

her party won. She was forced to sit in a car in the sun for a full week and then forcibly return to the capital.

Aung San Suu Kyi is one of the true heroes of our time. She is now under house arrest. Her house is surrounded by SLORC military forces and secret police, and many diplomats in Rangoon are expressing concern about her health and her well-being.

Yesterday, the British Ambassador to Burma was roughed up by the SLORC goons when he tried to visit Aung San Suu Kyi. The National League for Democracy in Rangoon has had their offices raided and documents confiscated and their members have been arrested and face arbitrary jail sentences.

In the countryside, the SLORC regime continues its brutality and ethnic cleansing against indigenous tribal groups such as the Christian Karens and Karennis, who are seeking emergency refuge in Thailand in growing numbers. The SLORC and Communist Chinese benefit from the narcotics trafficking of the ruthless Wa State Army, which is destabilizing Thailand and spreading the poison of deadly heroin throughout the world.

The United States Congress is not ignorant of the corrupt and brutal practices of the Burmese dictatorship. Their wicked deeds will continue and will continue to be noted here. Their continued repression of democracy is evident.

The United States and the Democratic nations which are doing business with SLORC, and I might add Japan, Australia, Israel, Singapore and others, those of us in the democratic world will not sit by and watch this idly as this type of repression continues forever.

Investment in Burma has already been affected. Tragically, the people of Burma suffer as commerce and trade has dried up. And they are already suffering terrible deprivation in Burma as their gangster regime which controls their country impoverishes what should be a rich land.

This regime, the SLORC regime in Burma, is condemning those people who should be living a prosperous life. They are condemning them to poverty and deprivation and tyranny. A country so rich in natural resources is now one of the poorest in the world without freedom.

Tonight, as we note this is going on in Burma, let us note a champion of human rights. Ginetta Sagan passed from this scene last week. Ginetta Sagan helped me many times in the cause of human rights in Burma and in other countries. Ginetta Sagan first volunteered to fight tyranny as a member of the Resistance against Fascists and Nazis in World War II.

After she was captured then, she was brutally tortured. And after she survived that torture, she helped lay the foundation for the modern human rights movement.

Ginetta Sagan was under 5 foot in height, but she was a giant in the fight

for justice and liberty, saving thousands of political prisoners through her efforts in Poland, Vietnam, Chile, and Greece. She died, unfortunately, after a full life, on September 1.

Ginetta Sagan is gone, but the fight for human rights continues and the struggle against gangsters like those who control Burma continues. We have to pick up the torch and carry on where Ginetta left off. Justice and democracy will triumph over evil because we will not falter and Ginetta Sagan will not be forgotten.

Let me just say that Ginetta Sagan and I were active for 20 years. She had enormous energy and love for people. She will be missed. But the tyrants in Burma and elsewhere should not think that this is a loss, because her spirit will continue to inspire others to continue this fight for liberty and justice.

ESTATE TAX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from San Diego, California (Mr. FILNER).

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I just briefly want to respond to the gentleman from Orange County, California (Mr. ROHRBACHER). I invite him to visit San Diego.

It is misplaced to blame the San Diego crisis on environmental regulations. Yes, we need more capacity as the environment grows. Yes, we need environmentally sensitive generating capacity. And, yes, we need alternative sources of energy. There is plenty of sun in San Diego. But this crisis is not one of supply and demand.

This crisis had to do with monopoly pricing and manipulation of the market. The price had nothing to do with when the load was at peak or when supply was needed. It had to do with the people who controlled it and what price they could get.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to add my voice to that of the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER) in calling for human rights in Myanmar, also known as Burma.

Mr. Speaker, with Senator LIEBERMAN's recent notoriety, the country has learned a few words of Yiddish. And one of the more interesting words is the world chutzpah, best defined as the kind of extreme galling nerve as when someone who has killed their parents asks for mercy because, after all, they are an orphan.

Mr. Speaker, there is something that calls for even more chutzpah than the Menendez brothers asking for a commutation of their sentence because of their status as orphans, and that is when our Republican colleagues come to this floor and accuse the Democrats of waging class warfare when they will bring before this House tomorrow an

override of the President's wise veto of the estate tax repeal.

They will try to ram through this House a bill that provides \$50 billion in tax cuts once it is fully effective. Not one penny, not one penny, for the home health care worker. Not one penny for the fast-food employee. Not one penny for the janitor. Fifty billion dollars and not one penny for those struggling to get by. All of it for the richest 1½ percent of Americans, most of it for the 3,000 richest families in America.

And they will have the chutzpah to come here and say that they want to imperil this economic expansion for the benefits of those lucky few and accuse us of waging class warfare.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a district that is not envious. I do not represent class envy. Malibu is the second richest city in my district. My constituents, more than most others, do pay the estate tax. But they have sent me here to Washington to fight for fiscal responsibility, for Social Security, for Medicare with prescription drug coverage, and for Federal aid to education and to the environment.

They did not send me here to ask for \$50 billion, all of it, all of it for the wealthiest 1½ percent of Americans.

□ 1945

This estate tax does not affect any family or will not affect any family with \$2 million or less to leave to their children. But it will affect the as of yet unborn Bill Gates, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I think that it is important that our children and grandchildren inherit a government that is debt free rather than a few families are able to inherit millions or even billions of dollars that are tax free.

Mr. Speaker, this \$50 billion of tax relief aimed at those with the most will imperil Social Security, Medicare, and prescription drug coverage; imperil our ability to pay off the national debt, maintain fiscal responsibility and continue our unprecedented economic growth.

There are two other bad aspects of this bill that have not been discussed on this floor. First, in order to keep the cost down to only \$50 billion, the authors of this bill, which should have been vetoed, actually increase the tax of many widows, increase the income tax of widows by denying them a step up in basis for their income tax returns. And, second, this estate tax repeal will cost America's hospitals, universities, and charities billions of dollars. They will come here asking for our help, but with \$50 billion a year less in Federal revenue, we will not be able to help them. This is the unspoken secret. The universities and their development officers will not tell us about it because they do not want to bite the hand that feeds them. But major charitable gifts to universities will bite the dust if we uphold this veto.

Do not vote to override the veto.

NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDI). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this past Friday, President Clinton gave a major foreign policy speech at Georgetown University announcing his decision not to move forward with the plan to deploy a national missile defense. It took the President 7 years and 8 months of his administration to finally make a speech about missile defense. He did not make a speech after 26 young Americans came home in body bags because we could not defend against a low complexity Scud missile.

He did not make a speech after in January of 1995 the Russians almost responded with an attack on the U.S. because they misread a Norwegian rocket launch, an attack that we could not defend against; and he did not make a speech 2 years ago after the North Koreans test-fired their three-stage missile which the CIA now claims can hit the U.S. directly. But he did make a speech this past Friday.

I was not surprised, because his position has been consistent with both he and AL GORE for the past 8 years. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I could respect the President if he would have come out publicly and simply said, "I disagree with the Congress and the American people. I don't support missile defense and will not during my administration move forward." That is what he has done for 8 years. In fact, the day that my bill came up on the House floor for a vote just a year ago he wrote a letter to every Member of the House opposing the bill, saying please vote against it. Yet 103 Democrats joined 215 Republicans in giving a veto-proof margin to move this country forward. So the President did what he does so frequently. He used a political game and pretended that he really was for missile defense.

Mr. Speaker, again I could respect him if he simply said that he opposed missile defense as he did in that letter to every Member a year ago in March. But, instead, the President of the United States in his speech before Georgetown University publicized around the world last Friday told half-truths, misrepresented factual information and, Mr. Speaker, sadly he just downright lied.

Mr. Speaker, beginning tomorrow, at a speech before the National Defense University, I will respond to the President factually, I will respond to his specific words, and I will show the American people how this President and this Vice President have chosen to ignore the reality of the threats that are emerging. I will focus on four key areas the President focused on: The emergence of the threat, the arms control record of this administration, the Russian and world response to missile defense, and the technology readiness,

because those are the issues the President spoke to, and I will take apart word by word taking the opportunity to define "is" as the President defines "is," and I will show the American people that again this President and this Vice President just do not get it.

This Congress voted overwhelmingly with veto-proof margins in the House and the Senate to move forward. And this President, in a typical election-year maneuver the Friday before Labor Day, before he was to travel to the U.N. this week, chose to give the American people bad information.

The American people deserve to hear the other side. Beginning tomorrow, I will give the other side and through a series of special orders over the next several months will outline for the American people the factual response to President Clinton's falsehoods that he outlined at Georgetown this past Friday.

ILLEGAL NARCOTICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to return to the House of Representatives after our August recess and district work period and continue this series that I began nearly 18 months ago as chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, a series that I began on the topic of illegal narcotics and its impact upon our Nation.

Tonight, I thought I would recap some of what has taken place during this congressional recess, some of the activities that have occurred relating to illegal narcotics and our attempts to bring illegal narcotics and drug abuse in some control and order in our society, and also give an update on some of the actions of the administration in this interim period while Congress was in recess.

I think that it is important that we keep in perspective the history of the efforts by Congress and this administration and other administrations in trying to curtail what has become probably the most serious social problem facing our Nation and certainly the youth of this country. I think that the statistics that have recently been released about crime show that some of the murder rate in this country is down. And I think that, in the next week, our subcommittee is looking at some of the statistics that have been released; but I think they are startling figures that will show that more people are now dying as a direct result of drug abuse and misuse in this country than some of the murders that are committed. And I know that that is the case in the area that I represent.

I represent a beautiful area in Florida from Orlando to Daytona Beach, the central Florida and greater Or-

lando area, and the headlines blurted out some nearly 2 years ago that deaths by drug overdoses had exceeded homicides in our area of central Florida. And I think that is now occurring, and we will be able to substantiate these figures, on a national basis. So if people are concerned about the use of firearms, about commissions of murder, mayhem in our society, I think that we have now reached the point where drug deaths and overdose as a direct result of illegal narcotics are now taking an even greater toll than other forms of murder.

I will never forget that a parent who had lost a child in central Florida said, Mr. MICA, that in fact drug overdoses are a form of murder, and certainly when you have a son or a daughter lost to illegal narcotics, either someone providing them or the individual dying as a result of someone distributing to them illegal narcotics, you certainly view that as murdering or destroying the life of your loved one.

But tonight, I want to try to shed a little light. I try not to do this in a partisan fashion. I do not think that our efforts to curtail illegal narcotics is a partisan matter. I think that both sides of the aisle are sincere in trying to find solutions. But I think we also have to look at some of the facts involved and some of the spin that is even put on what is happening at the national level, possibly for the sake of politics, maybe for the sake of applying some cosmetics to a record that is not too attractive. That is something that we have to deal with. And we must, in fact, deal with facts if we are going to find real solutions to the problem we face with illegal narcotics.

So tonight I want to talk about the Clinton administration's attempt to blur some of their failure in Colombia in their shutdown of our war on illegal drugs and some of the steps that were taken even during this recess by the President to try to put a happy face or a successful face on really a policy of disaster that has taken place since the beginning of the Clinton-Gore administration in 1993 when they took office and began systematically dismantling any semblance of a real war on drugs.

The President, as we know, visited Colombia with great fanfare for some 8 hours. He spent 8 hours there out of nearly 8 years in the White House. And again, I think, to put the best face possible on a situation that they helped in fact create through some of their actions.

Let me first review how we got ourselves into the situation in Colombia where the Congress had to, in an emergency fashion, dedicate \$1.3 billion just in this fiscal year that we are approaching for aid to Colombia. According to the President's own drug czar last year, Barry McCaffrey, he called Colombia, and I will use his quote, he said it was a flipping nightmare last summer and then asked, in fact, that the President consider it an emergency