

peaceful opposition demonstrators. China has stolen U.S. nuclear secrets and attempted to influence the U.S. political process through what I believe to be illegal campaign contributions.

Mr. Speaker, these are just a few illustrations I've outlined in the brief 5 minutes that I have here. There is a longer list of China's predatory tactics. Do we have assurance that China will keep its words the next time. I doubt it.

I bring this to the attention of my colleagues now so that when we have the heated discussion regarding the normalization of trade relations with China they will remember.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SHOULD SERIOUSLY ADDRESS NATIONAL DEBT

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, all the Presidential Republican candidates and Democrats are campaigning today for the Nation's first elections tomorrow. I would like to talk, Mr. Speaker, about what is happening with our national debt. The public debt of the United States that technically every citizen now or our kids and our grandkids eventually are going to have to pay off.

Mr. Speaker, I hope every one of those candidates realizes that this talk about paying down the public debt is somewhat of an untruthful presentation of what is happening with the public debt of this country.

The way we do our bookkeeping here in Washington is sometimes confusing and unquestionably very complicated. But what we have right now is a public debt, as defined in law of \$5.72 trillion, \$5.72 trillion, approaching \$6 trillion.

We made some good decisions this past year to not spend any of the Social Security surplus for other government spending. Excellent start. Excellent beginning. But still, our total national debt continues to increase. Why is the total debt of this country continuing to increase as we brag, and that is Republicans, Democrats, the President, brag that we are balancing the budget and paying down the Federal debt? Here is why.

We have about 112 trust funds. The largest, of course, is the Social Security Trust Fund. But we are borrowing from all of these other trust funds also. The Civil Service Retirement Trust Fund, the Highway Trust Fund, the Airport Trust Fund, the Medicare Trust Fund. From all of these trust funds we are taking the extra money, because we have charged additional taxes more and above what is needed in any particular one year of spending. Now, we are using that money for other government spending.

I am introducing legislation that says let us lower the total debt subject

to the debt limit that Congress has to pass and the President has to sign. Let us lower that debt to where it will be at the end of this fiscal year next October 1, and then let us stick to it. Let us make sure that we have the kind of freeze that is going to take the burden off of our kids and our grandkids so that they are not going to end up having to pay for what we consider is very important spending this year.

Mr. Speaker, I am a senior member of the Committee on the Budget. This week we are holding what are called listening sessions, talking about what the Members are willing to do in terms of holding the line on spending.

I am a very strong advocate, and I will encourage at our meetings tomorrow, this week and next week, that we have spending caps for the kind of spending discipline that it allows us.

We have come a long ways. When I first came to Congress in 1993, the projected deficit, in addition to what we were borrowing from Social Security, was over \$200 billion a year. Now, at least, we have balanced the budget in terms of Social Security spending, and that is the largest amount. There will be approximately \$120 billion or \$130 billion more money coming in from Social Security taxes than we need in any one year, so somehow we should be starting to talk about how do we reduce that burden on working men and women of America; and how do we save Social Security in the long run?

It is a huge challenge. We talk about millions and billions and trillions. But, Mr. Speaker, if anybody can conceive what a trillion dollars is, let me just give what is going to be required to pay out Social Security benefits over the next 75 years over and above what we are going to collect in Social Security taxes.

Over and above what we are going to collect in Social Security taxes over the next 75 years, it is going to take \$120 trillion more money. That has got to either come from increased borrowing, increased taxes, because I suspect the way we have been going in Congress it is not going to be coming from reduced spending in other areas. There are huge challenges before us.

Mr. Speaker, I am a farmer. What we do on the farm is we try to pay off the farm so that our kids do not have to pay off that mortgage. In this country we are continuing to increase the debt to give a bigger mortgage to our kids and our grandkids. Let us turn that around. Let us have the presidential candidates start talking about the seriousness of saving Medicare and saving Social Security and paying down this huge public debt that is facing this country.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Our hearts and hopes and prayers are with all those who face any uncertainty for the day or who must meet the predicaments that each day presents. Where there is this uncertainty, we pray, O gracious God, that You would grant faith and trust; where there are the dilemmas of decisions or the compromises that shade our views, we pray for wisdom. O God, our help in ages past and our hope for years to come, lead us all in the way of peace and understanding and grant us confidence in Your love to us and to all people. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GIBBONS 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.

MUCH WORK LIES AHEAD

(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, today we face a new century in America and, as we begin the second session of the 106th Congress, much work lies ahead of us. Over the last few weeks I had the opportunity to tour my great State and meet many of the citizens of the State of Nevada, and during these meetings my constituents expressed what they expect from and need from their Federal Government.

They want a federal commitment to empower local communities to make decisions on school construction and modernization projects, not the Federal Government. They want a health care package which assures access to medically necessary treatments while not eroding the quality of our health care system. They want a real tax cut for hard working Americans that includes the elimination of the marriage penalty tax and the death tax, but

these are only a few of the concerns which we will need to address this session.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that we will rise to the challenge and pass responsible legislation which will meet the very needs of not just Nevadans but all Americans.

So let us do as my friend Mills Lane says: let us get it on.

THE TORTURE IN SIERRA LEONE MUST STOP

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about what has happened in the African country of Sierra Leone. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) and I visited Sierra Leone this past December. We were horrified at the atrocities that we saw; men and women with their arms and legs and ears cut off. Throughout Sierra Leone, rebel groups have tortured and killed and maimed thousands to gain control of the country's diamond industry, and these rebels have committed unbelievable acts that are hard to even look at.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) has introduced legislation to stop the trafficking of conflict diamonds that have fueled so much of the death and destruction.

H.R. 3188 will require that all diamonds bought and sold in the U.S. be identified as to their country of origin.

I believe that the bill of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) will help end the maiming and the killing in Sierra Leone, and I urge all Members to please call the office of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) and cosponsor this bill so we can bring an end to the maiming and cutting off of legs and arms and the killing of people.

REPORT ON STRATEGIC CONCEPT OF NATO—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-81)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) 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 Armed Services and ordered to be printed.

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as President of the United States, including by section 1221(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65), I hereby determine and certify that the new NATO Strategic Concept imposes no new commitment or obligation on the United States. Further, in accordance with section 1221(c) of the Act, I transmit herewith the attached unclassified report to the Congress on the potential threats facing the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 31, 2000.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 6 p.m. today.

REAUTHORIZING PRINTING OF CERTAIN PUBLICATIONS

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 221) entitled "Concurrent resolution authorizing printing of the brochures entitled 'How Our Laws Are Made' and 'Our American Government', the pocket version of the United States Constitution, and the document-sized, annotated version of the United States Constitution."

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert:

SECTION 1. OUR AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The 1999 revised edition of the brochure entitled "Our American Government" shall be printed as a House document under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(b) ADDITIONAL COPIES.—In addition to the usual number, there shall be printed the lesser of—

(1) 550,000 copies of the document, of which 440,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 100,000 copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and 10,000 copies shall be for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing; or

(2) such number of copies of the document as does not exceed a total production and printing cost of \$412,873, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as described in paragraph (1), except that in no case shall the number of copies be less than 1 per Member of Congress.

SEC. 2. DOCUMENT-SIZED, ANNOTATED UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The 1999 edition of the document-sized, annotated version of the United States Constitution shall be printed as a House document under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(b) ADDITIONAL COPIES.—In addition to the usual number, there shall be printed the lesser of—

(1) 550,000 copies of the document, of which 440,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 100,000 copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and 10,000 copies shall be for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing; or

(2) such number of copies of the document as does not exceed a total production and printing cost of \$393,316, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as described in paragraph (1), except that in no case shall the number of copies be less than 1 per Member of Congress.

SEC. 3. HOW OUR LAWS ARE MADE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—An edition of the brochure entitled "How Our Laws Are Made", as revised

under the direction of the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives in consultation with the Parliamentarian of the Senate, shall be printed as a House document under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(b) ADDITIONAL COPIES.—In addition to the usual number, there shall be printed the lesser of—

(1) 550,000 copies of the document, of which 440,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 100,000 copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and 10,000 copies shall be for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing; or

(2) such number of copies of the document as does not exceed a total production and printing cost of \$200,722, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as described in paragraph (1), except that in no case shall the number of copies be less than 1 per Member of Congress.

SEC. 4. POCKET VERSION OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The 20th edition of the pocket version of the United States Constitution shall be printed as a House document under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(b) ADDITIONAL COPIES.—In addition to the usual number, there shall be printed the lesser of—

(1) 550,000 copies of the document, of which 440,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 100,000 copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and 10,000 copies shall be for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing; or

(2) such number of copies of the document as does not exceed a total production and printing cost of \$115,208, with distribution to be allocated in the same proportion as described in paragraph (1), except that in no case shall the number of copies be less than 1 per Member of Congress.

SEC. 5. CAPITOL BUILDER: THE SHORTHAND JOURNALS OF CAPTAIN MONTGOMERY C. MEIGS, 1853-1861.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be printed as a Senate document the book entitled "Capitol Builder: The Shorthand Journals of Captain Montgomery C. Meigs, 1853-1861", prepared under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate, in consultation with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Architect of the Capitol.

(b) SPECIFICATIONS.—The Senate document described in subsection (a) shall include illustrations and shall be in the style, form, manner, and binding as directed by the Joint Committee on Printing after consultation with the Secretary of the Senate.

(c) NUMBER OF COPIES.—In addition to the usual number of copies, there shall be printed with suitable binding the lesser of—

(1) 1,500 copies for the use of the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the Architect of the Capitol, to be allocated as determined by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives; or

(2) a number of copies that does not have a total production and printing cost of more than \$31,500.

SEC. 6. THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL: A CHRONICLE OF CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN, AND POLITICS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be printed as a Senate document the book entitled "The United States Capitol: A Chronicle of Construction, Design, and Politics", prepared by the Architect of the Capitol.

(b) SPECIFICATIONS.—The Senate document described in subsection (a) shall include illustrations and shall be in the style, form, manner, and binding as directed by the Joint Committee on Printing after consultation with the Secretary of the Senate.

(c) NUMBER OF COPIES.—In addition to the usual number of copies, there shall be printed with suitable binding the lesser of—