

EDUCATING AMERICA ABOUT THE
WARTIME SUPPLEMENTAL AP-
PROPRIATIONS BILL

THE SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHOCOLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to first of all thank my colleague on the opposite side of the aisle for his generosity in granting me the opportunity to address the House prior to the hour that he has reserved for himself. I would also like to thank all of the Members of the Congressional Black Caucus for being here this evening to help highlight the problems with our budget.

I think that the case has been made. I think that the Members who came to the floor this evening were able to point out all of the devastating cuts in the President's budget that are going to wreak havoc on America. I think they have been able to make a very, very clear picture about what is happening in education, what is happening in housing, what is happening in health care. So I do not need to revisit all of that, but I would like to take time to talk about an action that I tried to take just earlier this evening.

Earlier this evening I went to what is known as our Committee on Rules. I went to the Committee on Rules because this is the committee that will decide whether or not we can amend the supplemental appropriations legislation that the President has asked us to pass in this House. The President has asked for supplemental appropriations legislation because the president needs to have more money to fund the war in Iraq. We understand, whether one agrees with the war or not, that once we deploy our soldiers it costs an awful lot of money. They have to be fed, their clothing, all of the supplies and the equipment, and I think every Member of this House is prepared to support our soldiers and the funding that is needed.

But, Mr. Speaker, as we examine the supplemental appropriations, one can readily see that there is something else going on in that appropriations bill. It is not simply a bill that is designed to support our soldiers and that war in Iraq. What it appears is we are literally paying some people off. We are rewarding some folks, maybe because they voted with us in the U.N., maybe because we want them to vote with us; certainly, Turkey is in the bill for \$1 billion. But in addition to Turkey, what I discovered in the bill was money for Afghanistan, for Israel, for Jordan, for Bahrain, for Oman and Pakistan, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Djibouti, the Philippines, Colombia, and on and on and on.

Now, I went to that committee because I decided that if they can fund all of these countries for whatever reasons, billions of dollars, and, in addi-

tion to that, Mr. Speaker, in this bill we will find a very generous allocation for educational needs for not only Afghanistan, but also for Iraq where we are talking about rehabilitating schools and providing building and rehabilitating buildings, and building new schools. We are also talking about providing health care. As a matter of fact, it is the universal health care system that we wish for in America that we will be providing to Iraq. I am not jealous of the fact that we have torn up the countries and we need to in fact do something about funding them.

So I went and I asked that we appropriate \$5 billion for our rural and poor communities that need health care clinics and transportation systems to get people to the hospital, and that we fund urban communities so we can get rid of buildings that are burned out and that are boarded up and that have been standing for 35 and 40 years on land that we can have people investing in for growing these communities, if we could but clear them and package it so that we can do some economic development. Of course it is not going to be made in order.

But, in addition to a president's budget that is cutting and slashing domestic programs, now we have a supplemental appropriation that is asking for more money for all of these countries, I guess because they voted for us in the U.N.

Mr. Speaker, it is not right, and the people are going to want to know why we are doing this. We come to this floor tonight to do some educating.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to talk about the issue of immigration and immigration reform and a specific aspect of that particular problem that we face here in the United States. I have, over the course of the last couple of weeks anyway, tried to enter into a dialogue here; perhaps it is more of a monologue, I suppose, at this time of night and in this particular setting, and the discussion that I have tried to focus on is one that I believe is of paramount, or should be at least, of paramount importance to the Members of this body. It is true that I am concerned about that particular issue and I intend to spend at least most of the evening tonight discussing this particular point, and I should say more particularly, more specifically, the issue of the drug importation into this country which is allowed by the porous nature of our border and the various hazards that that poses, because there are a wide range of problems that confront us because our borders are porous.

We are going to explore these one at a time; we are going to take them in

sections, I guess, if you will, and we are going to talk about, as I did last week, we are going to talk about the issue of national security and how that is affected by porous borders. We are going to talk this evening about the importation of illegal narcotics into the United States and how that threatens the country and how that phenomenon is made more, I guess prevalent, and it is, of course, much easier to import illegal narcotics into the United States because our borders are porous, and we are going to focus on that. And then we are going to talk about maybe in the next week or so, environmental degradation that comes as a result of millions of people crossing this border illegally and what they do to the land as they trespass upon it.

But let me just for a moment or two reflect upon some of the things that have been said in the prior hour by members of the Black Caucus.

Time and again we heard reference to the "cuts" that were part of the budget we passed, the Republicans introduced and passed in the House. And I am certainly not going to spend a lot of time talking about each of the issues, each of the different kinds of budget issues that were identified here, but I am going to talk for just a moment about one aspect of this, and that is, I think 13 or 14 times I heard the phrase "cuts in funding for veterans." I am going to only focus on that to show my colleagues the difficulty of debating this kind of an issue and actually getting the facts out to the general public.

Now, if anybody did in fact hear the last hour, Mr. Speaker, they would think certainly that there has been a cut in funding to veterans, and actually proposed, that is to say, by the Republican budget. A cut not just to veterans, but to a whole host of groups, the elderly, children, schools, you name it. So let me just focus on this one point, just on veterans, in order to put this thing in some sort of perspective for anyone who was actually listening to that discussion.

Cuts in the budget to veterans. Cuts. Now, I am not sure exactly how Webster defines the word "cut," but it has to do, I am sure, with a reduction from one level to another. I am just going to assume that. So if someone stands up in front of us and says there has been a cut proposed in the Republican budget for veterans, one assumes that the money that is being proposed to be spent for veterans benefits next year, 2004, is less than what is or what has been spent or will be spent in the 2003 fiscal year.

So that we again can actually understand what is going on here, let me tell my colleagues what the figures are. These are undeniable, undebatable; they are in black and white; they are produced for the public consumption by the printing office when it prepares these budgets. So anyone can determine whether or not I am being truthful here when I tell my colleagues that the budget for veterans for the fiscal

year 2003 was about \$57 billion. I believe \$57.6 billion, to be a little more specific.

Now let me tell my colleagues what the budget is for veterans for the year, in our budget, in the Republican budget for the fiscal year 2004. It is \$61.6 billion.

Now, let me think. Let me think. Mr. Speaker, \$57.6 is this year; \$61.6 is next year proposed; somehow or other, only in this place, only in this kind of debate can we say things like the Republican budget is proposing a cut. I do not know how they come to that conclusion. It may be because they established for themselves some mythical number that should be in the budget of \$100 billion, and then say, do you realize the Republicans have cut the budget for seniors by \$40 billion? Because I think they should get \$100 billion, therefore the proposed budget of \$61 billion is a cut from my figure. Now, maybe that is what they meant. It is, of course, irrelevant because nobody does math like that; or perhaps, I should say, nobody does anything but fuzzy math in that way.

Or maybe it is a product of a school system. Maybe it is the fact that the schools are so bad, as was discussed in the last hour, that people simply cannot figure out, they cannot do the math and figure 57 minus 61; let me think, that is about, oh, yes, that is \$4 billion. That is an increase proposed for the next fiscal year. So I am going to go out and say that because I wanted \$70 billion or \$100 billion, there is less money available, or that the Republicans had cut the budget.

Now, I am just pointing at that particular thing because it is really and truly an example of this entire debate. The president's budget, by the way, was a 4 percent increase, higher than inflation. It proposes a 4 percent overall increase for all Federal spending. An increase, I-N-C-R-E-E-A-S-E.

□ 2130

No matter how many ways we try to construct this debate, it is impossible if we do the math to figure out or to come to the conclusion, I should say, that there is a "cut." Yet people can say things like that over and over and over and hope that somebody actually believes it. It is amazing. What a country, as the comedian says, what a country.

There is another aspect of that last debate that I wanted to bring up. It is a very, very controversial aspect. I certainly understand that what I am about to discuss here for a moment or two has that dimension, or that characteristic. It is controversial.

I am concerned about the fact that in this body, and certainly throughout the country, we do things that are designed, maybe not purposely, but certainly have the effect of pulling America apart, pulling us apart and putting us into camps as individuals. This is one of the issues that we deal with when we talk about immigration re-

form, and the problems with massive immigration into this Nation that occur simultaneously with the development of this philosophy of multiculturalism.

It is not just massive immigration into the United States that is problematic. We have, as a Nation, dealt with it over the last couple of hundred years. As a percentage of the population, it has risen; it has fallen. We have been able to deal with it. We would be able to deal with it even today, even though the numbers are far greater today. The massive immigration into this country exceeds, in just the numbers, anything we have ever witnessed before.

But I am sure that we could handle it if we did not have to also deal with, internally, this issue of, I would call it, a pernicious multiculturalist philosophy. What that philosophy boils down to is something like this: that, you know, the United States as a whole, as a Nation, cannot really be defined. America cannot really be defined easily if we are talking about a group of people that are coming together in support of and in a complete understanding of and an allegiance to a certain set of ideals and goals, because of course we are not a country of people that can easily be identified any other way.

We are not a people that you can look at and say, yes, he or she is an American. We do not know that, because we are people of different color and different religious perspective and cultural habits; and all the things other countries maybe have to hold them together we do not have in America.

People say diversity is our strength. Of course, there are certain positive aspects of diversity; but there are certain times when diversity, driven to the extreme, becomes something other than a positive aspect of our society. It is when we become pulled apart as a Nation and divided up along ethnic lines, as opposed to along the lines that would divide any other sort of republic; that is to say, along the lines of ideas: ideas about how we should be governed, ideas about what it is to be an American, some communal thing.

There can certainly be differences. Absolutely there are differences, as evidenced by the division in this House, right and left, conservative and liberal, Republican and Democrat. Those are good. They are healthy differences to be discussed, to be debated, and for the Nation to work through. Those are healthy differences, and I applaud them.

I wonder sometimes about those things that are designed, however, to divide us on other lines; not into camps based on ideas about how government should be formulated and how government should actually react to the citizens of this country and reflect their opinions. But we should in fact be divided on other lines: on racial lines, such as the Black Caucus, the Hispanic Caucus.

I respect every single person in this body. I respect people; and I certainly have great, great respect and love for my colleagues who serve here. I do believe that they are capable, competent individuals who have gained this seat in this body because of their individual abilities. They are, for the most part, I think, enormously competent people, and people who come to serve here for all the right reasons, because they want to do what they can to improve the quality of life for people who live in this country; but I hope it is for all the people who live in this country.

I am concerned to a certain extent about the division even in this body into groups that are based on things other than ideas, and that are based on things like race. Certainly, I would be opposed to a white or Anglo caucus, and certainly the media would go crazy. Everybody would say, what kind of a thing is that? That is a racist concept. I would have to agree that such a caucus would be, I think by its very nature, racist, because I do not think that the problems that confront the United States are problems that are uniquely black, white, or Hispanic. I believe they are problems that confront us as human beings.

I want to reiterate that I respect every single Member of this body, and certainly every member of the Black Caucus, every member of the Hispanic Caucus. But I do wonder about the kind of message that even the creation and existence of those caucuses, those two caucuses, what is the message that it sends, that we are as a Nation dividing up into these camps, and that it is appropriate to do so: white, black, Hispanic.

Mr. Speaker, I think that is a dangerous thing. It is one of the reasons why I do, in fact, take the floor often to talk about the implications of massive immigration that are combined with this multiculturalist philosophy that permeates our society, a multiculturalist philosophy that says there is nothing unique about America, or if there is anything unique, it is maybe about how bad it is compared to other cultures and civilizations; that there is nothing special about America.

It is the philosophy that we see in the textbooks of the children in our classrooms throughout this country that downplays American history, that downplays the role of Western Civilization in the development of world history, the positive aspects of Western Civilization, all of Western Civilization and the participants therein, be they black or brown or white or yellow.

Western Civilization offers much to the world and has provided enormous opportunities. Certainly there are warts. Certainly there are aspects of Western Civilization that we can condemn or criticize. But overall, overall, I think it can be said and empirically proved that Western Civilization has contributed far more than it has taken away from human liberty.

We should extol that virtue, especially, especially when Western Civilization is in fact under attack, which I believe it to be. Western Civilization is confronted by many rivals, and we are seeing some of those battles being played out, I must tell the Members, right now, I think, in Iraq, in Afghanistan, in other places in the world. Because, yes, I think part of what we are facing is a clash of civilizations. I believe Western Civilization and the values thereof are being confronted by other values.

Perhaps we can, for our purpose here for just a moment, describe those other values or those other concepts as fundamentalists, or radical Islam. I believe that Islamists, radical Islamists, are in fact threatening Western Civilization, confronting Western Civilization. I believe that what is happening even today in Iraq is a reflection of that conflict.

I know that what I am saying here tonight is controversial. It is certainly not politically correct. It will tend to make people respond with the usual epithets of "ethnocentrism" and "racism." Those are the words that are usually used to describe a person who feels as though Western Civilization does have a significant role to play in the development of mankind, and intrinsically has a great positive benefit; but I believe it does. I believe it can be proven.

I believe there is nothing to be ashamed of in this, as being a sort of representative of Western Civilization; or a participant in, a member of, however we want to put it. There is nothing to be ashamed of, and I think there are many things to be proud of.

I am proud, but I do worry about all of those things that are part of this multiculturalist philosophy that tend to tear us apart and make us, therefore, less able to actually confront an opponent; in this case, fundamentalist Islam.

Islam, I should say, is not a monolithic entity. It is made up of over 1 billion people who have different opinions and attitudes and ideas, so I do not want to suggest that everyone who is of the Muslim faith is a foe of Western Civilization. But I will tell the Members that the fight we fight in Iraq and that we will be fighting after the war in Iraq ends and after Saddam Hussein is deposed, that war, it will go on; and it is a war that I think can be characterized accurately as a clash of civilizations.

So we have to know who we are, Mr. Speaker. We have to know exactly what it is that we as Americans and that we as representatives and leaders of Western Civilization are all about, whether the ideas and ideals of Western Civilization matter, whether or not they are worthy of the battle and of our defense.

I think they are. I do not mean for a second to suggest that people who come to the floor and who argue for their particular point of view, cer-

tainly because it differs from mine, are not as committed to this Nation and to its future as I am. I just would want to bring to the attention of the body this fear, this problem, this one aspect of that debate.

When it strays from a debate over ideas and into a debate that divides us up on racial or ethnic lines, this is, I think, problematic, to say the least. It is something that we need to talk about, to discuss in candor and without vitriol. It is something that we must not be afraid to talk about, even though, I admit, it is controversial.

Certainly there are a lot of people who will be on edge when we begin to discuss this thing, but perhaps that is not a bad thing. Putting Americans on edge when confronting these kinds of questions is perhaps not the worst thing in the world; and it is, perhaps, absolutely necessary.

We have to think about this: What does, in fact, tie us together? What makes us come together as Americans? Can we actually define what that means, American? Can we leave out any reference to the color of our skin or to our ethnicity in that definition? Can we, to paraphrase someone else, can we forget about the color of our skin and concentrate on the nature of our character?

That would be the ultimate goal, and that would be the most positive development and the most positive aspect of any debate over what is America, what is the definition of America, or Americanism.

□ 2145

It is worthy, I think, of our allegiance, but we have to tell our children about it. I hope that the President of the United States and leaders of this country, elected leaders and cultural leaders and people in the pulpits of the country, I hope all of them will think about the importance of advancing this concept of America as one Nation, as an ideal, an ideal that has many components and one of the wonderful aspects thereof is the ability to debate those ideas in a forum like this.

So I hope that I will be given some leeway by those who are listening in terms as they get very on edge, I guess I should say, about what I am saying here tonight. Let me suggest that it is important for us to discuss these topics in a way that I think would make us all better people and better Americans.

So with that let me go to the point or to the discussion now of the issue of immigration specifically, and even narrow it down to a greater extent to the problem we face as a Nation of porous borders and the amount of very dangerous things that come across those borders. And so tonight for the rest of the evening I am going to talk about just one aspect of porous borders and the problem with lax immigration laws, and that is what happens to the United States and in the United States as a result of those porous borders, and specifically as a result of the drugs that come across those borders.

First, I am going to take a look at the Canadian border. Now, it is an interesting thing that although marijuana is by far the drug that is trafficked across that border more than anything else, there is one little thing that is happening up there that is worthy of our attention. That is the amount of a different kind of narcotic, in this case methamphetamines, that are coming across the border.

This is a series of pictures of meth labs that we have uncovered on our border, on our northern border, and what we are finding is that there is an enormous amount of methamphetamine traffic from Canada to the United States. Due to the lack of legal control measures in Canada, both Canadian- and American-based drug traffickers are able to purchase chemical products used in making methamphetamines openly from legitimate distributors. So they buy the component parts of methamphetamine in Canada. They ship them into the United States. They are cooked. They are brought together in meth labs like this that we see all over the northern border States and some, as a matter of fact, down in the Southwest, but primarily again up in Canada. The drugs are put together in these meth labs and then transported farther inland in the United States, sold, and the money goes back to the drug cartels in Canada.

Now, here is one little interesting aspect of this whole thing that I think relatively few people may be aware of; that in Calgary, Canada, we now see a relatively large community of Muslims, about 25,000 in Calgary. There are about maybe 100,000 in Vancouver, and I am not sure, estimates are about a quarter of a million or so in Canada generally. But the 25,000 Muslims that are in Canada can be identified as the primary source of that drug trafficking activity into the United States.

I was on the northern border not too long ago. I was a guest of the Forest Service and the Border Patrol. They were telling me about this particular phenomenon. They were telling me about the group in Calgary, Canada, about how they transport the methamphetamine components into the United States, about how those components are put together in these meth labs, and how then the money goes back to the Muslim group inside Canada, and then that money is used to support terrorist activities and terrorist organizations all over the world. I confirmed this, when I got back, with Asa Hutchinson who is, I guess we can call him our drug czar, but a Member whom I served with some time ago and a Member for whom I have the greatest respect. And it is true. What I just told you is true. There is this group in Canada, primarily Muslims, who are the source of this methamphetamine trade into the United States.

Now, not only, of course, do we know the damage that this particular drug

does in the United States to our children and to adults, there is also an environmental component of this, and we will talk about that more at a different time, the environmental degradation of the land as a result of illegal immigration and of porous borders, but specifically with regard to this particular problem, the methamphetamine and the labs that are operating all over the northern part of the United States, that environmental degradation is caused by dumping of toxic by-products resulting from this methamphetamine production, and it is a very scary thing. It is a very costly thing.

On average, 5 or 6 pounds of toxic waste are produced for every pound of methamphetamine produced. It costs us about 3- or \$4,000 every time we go into these areas and clean up these meth labs that are left around. They will dispose of much of these chemicals, by the way, in caves, in abandoned mines and that sort of thing. And the problem is, of course, people come across it, kids, hikers, whatever, will go in there, animals; the danger is great. These toxic chemicals are very, very dangerous, and very lethal.

In addition to the chemical and other kinds of threats to health and safety of officers in dismantling these laboratories, these sites often contain additional dangers such as blasting caps, dynamite, explosive booby traps, grenades, pipe bombs, and plastic explosives of a variety of kinds.

The Canadian border sometimes, well, we just are sometimes astounded by it. We cannot believe this is happening up there. We do not pay a lot of attention to it. The media does not pay a lot of attention to the porous nature of that particular border. But while I mentioned earlier that I was up there along the Canadian border, this was not too far from Bonners Ferry, Idaho, an incredibly beautiful part of the North American continent. And I went to the border to observe an exercise being conducted by 100 marines who had been sent up there to see what kind of technology we could employ along with the military to try to control just one section of the border there, just one little tiny, maybe 100 miles of border.

And while we were there, we were using by the way, I say "we," I was really just an observer. But the marines were using three drones, unmanned aerial vehicles to patrol the skies over that border to identify people coming across that border. And by the way, this is the most rugged territory you have ever seen in your life. And there are no roads, and people coming across that border are usually coming because they would not be welcomed at the port of entry. And sure enough, while we were there, one evening a drone that was being operated, it was about 2 o'clock in the morning, it was being operated by this young marine, and it pops up on the monitor, on the screen there, some sort of activity on that border. And they closed in on it and found, I think it was four people coming across on ATVs, All

Terrain Vehicles, carrying 4- or 500 pounds of narcotics on the back of these ATVs. And they were able to be interdicted because we were using the military in conjunction with the Border Patrol and in conjunction with the Forest Service to apply technology and human resources to try to see whether or not we could actually control the border. Actually it worked.

We also, I was not there at the time, that same exercise was responsible for interdicting, as I understand it, a light plane that was carrying a lot of drugs. And planes are often used, of course, for the transportation of narcotics across that border. Oftentimes drugs are smuggled across the Canadian border commingled with legitimate cargo in commercial vehicles. For example, in February of 2001 a bus driver from British Columbia was arrested for transporting 135 kilos of Canadian-produced marijuana into Washington State aboard a tour bus. Marijuana was secreted inside garbage bags located in the spare tire compartment of the bus.

The Coast Guard seized 240 pounds of marijuana from a Canadian military vehicle that crossed the border from British Columbia in the Blaine port of entry.

Canadian Customs in Montreal discovered 350 kilos of cocaine concealed in pallets loaded with a shipment of coffee. The shipment which originated in Brazil was transported by vessel to the United States through the port of Philadelphia, then transported by tractor-trailer to Canada through the St-Bernard-de-Localle port of entry on the northern end of Interstate 87.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy reports that drug smugglers along the northwestern corridor of the United States have been increasingly exploiting the open skies policy between the United States and Canada. Due to this agreement, law enforcement reports contain several examples of drug smuggling by aircraft from Canada to the United States. It occurs in a number of locations, including from British Columbia to Washington State, from the Vancouver area across the Idaho and Montana borders, across Lake Erie into Pennsylvania, and from Quebec to Maine.

In January 2001, law enforcement authorities in the Western United States arrested 13 members of a smuggling group that regularly transported and air-dropped a potent type of Canadian marijuana into Washington State via fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter. There is even intelligence that suggests four trafficking groups transporting Canadian-produced marijuana into Pennsylvania using small aircraft and a corporate jet.

As with the southern border, we are seeing a higher degree of technology being employed and of sophistication being employed by the people smuggling drugs across that northern border. Intelligence reports indicate that drug smugglers are increasingly using night vision optics, global positioning systems in order to navigate in remote areas.

Furthermore, again, not unique to just the northern border, but what we see is smugglers increasingly are carrying weapons to protect their cargo. This is of course a threat to any law enforcement officer that may approach them. You have to remember that most often they are being approached by Forest Service personnel, Park Rangers and other, who are really not being trained for this kind of thing. They are not really able to be the first line of defense against drug traffickers, narcotics smugglers into the United States. Their job has been mostly dealing with people who are violating some camping regulation or whatever. But they are not really all that prepared to deal with this enormous amount now of smuggling that is going on on our borders.

Now, the northern border, as I say, it has unique problems that we have to confront. Incredibly difficult terrain, a government in Canada that takes sort of a blind eye towards the issue of smuggling and narcotics in general. We have actually had, we have actually had Royal Canadian Police call our folks on our side of the border, both Forest Service personnel and Border Patrol people and say, look, we are chasing a load of drug smugglers into the United States. But we are going to let them go. We are not going to actually interdict them. We are just going to keep chasing them because we know if we stop them, they are going to be let loose by our government because our government does not care about drugs, especially when they are going into the United States. So they actually warn us so that we can interdict them as they get across the border and hopefully they will be charged, sent to prison, and pay for the crime. But the Canadian police know that their government will not do it, so they call us and ask us to help them.

Those are some of the unique problems on the Canadian border. Those are some of the problems we incur because our friends, the Canadians, are not so friendly when it comes to these border-related issues.

□ 2200

Canadian borders are themselves porous. People can come in and do often come into Canada, claiming refugee status. That is all they have to do, and at that point, they are admitted into Canada, and they are allowed, of course, to actually traverse Canada.

I have often joked, but it is not really much of a joke that Osama bin Laden could land. I am surprised in a way that one of the countries that are not offering some sort of refuge to Saddam Hussein, I am surprised it is not Canada or Mexico because frankly their immigration policies would indicate that they would be wide open to it. I said that it was not really a joke, but I have suggested that Osama bin Laden could shave off his beard, come into Canada, call himself Omar the Tent Maker or anybody else, not have to produce any document of identification, just claim refugee status. He

would be allowed to go into Canada, and of course, because our borders are porous and because we refuse to actually do anything to control those borders, he could come into the United States; and of course, people do by the thousands, by the hundreds of thousands, yes, by the millions.

We are focusing tonight on just the drug importation problem. It is a serious one, but it is certainly not the only problem that results from porous borders.

Now we are going to move to the southern border. Magnify everything I just told about that northern border by 50 times, and this is the problem we have on the southern border. The problem there is we not only have a government that looks the other way when it comes to drug smuggling activities, we have a government, a large portion of which is involved with the drug smuggling activity.

Mexican drug lords, backed by corrupt Mexican military officials and police officers, will move tons of marijuana, cocaine and heroin this year over rugged desert trails to accomplices in Phoenix and Tucson for shipment to willing buyers throughout the United States as per an article printed not too long ago in the Washington Times by Jerry Seper.

He goes on, "Most of the smuggling routes pass through the Tohono O'odham Nation, a sprawling Indian reservation, where undermanned and outgunned tribal police will confiscate more than 100,000 pounds of illicit drugs this year, about 300 pounds a day." I am going to talk more about the Tohono O'odham Indian reservation in just a moment or two, but believe me, the problem is not just there, that 71-mile chunk of the border.

The people coming across that border, according to Detective Sergeant Kray says, again, they have become very, very sophisticated. They have two way radios, night vision gear, body armor, and carry automatic weapons. They put people on the hills to act as lookouts and use portable solar panels to power their communications equipment. They have powerful four wheel drive vehicles that are under orders not to stop, to shoot their way through if they have to.

This is an example of that sophistication, of that level of danger, I should say, that is developing on those borders. Oftentimes we have seen probably on television when the police are in a chase, the police in the United States are chasing someone, they will put out spikes and try to stop the car and blow up the tires. The drug traffickers are doing exactly the same thing, but only to us. When they are being chased, they throw out these spikes here behind them so as to puncture and disable the tires of the border patrol or law enforcement agents that are coming after them.

They will also put across the road these barriers. They will cut down trees. They will place rocks across the

border to stop people, carjack them, take their vehicles, use them for drug transportation and then abandon them; and we can go across the Southwest, we can fly over the desert areas in Arizona and Mexico, and we will see cars, literally hundreds and hundreds of abandoned cars all over the desert.

These cars are oftentimes stolen from Americans, stolen from people who are just traveling in the area. As I say, they are carjacked. People are sometimes hurt in the process, sometimes killed. Their cars are taken, used in the drug transportation and then abandoned.

This article goes on to say that the smugglers, according to U.S. law enforcement authorities, often are protected by heavily armed Mexican military troops and police, who have paid handsomely for the privilege of escorting the drug traffickers and their illicit shipments across the border and into the United States. The drug lords are expected to spend more than \$500 million this year in bribes and payoffs to a cadre of Mexican military generals and police officers to ensure that the illicit drugs reach their destination. Mexican smugglers will account for 80 percent, 80 percent of the cocaine and nearly half the heroin that reaches the streets of America this year.

Law enforcement authorities all along the U.S.-Mexico border are concerned about the involvement of Mexican military troops and police in the alien and drug smuggling business.

Another visual portrayal of that, 2001 Mexican military police incursions into the United States. Hear what I am saying. Mexican military and Mexican Federal police have come into the United States along these points. The blue arrows indicate the Mexican military, the red the Mexican police. The yellow are the ports of entry.

"Several officials said in interviews that Mexican police agencies along the border have been 'totally corrupted' by drug smugglers and that the corruption included a number of key Mexican generals and other commanders.

"Violence along the border, fueled by the drug trade, has spiralled out of control."

Corruption among Mexican police is so extensive that, they said, some U.S. law enforcement agencies refuse to work with their Mexican counterparts. Mexican police officials have been tied not only to alien and drug smuggling, but also to numerous incidents of extortion, bribery, assault, kidnapping and murder along the border.

"Border patrol agents in Douglas, Arizona, were pulled from their duty stations after police in Aqua Prieta, Mexico, tipped U.S. authorities of a pending drug shipment. Supervisors were fearful of putting their agents in the middle of a shootout between rival drug gangs, each supported by competing Aqua Prieta police."

This is absolutely incredible in a way, if we think about it. Members of a foreign military, members of a for-

eign government's military establishment and police establishment routinely cross our border for the purpose of aiding and abetting a drug trafficking cartel, actually several cartels.

We have had over 200 of these incursions since about 1997. I have written the President of Mexico. I have written the Secretary of State of the United States. I have asked our administration what do they intend to do about this. What they say periodically is we intend to bring it up at the highest levels of government. We know what that means. Let us define that down to regular speak, okay. Nothing, that is what we intend to do, nothing.

Because, of course, these issues, if understood by the American public, Mr. Speaker, would certainly arouse some degree of ire, and they would probably result in people suggesting to their congressional representatives, let us say, that something should be done about the border, that, in fact, if the Mexican Government can put troops on the border for the purposes of helping the narcotics traffickers into the United States, that certainly the United States could put American troops on our border for the purpose of protecting our own sovereign Nation, if it is sovereign anymore.

We have had instances where Mexican military and/or Mexican police have fired on and injured people in the United States, specifically our border patrol agents. A recent documented Mexican military incursion on May 17 of last year when a border patrol agent was fired on by three Mexican soldiers in a military HUMVEE near now what is known as the San Miguel Gate on the Tohono O'odham Indian reservation, I mentioned it earlier, about 30 miles northwest of Nogales. The gunfire, which erupted shortly after 8:30 p.m., shattered the rear window of the U.S. agents' four-wheel-drive vehicle.

An unnamed agent, after spotting the soldiers, sought to avoid a confrontation, according to U.S. authorities, and had turned his clearly marked green and white border patrol vehicle away from the HUMVEE when it was hit by gunfire. Mexican soldiers were armed with assault rifles. One bullet was deflected by the vehicle's prisoner partition located directly behind the agent's seat, and knocked out the right rear window. The agent involved had been on the job for about a year, authorities said. I actually interviewed this fellow when I went down and visited the border some weeks later.

Earlier that day, in the same area, border patrol agents had confiscated 2,200 pounds of drugs from a vehicle that had crossed into the United States, although a second vehicle escaped back into Mexico. I am sorry I am getting ahead of myself here because we get into some other very dangerous situations along that border.

Let me move ahead here. Let me talk a little bit about those cartels that I mentioned, the cartels in Mexico that actually control most of the drug

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smuggling into the United States, five main cartels: the Arellano-Felix organization, the Vincente Carrillo-Fuentes organization, the Armando Valencia organization, the Miguel Caro-Quintero organization, and the Osiel Cardenas-Guillen organization. They are responsible for the majority of the cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, marijuana, and precursor chemicals entering the United States.

In April 2000, an investigation revealed that Mexican marijuana organizations were working in conjunction with Jamaican traffickers in the United States. A large-scale Jamaican marijuana trafficking smuggling group had numerous distribution sales throughout the United States and a primary marijuana source supply Mexico-based traffickers with ties to Mexico and to these different organizations.

We have uncovered tunnels. There is no two ways about it. These organizations are very creative and industrious. We have identified a whole series of tunnels that were dug across the border near Nogales and other cities along our border with Mexico through which both people and drugs were smuggled.

Let me talk a moment or two about the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation in Arizona because this is a microcosm of the problem we are facing. I just want my colleagues to think about it. What I am going to tell my colleagues here is just one little part. It shares just a 71-mile-long border with Mexico; and of course, our border with Mexico is close to 4,000 miles, so extrapolate this any way you want to.

"They're being overrun by illegal aliens. They're being overrun by drug smugglers. And they're caught in a war zone," says Judge Pogo Overmeyer of the Tohono Indian Nation courts.

Homes burglarized by illegals, deadly car wrecks caused by reckless smugglers, drug runners brandishing weapons as they demand help from the local people, this is daily fair on the reservation. Overmeyer said that she noted that Tohono O'odham police reported seizing 33,000 pounds of marijuana during the first 4 months of the year. During the same period, the police located 1,877 vehicles that smugglers had abandoned on the reservation.

One of the busiest smuggling routes through the reservation begins about 25 miles to the West where taxis finish a 15-minute run from the Mexican town of Sonoyta by depositing passengers at a flimsy border fence.

This is a little publication put out by the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation. Four separate land areas comprise 2.86 million acres, three counties, 75 miles, I said 71, 75 miles contiguous with Mexico, nine villages in Mexico.

Narcotics seized in 2002, 65,000 pounds. Illegal immigrant traffic, over 1,500 a day, 1,500 a day coming through there. Towing vehicles out of there, 30 to 40 a day. Refuse, trash, every immigrant leaves behind over 8 pounds a day, equal to 6 tons per year.

In just December of 2002, the Indian Nation, and this is a very small contingent of police on that reservation, they alone took in 5,400 illegals. They have spent millions and millions, \$6.5 to \$7 million, in treating illegals that are getting sick on the transportation, 85 cases of death, exposure, drug smuggling, other death investigations, homicides, vehicle towing, immigrant interaction cases and Sells Indian Hospital. Sells is the little community there that has a hospital. Treatment of illegal immigrants, over 50 cases a month, summertime over \$500,000.

And these are not just Mexican nationals, they say. In 2002, over 200 undocumented immigrants were apprehended in the Nation that were not Mexican nationals. On August 6, the Tohono O'odham Police Department drug enforcement officers found a plane ticket stub dated August 21, 2001, a plane ticket paid for Yousif Abdelkaber, paid for in cash.

Mexican military incursions into the Indian reservation in March 1999, April 2000, January 6, May 17, February 7. All this on this little Indian nation. They are overrun. Their entire life has been destroyed. Their children are being taken into these cartels, sometimes forcibly, but oftentimes of course just led into it for the money. I saw 5-year-old children on this Indian reservation who were walking around stoned. These parents are going crazy. They do not know what to do. They cannot deal with the fact that they are being invaded essentially.

But let me tell you, they are just one part of that border problem. It is just a microcosm. We can identify it, we can quantify it, because it happens to be an Indian nation and they have their own organization. They have their own police department and they keep numbers and track of it, so we can do that there.

But let us talk about the Tucson area, where in the month of November of last year they accounted for 100,000 people. They stopped about 23,000, but 100,000 people came through there illegally. This is a picture of the plane flights coming out of Mexico. I do not know if this can be seen, but there are literally hundreds, thousands, of plane flights just in the last year.

In the green, these are all over the area here; these are fades, where we catch them on radar then they duck under and we do not see it. The blue are low flyers. The red are called short landings. Now, what these red are, that means we catch them, they land in the United States, and we see them back on the radar going back out in 15 to 20 minutes. These are all drug related, coming into the United States. Okay?

How about this? How about this? Talk about the creative and inventive nature of the drug cartels down there. They stole a vehicle, an SUV, and they painted it with Border Patrol logos. They found and were able to obtain government plates for this thing. They used it to transport drugs into the

United States. They packed it full of marijuana, but we caught it. That was pretty smart, right, decking out a vehicle to look like a Border Patrol vehicle, and then using it to smuggle drugs in? But they are pretty stupid at the same time, because they are smuggling the drugs through at about 2 a.m. in the morning with their lights off, so we caught them.

This is the kind of thing that goes on and on, on that border. And here is what it ends up. We have a Park Service that is also under siege. We have a situation where 40 percent of our border on the southern border and 10 percent of the northern border are national parks. They were being inundated. They are being trashed. The drug traffickers are coming through. Sometimes there are caravans of people walking through; a guy with an M-16 on the front end, a whole bunch of people carrying 60 pounds of drugs in backpacks on their backs, and a guy with an M-16 on the back. Meantime, here is mom and dad in a Winnebago down in the Coronado or the Cactus Pipes National Park, and they are camped out, and all of a sudden they look out their camper window and see a whole bunch of people coming through with guns and drugs.

This is happening, and people are getting killed in these parks. The parks are being destroyed by these drug traffickers who could not care less about the land. They leave trash, they set the place on fire. When we were down there in the Coronado, a fire had been started by an illegal alien who had started the fire at night to keep warm, and then walked away from it. By the time I got back to Denver, 35,000 acres had been burned to the ground. This is what is happening on our southern border, yet we do not have much of an intention to do anything about it. And on the northern border, of course, this is what is happening to us.

And let me say this. This is a face I wanted all of my colleagues to remember. I want all of America to remember this face, Mr. Speaker, because this is the face of a gentleman by the name of Kris Eggle, who at the young age of 28, last August, was killed by drug traffickers.

A drug bust went down near the border. We got about 400 pounds of drugs that we confiscated. That drug load was not actually completed, because the guys that were responsible for it lost the load. We got it. The cartel sent somebody to take care of them. They killed four of them in Mexico, who were escaping across the border, and they ran into Kris Eggle, who was doing his job as a park ranger. He confronted them and they killed him.

I visited the spot where he died. I visited it with his father, who had been there four times to commemorate his son's death and to relive that experience. It is a difficult thing to do for anybody, but he did it because he does not want this death to go in vain, and I do not either.

These borders are porous. We refuse to protect them and we send people like Kris Eggle down there and we do it at their peril. This is a shame, Mr. Speaker; a shame that we do not defend these borders and defend the people we send into harm's way there. It is a war zone also.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MCINNIS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of surgery.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SCHIFF) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. SKELTON, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. MEEK of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. CROWLEY, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HENSARLING, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. ABERCROMBIE, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 704. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the amount of the death gratuity payable with respect to deceased members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

S. 711. An act to amend title 37, United States Code, to alleviate delay in the payment of the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus to members of Selected Reserve who are mobilized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

S. 712. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide Survivor Benefit

Plan annuities for surviving spouses of Reserves not eligible for retirement who die from a cause incurred or aggravated while on inactive-duty training; to the Committee on Armed Services.

S. 718. An act to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 3, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1638. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting certification that the current Future Years Defense Program fully funds the support costs associated with the CC-130J/KC-130J multiyear program, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2306b(i)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1639. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

1640. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the Third Annual Report on the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption; to the Committee on International Relations.

1641. A letter from the Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, transmitting the Month in Review: January 2003 Reports, Testimony, Correspondence, and Other Publications, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 719(h); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1642. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1643. A letter from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting the Board's Performance Report for FY 2002; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1644. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a plan for ensuring the elimination, to the maximum extent practicable, of unwaranted disparities in the pay and benefits of employees being transferred to the Department of Homeland Security, pursuant to Public Law 107-296; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1645. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Secretary's Management Report on Management Decisions and Final Actions on Office of Inspector General Audit Recommendations for the period ending September 30, 2002; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1646. A letter from the Chair, Federal Election Commission, transmitting a copy of the

annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1647. A letter from the Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Legal Services Corporation, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1648. A letter from the Chairman, Occupational Safety And Health Review Commission, transmitting the FY 2002 Annual Program Performance Report, required by the Government Performance and Results Act; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1649. A letter from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the Calendar Year 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1650. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1651. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Government Performance and Results Act Annual Performance Report for FY 2002 and the Annual Performance Plan for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1652. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No. 021122286-02; I.D. 030703B] received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1653. A letter from the Senior Staff Attorney, United States Court of Appeals, transmitting an opinion of the court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1654. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Palm Beach County Bridges, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Palm Beach County, FL [CGD07-03-031] received March 24, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1655. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting notification regarding the Coast Guard's report on the Feasibility of Accelerating the Integrated Deepwater System; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1656. A letter from the Executive Vice President, Communications and Government Relations, Tennessee Valley Authority, transmitting a copy of the Authority's statistical summary for Fiscal Year 2002, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 831h(a); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1657. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Tax-Exempt Bond Look Through (Rev. Proc. 2003-32, 2003-16 I.R.B.) received April 2, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1658. A letter from the Under Secretaries of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Plan for Improving the Personnel Management Policies and Procedures Applicable to the