

year 2004 and such sums as necessary in the ensuing 4 years.

□ 1245

The bill provides the limitation that "no U.S. contribution to the Global Fund may cause a total amount of U.S. Government contributions to exceed 33 percent of the total amount of funds contributed to the Global Fund from all other sources."

This encourages other countries to step up to the plate also and other philanthropists around the world.

This bill is a start. It is the first step in a long and difficult journey we must take in the effort to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Sixty-five million people have been infected with HIV since the epidemic began, 65 million people; and 25 million of them have died. Fourteen million children have been orphaned. The numbers are not only staggering; they are devastating, and they are growing.

I am glad to see this bill authorizes up to \$1 billion next year for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; but we need to offer more.

United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan has asked each of the 25 richest democracies in the world to contribute seven-tenths of 1 percent of their gross domestic product towards world hunger, world poverty, and in combating infectious disease, seven-tenths of 1 percent. Only four countries have committed that figure and have contributed that figure. The United States contributes less than one-tenth of 1 percent of its gross domestic product, ranking as dead last among the 25 wealthy industrial democracies in the world in terms of what we do in foreign aid to combat poverty and infectious disease.

In the upcoming years, we will spend estimates upward of \$100 billion to rebuild Iraq. Yet we have been unwilling to spend more than one-fifth of 1 percent of that amount, \$200 million so far, to save the lives of millions of people around the world.

A physician with the World Health Organization remarked recently, "There are certain problems the U.S. simply cannot solve on its own, much as it would like to believe otherwise."

Bilateral aid programs are important tools and should not be discounted, but they are not enough. Too often they are BandAids placed on a hemorrhaging patient. To successfully turn the tide against HIV/AIDS, against tuberculosis, against malaria, diseases that kill 6 million people around the world each year, will take the largest multilateral coalition imaginable. Simply put, it will take the entire world to save the world. That level of commitment is not fully on our radar screen, but it needs to be. The Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria represents the best tool we have to provide relief on a scale that will really matter.

I started this speech, Mr. Speaker, with numbers, and I will leave my col-

leagues with some numbers. Thirteen thousand new AIDS infections every day, 2,000 of them in children under age 15; 8,500 AIDS deaths a day; 20 million AIDS orphans are projected in Africa by 2010. Mr. Speaker, 1,100 people in India every day die from tuberculosis.

Take a moment to think about what these numbers really mean. Every day we fail to act, every day we fail to take the necessary action, these numbers increase. Every dollar we fail to provide today will cost us 100 times that tomorrow. U.S. failure to properly commit to the Global Fund is not just unfortunate, it is shameful. In 20 years, we will tell our children that we did all we could to combat the tide of these epidemics, or we will be forced to tell them that we failed the world.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make some comments on the war in Iraq. Most of us voted for the resolution to authorize the President to use force in Iraq to help solve the problem of weapons of mass destruction. Voting for that resolution makes us at least somewhat responsible for the young men and women in the military going into harm's way. And even though we know it is the right thing to do, it still gives one pause for all of the suffering and the sorrow. Now we have several of our military who have been captured, or missing, or who have died. The challenge for this country is that if Saddam gets away with it, other tyrants in other rogue nations think that it also is going to be to their advantage to develop these weapons of mass destruction. This will make the world much less secure and this country much less secure.

I pray for not only the young men and women soldiers, but for their families. When I was 21 years old, we got a phone call notifying us that my brother, Chan, who was 23, that his jet plane went down and that he was killed. That grief never left our family. So the sacrifice is great for families. I, for one, am convinced that the war is the right thing to do. If we were to delay, it would mean that much greater of a challenge for us in the future.

Recently a newspaper in my district in Michigan ran an editorial saying that people have the right to protest against the war; and they do, certainly. But now that we are in the war, I think we should encourage everybody to rethink what protesting does. Before we went in, maybe you can protest and maybe it is going to end up in a decision not to be there. But now, we have thousands of our young men and women over there that need our support. We are in combat. Imagine an

analogy where a mom did not want her son to go out for boxing because it is too dangerous, or football; but once the decision was made, does she not cheer him and go to the game and cheer him on? Or a mom and dad that did not want their daughter to go out for basketball because, after all, that was sort of wrong for a young lady to do. That was a boy's sport. But once that young lady goes out for the team, the parents cheer her on and say, good game, do your best. Or what happened in Vietnam when we literally spat on some of our soldiers and sailors when they came home?

My point, Mr. Speaker, is that to demonstrate against the war makes the challenge for our military greater. As an old Air Force veteran I assure my colleagues that it is true, it makes it harder for our military, when people now demonstrate and say, look, you are doing an immoral thing, you are doing the wrong thing. It makes it that much more difficult.

We are in it. Let us cheer for our team and give our total support for the action of our military men and women that are now over in this war in Iraq. Give them our prayers and certainly give their families and their loved ones our prayers.

QUESTIONING THE MATRICULA CONSULAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a problem that should be at the forefront of our agenda as we move into the 108th Congress. Our immigration system today needs improvement. Unfortunately, it took a tragedy to remind us about this.

This country, of course, was based upon immigration. It was what has made us strong and all Americans recognize its importance. But this system needs improvement. We must continue to facilitate the entry of those men and women who make productive citizens, yet continue to filter those who are not eligible and those who could bring harm to our way of life.

As a body, we recently moved the INS to the Department of Homeland Security, a measure that signals a return to our security. This administration has realized the fact that reorganization must take place before we can take steps to reform our immigration system.

At no other time in our Nation's history have we faced more of a threat to our domestic security; but as we make strides towards improved security measures, I am deeply concerned that countries, even those who are considered allies, are lining up to compromise our work.

Every day, Mr. Speaker, thousands of illegal immigrants stream across our

sieve-like borders and into our country. Once they are inside, the grim reality stands that they are totally, totally untrackable. Yet our neighbor to the south does nothing to help us. But this is in no way shocking, seeing that remittances from Mexico's citizens, both legal and illegal, account for Mexico's third largest source of income. It amounts to over \$10 billion a year. That is what is sent back by the Mexican immigrants. So it is no surprise that the Mexican Government is not helping us to secure our borders.

One method I would bring to the attention of my colleagues has been found recently by Mexico in the wake of the 9-11 terrorist attacks. As we remember, we were going to have legislation on the floor dealing with Mexico that was tabled because our attention was focused on homeland security. So then the Mexican Government decided to change its strategy and they substituted a grass-roots approach that focused at the local level to seek small successes and build momentum for congressional action.

Now, the linchpin for this new strategy was to be the matricula consular. Now, this is a word which means an official identity card which would be issued by the Mexican Government which it wants to be officially recognized by the United States. Now, unless we recognize this card, it goes nowhere; but they want us to recognize this card. This card would essentially allow illegal immigrants from Mexico the right to apply for a driver's license, Social Security card, and bank account. The U.S. Treasury Department has even gone so far as to promote its use. In a report to Congress, Treasury included a footnote that would go on to influence the language of the United States Patriot Act. The footnote says: "Thus, the proposed regulations do not discourage bank acceptance of the matricula consular identity card that is being issued by the Mexican Government to immigrants."

My colleagues, we can stop this by sponsoring H.R. 502. This bill requires that any ID cards must be verifiable by our government to obtain Federal public benefits. We do not have to recognize these identity cards from Mexico. The intent of the PATRIOT Act of 2000, which passed overwhelmingly by Congress, was to strengthen our homeland security. It addressed the issue of secure identification because the hijackers had obtained Social Security numbers and drivers licenses. Especially in this context, it is difficult to comprehend why Treasury went out of its way to give approval to an identity card being offered by a single foreign government whose contiguous border is a matter of acute concern to the United States and whose nationals represent the majority of illegals within the United States.

As our troops risk their lives thousands of miles from home, it is disappointing that a country so dependent upon us would continue to compromise

our security and openly denounce our foreign policy, that is, they are not supporting the war in Iraq. Despite the fact that the United States provides Mexico with 75 percent of their annual trade and is home to millions of migrants, President Fox of Mexico, a friend of President Bush, openly decries our military action.

As the battle for our homeland security wages both here and in the deserts of the Middle East, we must find a way to better monitor the men and women who freely cross our borders every day. The matricula consular identity card would not help in this regard, Mr. Speaker. It is time we reevaluate our immigration system and ensure that our country will be better protected by those who would wish to do us harm.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God of heaven and earth to each of us You give a moment in time to prove truly who we are and our set purpose in Your sight.

Each of us, Lord, is given a certain span of years to fulfill dreams, accomplish specific tasks and impress lasting memory. Help the Members of Congress and all Americans to seize the present moment and do what You ask of us with nobility and grace.

The brave young men and courageous women now engaged in the liberation of Iraq inspire all of us, Lord. In them and through them You can recreate the face of a Nation.

By simply accomplishing the tasks they are trained to do, they form a union with one another and build their witness before the world. May we like them perform our duties today and every day with fierce commitment and dedicated service.

In our own flesh and blood bring to reality the noble ideals of the Constitution we have promised to uphold and the love we profess. For in Your sight we are already one now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BEREUTER 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.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RECORDS OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, and the order of the House of January 8, 2003, the Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress:

Mr. Timothy J. Johnson, Minnetonka, Minnesota.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 13, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the provisions of 44 U.S.C. §2702, I hereby reappoint as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress the following person: Susan Palmer, Aurora, Illinois.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, Clerk.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN JOINT COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 134) electing Members to serve on the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) to explain the purpose of the resolution.

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.