

HOUSE VOTES REGARDING
KOSOVO

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

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, there is a vile partisanship in this Chamber. We may have a new Speaker, but make no mistake about it, we have the same utterly dysfunctional leadership that saw us through government shutdowns and that made a partisan mockery out of the constitutional impeachment responsibility in this body.

Yesterday more than 30 Members of the majority voted against stopping U.S. participation in the NATO action, against the horrendous ethnic cleansing of Slobodan Milosevic, but then refused to vote for a resolution in support of the NATO action. There can only be one explanation for the House vote against the NATO campaign. The Republican majority will seize any opportunity to strike at President Clinton, even if it means giving encouragement to such a vile criminal as Slobodan Milosevic. Our national interest must rise above our partisan inclinations. The memory of those killed and raped in Kosovo and the support of the brave men and women carrying out this mission on NATO's behalf deserve better than this vote.

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MANY LIBERALS IN EDUCATION
HAVE HOSTILE ATTITUDES TO-
WARDS PEOPLE WITH RELI-
GIOUSLY-INSPIRED VALUES

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, the recent tragedy in Littleton, Colorado, points to an issue that has gone unaddressed for too long. Too many of our public schools are unsafe, and this is unacceptable.

What kind of system is it that allows kids to quote Hitler in the hallway, but which would see students get hauled into the principal's office for quoting the bible in the classroom? The pendulum has swung too far to the left.

Madam Speaker, many Americans believe that America has lost its way when our schools ignore the morals and the values that built this great Nation. But too many of the liberals in education have such a hostile attitude towards religion that they can not even conceive of a tolerant, multi-denominational religious presence in the public square which does not harm anyone's rights. Their caricatures of religious people are nothing but unfair stereotypes, and they falsely portray the agenda of ordinary people who think that religiously-inspired values are something to be proud of and something that has always made America great.

There is no magic solution for the problems we face in schools, but it is

time for the pendulum to swing the other way, back to the virtues and the values that built this great Nation.

COST OF FAILURE INFINITELY
GREATER THAN THE PRICE OF
VICTORY

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, Dante said that nothing was necessary for the spread of evil but that good men do nothing.

Yesterday, last night, shamefully the House of Representatives voted to do nothing. It sent an uncertain trumpet, not only to our NATO allies, but to one of the evils of this world: Slobodan Milosevic.

Let me read from a speech given by JOHN MCCAIN, not a member of my party, but one of this body, the Congress of the United States, that knows about war and knows about the American interest, not the partisan political interest. He said this:

Let me close by saying that both the Congress and the administration must show resolve and the confidence of a superpower. Our cause is just, and our early success is imperative. Let us keep our nerve and see the things through to the end. No matter how awful the images of war appear on television, the cost of failure, JOHN MCCAIN said correctly, are infinitely greater than the price of victory.

Madam Speaker, we failed last night. Let us not fail in the days ahead.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Members should avoid references to members of the other body.

REPUBLICAN COMPLAINTS ABOUT
ABUNDANT MILITARY SHORT-
AGES MET WITH SILENCE AT
THE WHITE HOUSE

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, the war in Kosovo has exposed a military readiness and national security vulnerability that must be removed. Evidence of our current military shortage is abundant:

We are dangerously close to running out of air-launched cruise missiles, a situation unthinkable in the days of Ronald Reagan's strong leadership. More than half of the B1-B bombers in Ellsworth Air Force Base are not mission capable because they lack critical parts. We are diverting planes from their patrols over the Iraqi no-fly zone in order to fill out the Kosovo mission.

Republican complaints and oversight hearings about this deteriorating situation over the past 6 years have been

met with silence in the White House and indifference in the press. No one seems to care. For four straight years, four straight years, the Republican Congress appropriated more money for defense than the President requested. But each year it is more of the same: an inadequate defense budget and insufficient resources.

Now will the President finally care?

INTRODUCTION OF THE RURAL
TEACHERS' RECRUITMENT ACT
OF 1999

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Rural Teachers' Recruitment Act of 1999, a much needed measure designed to address teacher shortage, recruitment and retention. Recruiting and retaining quality teachers is so important and difficult in schools across the country. Accomplishing this goal in rural areas is even a greater task.

Madam Speaker, there is little motivation for teachers to teach and to remain in rural areas. My bill offers an incentive to teachers to teach in these unrepresented areas.

The Rural Teachers' Recruitment Act of 1999 allows rural local education agencies to submit an application to the Secretary of the Department of Education for a grant to develop incentives that they like for whatever they like, for recruitment and retaining teachers and providing opportunities.

As we move in the 21st century, it is time to ensure that we have talented, dedicated and qualified teachers. We must give these new teachers a reason to favor providing instruction in our rural areas. We must reduce the shortage of quality teachers in areas where they are most needed. Without these teachers, our communities and children are the ones who suffer.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues in rural areas and urban areas to support my bill, the Rural Teachers' Recruitment Act of 1999.

LAST NIGHT'S APPALLING VOTE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, what have we wrought? I ended my time on the floor last night by speaking to this body of my shock and appall at our vote not to support those military men and women trying to save lives in the Kosovo area.

It is interesting, having gone to the Hershey retreat to uphold and promote bipartisanship, that yesterday I saw the crumbling edges of bipartisanship. I saw the repeat of the impeachment vote, the undermining of a President, not because one found good reason that there was no basis for this onslaught that is going on or this attack that is

going on in Kosovo because of the enormous loss of life, but because we simply do not like him.

Madam Speaker, it is a shame that we would fall to partisanship while thousands and thousands and hundreds of thousands of women and children are being murdered and moved from their homes. What have we wrought?

Martin Luther King said injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere. My question to my Republican friends: Where is the outrage?

Stop the partisanship. Let us unify around saving lives, and standing up for American principles and believing that we must fight this humanitarian war.

CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP

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

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, there was no vote taken yesterday not to support our military. There was a vote taken not to endorse a policy that we should have been asked weeks ago before the bombing started to be part of. There was a vote not to endorse a policy that has not been explained to this Congress the way it should have been explained by the administration.

We have heard of vile partisanship on this House yesterday, but over 2 dozen members of the Democratic party voted with Republicans, Republicans voted with Democrats. We would be glad to have those 2 dozen members of that party if they do not want them.

This was not a statement about vile partisanship. This was a statement about principle. This is about whether foreign policy is driven by the Constitution or by CNN, and the Constitution says the President and the Congress should be involved in that.

I call on the President to provide the leadership that this Congress needs.

THIS PLACE IS GETTING CURIUSER AND CURIUSER

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, yesterday, as I listened to that debate, I thought of my time in the Vietnam war when I listened to soldiers and sailors and marines talk about what it was like fighting a war when the American people did not support them. I got to wonder what people think sitting on the flight line in Aviano in Italy today, asking themselves:

Where is the Congress? Are we going out there risking our lives, and they do not support us?

Now I watched last night when the leadership of this House stood by that back retail and did not turn a single vote around. Amazing. One can be the leader of this House, and they cannot change a single vote. They do not even speak to anybody to change a vote.

Now next week we will see it all different. Then we will have an appropriations act out here, and we will want to give money to an effort that we do not support.

Madam Speaker, Lewis Carroll must be writing the script because this place is getting curiuser and curiuser.

WHY IS SPARTANBURG HIGH SCHOOL SO SUCCESSFUL?

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

Mr. DEMINT. Madam Speaker, on a more positive note, the upstate region of South Carolina is home to Spartanburg High School, a four-time winner of the National Blue Ribbon Award. It is the only school in our Nation to achieve this honor four times.

Why Spartanburg High so successful? Caring parents, quality students, committed teachers, creative administrators, an active school board and encouraging community. The people have taken control of their school and have succeeded in spite of misguided federal programs and paperwork.

Do not just take my word for it. Yesterday the Spartanburg Herald Journal wrote an editorial praising Congress for passing legislation to give schools more flexibility. It read:

Federal lawmakers need to do more to free state and local educators so they can run their schools as they see fit. Education is a State and local matter.

I could not have said it better myself.

LAST NIGHT'S VOTE NOT TO SUPPORT NATO

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

Mr. PASTOR. Madam Speaker, I could understand a year ago when the majority, because of their hate for President Clinton, made the impeachment process a partisan procedure. But last night I could not believe that the vote to not support NATO was done because of the hate the majority has for the President.

What message have we sent to NATO? What message have we sent to our troops? That we do not support them.

The ironic thing is today, this afternoon, I am going to be asked to vote on the supplemental that doubles the request, and yet I am being asked to vote for a supplemental that the majority does not support, does not support the action of the NATO cause.

In the words of the great Congressman, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), all I can say is:

Beam me up, Scotty.

AMENDING RULES OF HOUSE FOR 106TH CONGRESS

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous con-

sent that the Committee on Rules be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 153) amending House Resolution 5, One Hundred Sixth Congress, as amended by House Resolution 129, One Hundred Sixth Congress, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 153

Resolved,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 5.

Section 2(f)(1) of House Resolution 5, One Hundred Sixth Congress, agreed to January 6, 1999 (as amended by House Resolution 129, One Hundred Sixth Congress, agreed to March 24, 1999), is amended by striking "April 30, 1999" and inserting "May 14, 1999".

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 154 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 154

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1480) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. 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 Transportation and Infrastructure. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure now printed in the bill, modified by the amendments printed in part 1 of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part 2 of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent,