Mr. Speaker, we say to the President, Sandy Berger must go.

BUDGET DETAILS NEGLECT MEDICARE

(Mr. WEINER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, the details of the budget being prepared by the majority are finally beginning to leak out. They include an embracing of the Democratic initiatives on Social Security and \$1 trillion in tax cuts. I like tax cuts just as much as the next person, but what was missing from the budget was any mention of Medicare.

While Social Security does reach crisis perhaps in the year 2032, Medicare is lacking today. In fact, seniors pay more out of their own pockets for health care costs than they did when John F. Kennedy declared a health care emergency and initiated a Medicare program.

Now, the Democrats are proposing and the President is supporting the notion of covering prescription drug and using a portion of the surplus to shore up Medicare for seniors today.

Now that the majority has embraced Social Security, perhaps they should embrace Medicare as well.

REPUBLICANS BELIEVE IN TRUTH IN BUDGETING

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, obviously, my friend from the other side of the aisle has confused St. Patrick's Day with April fools when he talks about the Republican budget.

Let me talk to my colleagues. There is philosophical and mathematical differences between the way the Republicans and Democrats use numbers. It is best illustrated by this story.

One of the Democrats' leading budget hawks went to go buy some worms. He was going fishing. He walked up to the bait store and said, "How much are your worms?" The guy said, "You can have all you want for \$1." So the Democrat said, "I will take \$2 worth."

That is the problem. We almost need national testing when it comes to truth in budgeting with the Democrats.

Let us go through this little quiz on Social Security: Republicans want to preserve 100 percent; Democrats 62 percent.

Fill in the blanks: Which is greater, 62 percent or 100 percent?

True or false, 62 percent does not equal 100 percent.

True or false, 38 percent will be spent on non-Social Security items under the President's budget.

This is true. The President wants to preserve 62 percent, Republicans want

to preserve 100 percent of the Social Security balance. We believe that it is worth fighting for our grandparents to do the right thing and not spend their money on pork.

STEEL IMPORTS AND ILLEGAL DUMPING

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, the first chart tells us the story, I guess in black and white, on steel imports and why this Congress must act today to do something about steel imports and illegal dumping.

We can see, from 1997 to 1998, the large increase in steel imports, and particularly because of illegal steel dumping.

This just tells the story in a bar graph and in black and white. Let us tell the story in terms of human suffering. For instance, at Wierton Steel, in which the headlines we have blown up show, "Wierton Steel layoffs hit 775 workers." It is actually more by now. "Wierton Steel announces more layoffs," layoffs that are occurring throughout the Ohio Valley and the Mon Valley.

Mr. Speaker, this House must act today to stop illegal steel dumping. We have the opportunity to send the message not only to the administration but to foreign nations. If others will not act, Congress will.

Let us act today for Wierton and for a whole lot of other steel producing communities in the United States.

RELEASE IMPRISONED CHINESE PASTOR XU YONGZE

(Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my voice to that of the House majority whip who spoke earlier calling for the release of Pastor Xu in China.

It is indeed sad that, as we find ourselves just 1 year away from the 21st century, there are still places in this world where a person can be locked away merely for expressing their faith in God. Mr. Speaker, Pastor Xu serves as a reminder to us all of how precious our freedom truly is, especially our freedom to worship as we choose.

The Chinese government claims that Pastor Xu is dangerous merely because he believes in a judgment day. Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not find that crazy or dangerous. A belief in judgment day is a basic belief not just of Christians but of so many religions around the world.

This week Pastor Xu begins his third straight year in prison simply for preaching the gospel. If the Chinese are serious about strengthening the ties between our two countries, they must learn to respect religious freedom.

I urge President Jiang Zemin, please, release Pastor Xu and let him return to his family.

MEDICARE COMMISSION FINISHES WORK WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Medicare Commission finished its work but did not come out with a recommendation. It did not come out with a recommendation because the thrust of the commission was to privatize; that is, to get rid of Medicare as we have known it and move it into the private sector. Now, the people pushing that idea are the very people in this House who have opposed the Patients' Bill of Rights.

If we are going to take all the senior citizens in this country, and the disabled, 39 million people, and throw them into the private sector, and will not give them the protections of a Patients' Bill of Rights, there is no justice in that kind of system.

The Commission rightly rejected it. The Commission refused to consider the President's addition of 15 percent of the surplus. The Commission refused to consider the President's proposal regarding people between the ages of 55 and 65. This House now has to come to grips with it.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

(Mr. FOSSELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish everyone a happy St. Patrick's Day and celebrate the great accomplishments made by Irish Americans to our republic.

Across America, whether we are Irish American or not, we honor the sacrifices made by so many Irish Americans and really celebrate their accomplishments.

It was not always easy, though, for the Irish who came to our shores. It was not long ago the Irish seeking employment were met with the infamous warnings, "Irish need not apply." But the goodness that is America prevailed, and generations of Irish Americans have made this country the greatest in the history of the world.

With their solid work ethic and belief in personal responsibility, love of our Nation, respect for honor, and a gentleness towards the weak and infirm, I, like millions of Americans, proud of my Irish heritage, understand how lucky we all are to be Americans. I wish everybody a happy St. Patrick's Day.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, sometime during the year 2013, the funds we pay out to Social Security recipients are going to exceed the funds coming in to finance the system.

Despite the White House war room rhetoric, the Clinton budget does nothing to save Social Security. If my colleagues do not believe me, they should listen to this. In February, David Walker, the Comptroller General of the United States, stated, and I quote, "The President's proposal does not alter the projected cash flow imbalances in the Social Security program."

It is true. The President's proposal does not save Social Security. The only way that Clinton's numbers add up is through a faulty double-counting scheme.

This is not a Republican complaint. Some of Social Security's chief defenders, members of the President's party, have said that the President's approach is based largely on imaginative accounting.

We do not need any more shell games and number schemes for Social Security. We just need a system that can ensure tomorrow's seniors that their savings will be there when they retire without government interference. We desperately need the President to be a leader on the tough issues.

We cannot waste this historic opportunity to preserve the Nation's Social Security program. Unfortunately, the President's budget represents his typical rhetoric and sloganeering at its worst.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PROPOSAL WILL NOT WIN ANY AWARDS

(Mr. TANCREDO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, it is perhaps the old teacher in me, but whenever I see something like a budget proposal that has been submitted by the President, I want to give it a grade. And I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that this President's budget proposal will not win any accounting awards.

□ 1030

It will never be used in any economics class unless to show students just how slippery a politician can be with retirement money.

The President's budget proposal for Social Security contains more phoney numbers than a Millie Vanilli soundtrack. \$2.4 trillion in double counting. That is even more double counting than the administration's unconstitutional census sampling scheme. And it gets worse from there, Mr. Speaker.

GAO and CBO are both on record stating that the President's proposal for Social Security might actually make the problem worse. The problem, of course, is that the baby-boomers will soon retire and Social Security will