

that far exceeds any increases at the height of the Cold War, the Vietnam War, anything since World War II, to build Cold War weapons against enemies that no longer exist. Hopefully this Congress will act soon to rein in this administration, reexert its authority and bring some sanity to these policies.

□ 2030

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PLATTS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY), who asked Members to appear in a Special Order in honor of the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which takes place Thursday, March 21. I also want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), who introduced H.R. 1343, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001.

There is no place in our society for racism, whether in the form of religious and ethnic discrimination or otherwise. Throughout history, wars have been fought over these types of differences. Many lives have been lost and many people uprooted. As in the dark past, today we are still witnessing violence being perpetrated against others with perceived differences. This is something that must be not only rooted out abroad, but we must also root out the ethnic and religious intolerance that we witness in our daily lives right here in our own communities.

Hate crimes, those committed against a group because of racial or religion or sexual orientation, is alive and well in America. Matthew Shepard and James Byrd are notable victims of these types of crimes; but there are many, many other victims as well of this type of crime, this cycle of violence. It has been stated that crimes based on race ranked number one of all the U.S. crimes reported in the FBI's "Hate Crimes Statistics of 2000" status report. The total number of all hate crimes across the Nation increased 3.5

percent from 1999 to 2000. These numbers reflect only the reported crimes. Many crimes continue to go unreported; and many States, because of budgetary reasons, do not keep tallies of crimes that would fall under this category.

The bill introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) would provide Federal assistance to States and local jurisdictions so that they can more readily report and prosecute hate crimes. It must be understood that violence motivated by race, color, gender, sexual orientation, or disability will not be tolerated.

It is important for Congress to show solidarity with those around the world honoring the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination by showing that we are ready, willing and able to address hate-motivated crimes within our own borders, within our own Nation. Our country and the world is very diverse. It is our diversity that should make us stronger as a Nation, stronger as a world community. Until we eliminate racial, gender, religious, and other types of discrimination, our unity as a country and as a world community will be threatened.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WATSON of California addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

KIDNAPPING OF LUDWIG KOONS

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I stand here today in utter shock and disbelief and absolute anger.

For 2 years, I have been telling stories about missing children. For 2 years, I have been talking about internationally abducted children. For 2 years, I have been working with Jeff Koons and his attorneys to help bring his son Ludwig home from Italy. For 2 years, I have not seen progress. No change in Italy, and no response from our own government. I cannot express today the outrage that I feel right now about our Justice Department, our State Department, and the government and judicial systems of Italy.

Since 1984, for 8 years, Jeff Koons has been trying to get his son back, a son who he has legal custody of, who has been abused and neglected and forced to live in a pornographic compound in Rome, Italy, by his mother. On March 4 of 2002, this year, the Supreme Court of Cassation confirmed Ilona Staller's conviction for kidnapping Ludwig from his habitual residence in New York. This means Ilona Staller is a convicted kidnapper; yet Italy is still letting her retain Ludwig.

Yesterday, the Minors' Tribunal in Italy held a so-called hearing on the emergency order to keep Ms. Staller from taking Ludwig to another country, Hungary. And it is a so-called hearing because this hearing was nothing more than a dog and pony show. Ms. Staller was questioned for 15 minutes about her lawbreaking, about her intention to once again take Ludwig to another country. The judge questioned Ludwig, a scared, manipulated and abused 9-year-old little boy, about his wishes, alone, in the judge's chambers, with no witnesses, with no attorneys, with no video. And then the judge comes back in and says he is fine with his life as is.

The best psychologists in both countries, Italy and the United States, and doctors, say that Ludwig is on the brink of no return. Unless he is removed now, there is no telling what damage might be done to him physically and mentally. Yet these experts, the top Italian experts, were not allowed to testify at this so-called hearing.

In the end, the emergency request was denied and Mr. Koons was given 30 days to go prepare briefs and another 20 days to respond. Another 2 months of delay. It is contrary to all applicable principles of public international law and procedure to preclude an American citizen minor, who was kidnapped from his habitual residence, any access to his country of birth, even the temporary visits with his father and paternal family in their country of residence.

Ludwig, who is now approaching adolescence, finds himself in a dire situation that places him in imminent danger of grave and irreparable damage. His critical condition is directly related to his mother's continued abuse and neglect of the minor over the years, combined with her willful and systematic breach of Mr. Koons's visitation rights.

I stand here tonight because I am concerned that Mr. Koons may be subjected to further discrimination and inequitable treatment by the Italian judiciary in these impending proceedings. I stand here a part of the United States Government, and I have to say that I am ashamed. Where are our priorities? Where are our values?

I sit and listen to the politicians sound off about family values in this Chamber every day; yet every day our government lets this little boy remain captive against his will. Where is our State Department? Where is our Justice Department advocating for U.S. citizens? Ludwig Koons is a U.S. citizen.

We saw Blackhawk helicopters recently go in to rescue missionaries in Afghanistan, people who had been there of their own will. Yet our government will not send a letter or make a phone call demanding that this kid be sent back to our country. Do we only go to bat for citizens being held by those who are not our allies? Should we not go to bat for everyone?

Eight years ago, Jeff Koons put his faith in the law. He put his faith in the United States of America. We have not returned that faith. I am asking my colleagues if they will please take the time to ask every constituent of theirs in this country, and that they do the same, and write the President of the United States, write the Attorney General of this country, write the Secretary of State of this country and plead for the return of this child to the United States of America now.

Bring our children home.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, before I take my 5 minutes, I just want to commend my good friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON), for the leadership he has provided on behalf of missing children in our country and the focus that he has given the United States Congress on this very important issue. I know, from observing him work and the passion he brings to the subject, that there would not be half the focus that there is in the United States Congress if it were not for him and the hard work that he is doing in elevating this issue and educating the rest of us, as well as our administration and the rest of the country, with what a serious problem it is. So I thank the gentleman and ask him to continue the good work. I want him to know that there are many of us who are with him every step of the way.

Madam Speaker, tonight I rise in honor of Women's History Month. In 1987, Congress passed a resolution designating the month of March as Women's History Month, and a time to honor, and I quote, "American women of every race, class and ethnic background who have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways."

For 2002, the theme of Women's History Month has been "Women Sustaining the American Spirit." To celebrate this month, I would like to honor four of the numerous women from Wisconsin's history that have sustained the American spirit.

First, I would like to recognize Ada Deer. Ms. Deer, a Native American activist, was born in Keshena, Wisconsin. Nationally known as a social worker, scholar, teacher, and political leader, Ms. Deer was the first female Chair of the Menominee Nation and the first woman to serve as head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She continues her work today as a professor at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Next, I honor a woman if not well-known to my colleagues is certainly well-known to a lot of our children, Laura Ingalls Wilder. Ms. Wilder was born in a small town on the banks of the Mississippi, Pepin, Wisconsin,

which is in my congressional district. Her early years in this area became the basis for her first book, "Little House in the Big Woods," written when she was 65 years old. This was the first of many successful books that comprised the "Little House" series, which is still read by many children today.

Belle Case LaFollette is another woman whose contributions to Wisconsin's history cannot be overstated. Though it was her husband, Fighting Bob LaFollette, who held office, Belle was a political force in her own right. Born in Juneau County, Wisconsin, she was the first female graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School. Throughout her life she was a tireless advocate on behalf of women's rights and human rights in general.

Finally, I would like to highlight the work of Georgia O'Keefe, born in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. Ms. O'Keefe was one of the first nationally recognized female American artists. After attending high school in Edgewood, Wisconsin, she studied in New York City, then left the city to become supervisor of art in the Amarillo, Texas, school system. It was in the natural floral landscapes of the Southwest that she discovered the subjects of her most famous paintings.

Each of these women has had an impact not only on Wisconsin's history, but also on the history of our Nation as a whole. Whether in art or literature, activism or teaching, they deserve our remembrance not only during the month of March but throughout the rest of the year as well.

THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Madam Speaker, tonight several of us are gathered to talk about the budget resolution we passed today, how we got to where we are, and where we need to go in order to protect our Nation's priorities.

I will start by yielding to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND), as soon as he is set up; but we also have joining us tonight the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT), the ranking Democrat on the Committee on the Budget, to talk both about how we got to where we are, exactly what we believe the facts to be, because at a minimum the American public deserves to at least have the facts before we debate our different opinions about how we achieve the Nation's priorities; and then to talk a little bit at the conclusion about some of the solutions we have proposed that were rejected.

These solutions were not even allowed to be debated today on the floor of the House of Representatives. But we are confident they will be brought up in the Senate and, hopefully, will be part of a bipartisan solution, because

we cannot achieve a solution in this body, working with the President and the Senate, unless it is truly bipartisan.

So at this time I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding to me, and I want to thank him for his leadership on the Committee on the Budget. He has been actively involved in trying to shape bipartisan budget agreements, and his knowledge and insight on the subject is invaluable to the institution, and his leadership is appreciated; and I thank him for all his hard work.

Today, anyone tuning into the deliberations on the House floor probably witnessed one of the most important debates we could have in this session of Congress. It sets the terms of the budget for the rest of the year. And not just for this year, but for many years to come. The budget resolution, although nonbinding, establishes the parameters of where spending is going to occur and how we are going to pay for these budget priorities.

That is why the debate we had, I felt, was very important and very constructive, because it not only affects the Nation in the coming fiscal year, but it will affect our seniors who are currently in the Social Security and Medicare programs, the baby boomers, 77 million of whom are rapidly approaching that retirement age in just a few short years and will start entering some of these very important programs, and also the younger generation, our children and grandchildren, who will be asked to clean up, so to speak, the various mistakes that I feel we are making as a Nation and as a body in the budgets and the economic policies that are then pursued over the next couple of years.

□ 2045

Unfortunately, the budget resolution that was before us today was a budget resolution that only Enron could love. It was full of smoke and mirrors, gimmicks, sleight of hand, and deceit, not in the parameters of the budget resolution, but in how we were going to pay for it and what was going to be sacrificed in the course of the coming year and years based on the decisions that we will be making in the months to come.

Even though we have been debating 10-year budget plans with 10-year forecasts, the majority party decided to go with the 5-year. Perhaps they realized with the \$2 trillion tax cut passed last year the effect of the explosion of tax cuts in the second 5 years of this decade and the tremendous impact it is going to have in creating annual structural deficits again.

They also used budget calculations from the OMB within the Bush administration, rather than the established CBO numbers that we have reached bipartisan agreement in using before in scoring all pieces of legislation, not just budget resolutions, but for obvious