

the cost of the war? Bush administration officials either dramatically underestimated the costs or were misrepresenting their estimates to Congress before the war. Before being forced out of the Bush administration, Secretary of Treasury Larry Lindsey estimated the cost of the war would be between 100 and \$200 billion, but other officials in the administration scoffed at that estimate, saying it would be a lot less. In fact, OMB Director Mitch Daniels estimated the cost at as little as \$50 billion.

If we combine the military costs in the first supplemental and the \$65 billion included in this latest supplemental, we get \$132 billion, \$132 billion, much higher than the estimates, obviously, from the Bush administration.

Just one week after the war began, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz told the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, "We're dealing with a country that can really finance its own reconstruction, and relatively soon."

Yet the Bush administration comes to Congress requesting \$20 billion for reconstruction costs in Iraq. Was the administration bending the truth 6 months ago?

Madam Speaker, the American people are skeptical about these reconstruction funds. We really cannot blame them. In five of the largest areas of reconstruction, we will be spending considerably more money per capita in Iraq than we spend on our own people here at home.

The Bush administration proposal calls for \$3.7 billion to fund repairs and improvements to water and sewage services in Iraq, a great funding proposal from an administration that is certainly no friend of environmental policies here at home. In fact, the administration called for a 25 percent cut in the number of EPA clean-water sewage treatment grants over the past year here in the United States.

Madam Speaker, the Iraq supplemental calls for \$900 million to construct, repair, and equip hospitals in Iraq, 10 times as much per person as we are spending on repairing and constructing our own hospitals, clinics, veterans medical facilities, and U.S. military medical facilities.

Months after the largest power blackout in our Nation's history, the Iraq supplemental calls for \$6 billion to rehabilitate the electric power infrastructure of Iraq at a per capita cost of \$250.32. Here in the United States we do not even spend a single dollar to upgrade our electrical grid.

Madam Speaker, we all understand that Iraq must be rebuilt, but does this Nation have to bear the brunt of the costs? Tough questions must be answered by this administration over the next couple of weeks, and I only hope that they are more forthcoming than they have been in the past.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). 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.)

THE GOLD-PLATING AND WAR PROFITEERING CONTINUES

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I brought something here tonight to show to the American people. This document, which has become publicly available, is the coalition provisional authority request to rehabilitate and reconstruct Baghdad, Iraq. Published accordingly, Baghdad, Iraq, is a gold-plated guide to war profiteering. I urge each and every tax-paying American citizen to get a copy to see where the \$20.3 billion that President Bush wants to borrow in their name to send to Iraq will be spent.

We have already had some examples of just incredible waste. There was a cement plant in northern Iraq needed repair. Mr. Bremer sent in his experts. They said it would cost \$15 million. The Iraqis could not wait, and they went ahead and repaired it for \$80,000.

There was the \$25 million spent to rebuild police stations in Basra. The Iraqis estimate they could have done it for \$5 million or less.

Then there was the \$5,000-per-day contract Mr. Bremer signed to feed the Iraqi governing council, all 25 of them. I guess we were going to fly over catered meals from the United States of America. The governing council was so appalled at that waste of money, even though it was being spent by the United States of America, borrowed by the President on behalf of the American people, they cancelled the contract, got some local food for a fraction of the cost.

Then, of course, on the governing council, we have Mr. Ahmad Al-Barak, and he estimates that in cases the savings could be a factor of 10. Where they spend \$1 billion, we would spend \$100 billion. If we carry that formula through, instead of borrowing \$20.3 billion on behalf of the American people and spending it to rebuild Iraq, as the President wants to do, we could do it for \$2.3 billion or less.

There are other things in this new proposal that are a bit strange. There is the proposal of \$33,000 per pickup truck delivered in Iraq. I went online just to kind of check out a pretty nice 2003 new Ford F-150, two door regular cab, XL, two-wheel drive, style side, with the AC and the automatic transmission and of course destination charge, \$17,817. Does not have armor plating, but then again neither do the Humvees that this administration gave to our troops who are being killed on a daily basis.

There are other things that I would question here, \$20 million to develop

and train a cadre of business people in Iraq. That is a 4-week course, \$10,000 each. By equivalent it would cost \$4,000 to send them to Harvard, or if we send them to a continuing-education course at a community college in my district, we could put them through a good course, one term, with credits, for \$400. But the Bush administration wants to spend \$10,000 per Iraqi, \$20 million borrowed from the American people, spent to give these \$10,000 4-week courses to Iraqis.

Then, of course, there is a lot of, like, well, we have an obligation to all the damage we did to the country. I guess we blew up their wireless Internet network. Whoops, wait a minute. They did not have wireless Internet network, did they? No, they did not, but an essential part of this reconstruction effort is that we provide a wireless Internet network for all the Iraqis and their laptop computers. I do not know how many Iraqis have laptop computers, but I think that is somewhere else in the request perhaps. Although we cannot equip our kids, our schools with laptop computers, we are going to give them to Iraqis.

There are other things that have more merit arguably, \$5.8 billion to rebuild their power grid and electrical system. I thought, well, maybe we did that. I found out it was not necessarily for damage we caused. In fact, Mr. Bremer was quoted saying, well, I have been into the plants, they have got these boilers from the 1950s and 1960s; they are holding them together with duct tape. What does that have to do with the war? What obligation does that put on the American people? Why should we borrow money on behalf of the American people, though it will be repaid and there is a lot of talk about children and grandchildren, by tax paying Americans today, children and grandchildren of tax paying Americans, to give the Iraqis state-of-the-art cycled turbines to generate electricity in Iraq? They cannot use the old system; we cannot just put that back together for a fraction of cost. No, they have got to have a brand new system. Of course, here in the United States of America where lights blinked out in the West a few years ago, blinked out in the East this year, the President cannot find any money to invest in our system and keep our lights on, but we can give them a state-of-the-art system there in Iraq.

If we spent this \$20.3 billion on infrastructure and critical needs in the United States of America. Even if we borrowed it on behalf of the American people and spent it on behalf of the American people, we could provide 1 million jobs in this country. This provides for nothing but war profiteering to generous contributors to the Bush administration.

HONORING SHERYTHIA SCAIFE,
RALPH DUKE, AND JOHNSON'S
CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, in every one of our lives there are people and places that are really unique, and they are so special that they become an essential part of who we are and who our communities are and what they become over time.

Today, I want to recognize two people and one place that have not only helped shape who I am, but they have touched the lives of our entire community and thousands of people. Quite simply, they represent what is the very best about Tennessee.

This month Sherythia Scaife, a member of the board of directors for historic Belmont Mansion in Nashville, will receive the Helen Kennedy Award for volunteer service. The Belmont Mansion is truly one of those historical treasures in Tennessee; and Sherythia, the best way to sum it up is she is simply one of our treasures, such a wonderful woman.

As everyone involved in charity work can tell us, fund-raising is a tough job; but Sherythia committed her energies to preserving the Belmont Mansion, and she has helped lead the effort to raise funds for the Belmont Mansion. We are lucky to have this wonderful part of the past with us still, and we are even luckier to have someone like Sherythia Scaife here to help protect Belmont Mansion for the future.

In the city of Franklin, Tennessee, where I have one of my district offices, there was a man whom everyone knew. He was our friend, a leader, a small business owner. He was truly a pillar of the community. Ralph Duke started out as a grocery bag boy, and he ended up as our town's main street pharmacist and civic leader.

We lost Ralph just a few days ago; and in thinking about what he meant to all of us, I was amazed at just how much he had accomplished in his lifetime. He filled close to 1 million prescriptions over the years to keep us healthy. He served us as an alderman and worked to improve police and fire service to help keep us all safe; and Ralph, above all else, took the time to say hello and to care about people, making us all feel that part of the community was important.

Ralph will be missed, but he is with us in our memories, and his family is with us in our thoughts and prayers.

A church is not just a building. It is also a source of strength and solace for a community of people. It is a place to offer our thanks to the Lord and Johnson's Chapel United Methodist Church in Brentwood, Tennessee, will be celebrating its 200th birthday on October 4, 2003. While the church structure has been destroyed by fire and renovated

by man over those 200 years, the place has been one of God for all this time. It is a wonderful thing to think of the comfort and love that is so strong and true in this single location, a place that brings people together to worship our Lord, to honor our families, to celebrate some of life's most special occasions, like my niece's wedding, and sends them out into the world renewed, energized and excited about the word of God.

Madam Speaker, I imagine that all of my colleagues have stories like these of the wonderful places that exist in each of our districts, the things that make America and our communities so unique, a Nation where people like Sherythia Scaife and Ralph Duke can give of their time to others and a place where we can freely assemble in places of worship, such as Johnson's Chapel United Methodist Church.

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

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

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

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

IN MEMORY OF DR. MILTON
WILSON

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

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and pay tribute to a great American, my good friend, the late Dr. Milton Wilson from Houston, Texas. Dr. Wilson passed away on September 2, 2003. I hope my colleagues will join me in extending deepest sympathies to his family as they mourn this great loss. Although Dr. Wilson will be sorely missed, his family can take comfort in remembering his numerous accomplishments and the incredible legacy he left behind.

Dr. Milton Wilson was born July 20, 1915, in Paducah, Kentucky. His father was a Pullman car porter, and both his mother and grandmother were public school teachers. His parents instilled in him a strong work ethic and a love for education that stayed with him throughout his life.

After graduating from Lincoln High School in Paducah, Kentucky, Milton Wilson went on to earn a bachelor's degree from West Virginia State College and later earned a master's degree, as well as a doctorate degree in business administration from Indiana University at Bloomington. In later years, he

returned to teach at Indiana University as a professor of accounting. His commitment to his students and his dedication to teaching earned him Indiana University's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Dr. Wilson continued his very distinguished career as head of the Department of Accounting at Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia, through 1944. At the request of President Dent of Dillard University, Dr. Wilson moved to New Orleans to head the university's business department until 1949.

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Shortly thereafter, Dr. Wilson moved to my home State of Texas, and in 1952 became the first African American Certified Public Accountant in Texas. The President of Texas Southern University invited him to establish a Department of Business Administration, which later became the School of Business Administration, with Dr. Wilson serving as its first dean. Under Dean Wilson's leadership, TSU became the first school of business in Houston to gain accreditation by the American Assembly of College Schools of Business.

Because of trailblazing work, Dr. Wilson became nationally known as the dean of predominantly black business schools in this country. It was while he headed the TSU School of Business Administration that I first came to know Dr. Milton Wilson, his first wife Zelda, and his family. Mrs. Wilson, who passed away in 2001, was a beautiful, gracious and hospitable lady who always made me feel welcome in her home. I will always remember listening to her own stories and experiences, both challenging and rewarding.

His son, Milton Wilson, Jr., followed in his father's footsteps and has been honored many times in the Federal Government's Senior Executive Service, serving for the Small Business Administration. I am proud to recognize him as one of my best friends during the last 25 years.

Not content to rest on his laurels at TSU, Dr. Wilson also served as a visiting professor at both Harvard and the University of Chicago. He shared his expertise as a valued consultant for a number of Federal agencies. As adviser to the Ford Foundation, in conjunction with Indiana University, he led a project that resulted in the successful establishment of the Institute of Business Administration in Dacca, Pakistan.

Dr. Wilson remained at TSU until 1970, when President Cheek of Howard University called him and offered him a new opportunity. President Cheek requested that he establish the Howard University School of Business and Public Administration. Dr. Wilson accepted this challenge. Through his efforts, Howard University became the first school in the Washington area to gain AACSB accreditation, first for its bachelor degree program and, ultimately for its accounting program.