

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 Illinois (Mr. EVANS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EVANS 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 68. An act to amend section 20 of the Small Business Act and make technical corrections in title III of the Small Business Investment Act.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to section 3 of Public Law 94-304, as amended by section 1 of Public Law 99-7, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:

Mr. HOYER, Maryland;
Mr. MARKEY, Massachusetts;
Mr. CARDIN, Maryland; and
Ms. SLAUGHTER, New York.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 96-388, as amended by Public Law 97-84 (36 U.S.C. 1402(a)), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council:

Mr. LANTOS, California;
Mr. FROST, Texas.

There was no objection.

CHINESE TOP GUNS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the Fallon Naval Air Station "Top Gun" school in Nevada recently had some important visitors.

No, they were not the U.S. Navy cadets. It was not our colleague the gentleman from California (Rep. DUKE CUNNINGHAM). It was not the United States Air Force trying to gain an advantage. Mr. Speaker, it was the Chinese.

Even after knowing their latest espionage tactics, our Government granted about 20 communist Chinese an open-door visit to the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center at Fallon Naval Air Station. Providing the Chinese communists with classified information about our military equipment, aircraft, tactics and operations is just sheer lunacy.

Why were they allowed to visit that facility? Who knows? This facility has trained 90 percent of our naval warfare pilots. Fallon Naval Air Station is not just a field in Nevada. It is a vital training link for our naval aviators worldwide.

If the American taxpayers could not be afforded the same high-level tour, why would this administration grant the communist Chinese a carte blanche visit?

Mr. Speaker, top gun Chinese are not the type of American exports I would expect from the United States Navy.

CHINA ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR MEMBERSHIP IN WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Chinese money must be an aphrodisiac because it seems that everybody is jumping in bed with the Reds here.

Check it out. Even though China tortures their own citizens, China threatens their neighbors, and China spies on everybody, China has announced that they have great support for membership in the World Trade Organization. In fact, China says, to boot, "Even the United States Trade Representative supports, number one, lower tariffs for China and, number two, China's membership in the World Trade Organization."

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. The Trade Representative will not wise up until there is a Red Army tank shoved right up their foreign policy. I yield back a \$70 billion projected trade deficit with China, who is buying intercontinental ballistic missiles and pointing them right at us.

DEMOCRAT DEMAGOGUERY ON THE BUDGET

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, one would never know what is actually in the Republican budget proposal by listening to the other side. In fact, I do not even recognize our own budget after listening to what the other side is saying about it.

I guess it is Mediscare all over again with a lot of demagoguery on Social Security added on to it. On second thought, make that a lot of demagoguery on Social Security to go with it.

One has the impression that our friends on the other side of the aisle have not looked at the Congressional Budget Office report on our budget. Maybe they are getting their information about our budget from their own press releases.

Our budget reserves 100 percent of the retirement surplus for Social Security and Medicare. Let me repeat that for the benefit of any demagogues on the other side of the aisle who seem to have some difficulty with that fact. Our budget reserves 100 percent, again 100 percent, of the retirement surplus for Social Security and Medicare.

I urge my skeptical colleagues on the other side to call the CBO for themselves to verify this fact.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET PROPOSAL, RECIPE FOR COMPLETE FISCAL DISASTER

(Mr. SMITH of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise, too, to talk about the budget that is coming to the floor this week, and I have some grave concerns about that budget in terms of fiscal discipline.

The budget the majority party is proposing has several elements to it. Massive tax cuts. At the same time, it also has massive spending increases. And unrelated to the budget, but at the same time related to the budget, there is no plan on the table for any sort of structural reform of our existing entitlement programs, so they will simply go on spending at their current rate.

Those three items, put together, are a recipe for complete fiscal disaster. We are so close to a balanced budget, we are so close to finally having a legitimate claim on being fiscally responsible, that I hate to see us lose it now.

One of the biggest problems, in response to the comments of the previous gentleman, yes, the existing trust funds, the money that is going into Social Security and Medicare, are protected. The problem is those trust funds will not last long under the current system. The spending will go way beyond those existing trust funds and place us into grave financial difficulties.

Medicare is scheduled to be bankrupt in 2008. Social Security is scheduled to go bankrupt in 2032. It is time to be fiscally responsible, and the Republican budget does not get us there.

UNION-ONLY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

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

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose union-only requirements for construction projects.

Vice President GORE wants to have all Federal projects done by union construction firms. Also, the Los Angeles Unified School District, near my congressional district, is considering requiring all of their new construction to be done only by union companies.

Union-only construction agreements may make political sense for some politicians, but they certainly do not make practical sense for our children in our schools.

PLAs do not guarantee lower costs, higher performance standards, or eliminate red tape. The union-only contracts only guarantee that the four out of five construction workers not represented by a union cannot work on the project.

It is un-American for our Government to say to someone who does not belong to a certain group or organization, "You are not good enough to compete for Federal money based on merit."

For those of us who agree that there should not be race-based discrimination, this is another form of discrimination. A person should not be denied a job because of his or her color. Neither should he or she be denied a job because they do not carry a union card.

I hope that the Vice President and the Los Angeles Unified School District will not put politics above our children. I encourage both of them to support freedom in the bidding of construction projects.

AMERICAN PUBLIC DOES NOT WANT PARTISAN BICKERING

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

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on the Budget, I spent much of last week wondering why the majority party has chosen to move forward with a budget that is clearly divisive.

This morning the Washington Post reported, "Congress is set to begin a week of partisan bickering today over a budget that Republican congressional leaders expect will provoke a veto shutdown with President Clinton later this year when it results in appropriations bills."

It baffles me. Why start out on such a sour note? The majority is clearly welcoming a partisan battle without first trying to find some common ground and some room for partisan cooperation.

The American people have seen enough bickering to make them wonder what we are doing in Washington. The people I talk to want to make sure that we extend Medicare and Social Security. They want us to fight crime. They want us to help our schools. And they want us to create an even better

business atmosphere. And the list goes on.

There are many things the American public wants us to accomplish, but partisan bickering is not one of them.

VOLUNTEER MIAMI

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last year Miami-Dade County established a wonderful tradition when it implemented Volunteer Miami. This annual volunteer fair, made possible by Dr. Eduardo Padron, David Lawrence, Valerie Taylor and hundreds of dedicated volunteers from Greater Miami's nonprofit community and government service organizations, has awarded students and families the opportunity to truly make a difference.

Saturday, April 17, will kick off this year's Volunteer Miami-Dade Community Colleges' Wolfson Campus, where representatives from various organizations will be on hand to provide valuable information on how members of our community can lend their abilities and spare time for the benefit of all of south Florida.

Volunteering is a definitive way in which to promote a powerful force that enriches an individual and allows all of us to positively impact an entire community. By raising awareness on volunteerism and forming strong partnerships between deserving agencies and a corps of volunteers, positive change can and will be effected to make south Florida a better place in which to live and work.

I congratulate my alma mater, Miami-Dade Community College, for making Volunteer Miami a success.

PAIGE SECURITY SERVICES, INC.

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

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on a good news note to honor the accomplishments of a constituent of mine, Mr. Leonard Paige.

In November 1998, Mr. Paige realized his lifelong dream to make a difference in Africa with the signing ceremony of the first joint venture between a black-owned security firm in the United States and a black-owned security firm in South Africa.

The United States firm, Paige's Security Services, Inc., will facilitate the training and logistics for Paige's Security Services, Inc., in South Africa in a manner modeled upon the affirmative action programs here in the United States. The program is intended to assist the disadvantaged in that community.

Under Mr. Paige's able leadership, Paige Security Services, Inc., has garnered great recognition over its 10 years of service. It has been selected

for three straight years by Inc. Magazine as one of the fastest growing private firms in the Nation and has been commended by Congress and the President of the United States.

Paige's Security Services, Inc., employs over 800 workers in the United States and Costa Rica, and the new affiliate in South Africa employs 300 people.

Thank you, Leonard Paige, for your leadership.

REPUBLICANS FOR LESS GOVERNMENT, MORE FREEDOM

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, we are going to bring our budget to the floor this week and it is going to be a great debate. And from what I am hearing from the other side, it is going to be entirely too partisan.

You see, we want to save 100 percent of all the revenues into the Social Security Trust Fund for just Social Security. They want to save 62 percent. It would be bipartisan to agree with them.

We want to keep within the spending caps of 1997. That is what gave us the revenue surpluses that we have, the discipline that we agreed to with the White House. What does the White House want to do in a bipartisan way? They want to spend \$32 billion a year more than the caps.

We want to provide tax cuts. That is a very partisan effort on our behalf. When the Democrats were last in control, in a very partisan way, they gave us the largest tax increase in history. We would like to have the largest tax cut in history. That would be partisan.

We will save 100 percent of the Social Security Trust. And what is left over we want to give back to the American people. They want to spend it. That is the bipartisan thing to do.

We will pass our budget. The Senate will agree. There will be a great debate. But when it is all over, they will know that Republicans are for less government and more freedom, the Democrats are just for more government.

□ 1115

BUILDING ON BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL RETREAT

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

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, last weekend we had the second bipartisan congressional retreat in Hershey, Pennsylvania. A lot of people helped in pulling that together. I want to commend the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. SAWYER), the planning committee, the staff at Hershey, the Pew Charitable Trust and the Aspen Institute who all helped in bringing Members on both sides of