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And the American taxpayer is not going to be subsidizing the scandals that continue to go on in the U.N. We are going to withhold payment to the U.N. until we get to the bottom of these facts.

So to that end, legislation sponsored this year, H.R. 4284, in the 108th Congress, is a piece of legislation that would do just that. It would say that we are going to withhold 10 percent of American taxpayer dollars going to the U.N., 10 percent of America's responsibilities to them, and that number is around \$340-some-odd million a year. So 10 percent of that, obviously, is \$32 million or \$34 million this year. That would go up to 20 percent next year, so around \$72 million next year, until the U.N. becomes more forthcoming, provides the documentation, provides the audits allowing the President of the United States to certify that the U.N. is cooperating with all investigations so we can get to the bottom of this and find out who is responsible in each one of these instances.

During the course of the year, or just recently, I should say, some Members, myself, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), and others, have sent around what is called a "Dear Colleague" letter to encourage our colleagues to sign on to that bill during this session of Congress. As we go into the 109th Congress, we will be encouraging other Members to sign on to that bill as well, the focus, of course, being that tax dollars should not be going to such a scandal-plagued organization as the U.N. until they begin to clean up their act.

The fact that this evidence is all coming to a head now, or coming more to light now, may be an explanation as to why earlier in this session, when some of us moved an amendment to an appropriation bill that basically did the exact same thing that this bill would do, and that is to say when we had a spending bill going through this House earlier in the 108th Congress, we said let us do it right then, let us withhold some or all of our funding to the U.N. until we get this information, that, unfortunately, all the information was not out and we did not have enough Members in the House to support this legislation. So in the spending bills this year, we completely funded the U.N.

But now the information is coming out. It started early enough, of course. I honestly believe there was enough evidence at that time for us to withhold funds earlier this year. It started way back in a report dated June 20, 2003. An article appeared that said, "The now defunct program, the Food-for-Oil Program, allowed Iraq to buy food and medicine with its oil proceeds under U.N. supervision. Although the oil proceeds were legal and approved by the U.N., several observers say the system involved kickbacks and was used to buy political support and to finance intelligence activities and even ter-

rorist activities. That is going back to reports in June of 2003.

Of course, there is the one I mentioned earlier, the Food-for-Oil minister, Benon Sevan. At that time he was granted an allocation of 7.3 million barrels of Iraqi oil. By that, I mean that under this program, Saddam Hussein decided that Benon Sevan, the Food-for-Oil administrator, the person in the U.N. who is overseeing the entire program, would be able to buy 7.3 million barrels of Iraqi oil from its regime. But he was able to do so at an artificially low price that Saddam Hussein set. So he was then able to resell that oil, and he could expect to receive \$3.5 million in profit. As somebody else said, not a bad deal.

Who else was on that list, besides officials at the U.N.? Well, reports also show that three countries were involved, and these probably should not surprise any one of us here. Overall, 248 companies purchased through the Oil-for-Food program, but three countries go to the top of the list:

First, Russia. Maybe that should not surprise us. Russia has had a vested interest, as related in some of the reports, for the last 15 years in Iraqi oil production. But what may be interesting is one notable recipient of one of those lucrative oil contracts was the director of the Russian President's office.

Now, we are trying to get information from Russia to what extent that was going on, and why someone within the President's office in Russia was receiving those dollars. So far we have been unsuccessful.

A second country that should probably also not be a surprise to any one of us is our old friend France, also involved in the Food-for-Oil scandal. France's oil vouchers account for 150.8 million barrels of oil. And the people involved in that reportedly include the French interior minister and also close friends of Chirac and others.

So what this means is that people close to Jacques Chirac and the interior minister were able to get the ability to buy 150.8 million barrels of oil from the Saddam Hussein regime, again at an artificially low price, and again able to resell it at whatever price they could, which would be market prices, and then make a killing in that market deal.

The third and final one, Syria, again just like France and Russia, should come as no surprise that they were also part of the deal with Saddam Hussein as far as getting oil at a low price. How much? 116.9 million barrels of crude oil that they also got at an artificially low price and that they were able to sell and get back at a much higher price.

So the examples of abuse and fraud are complete. The people who are involved in it is a growing list of some of the countries that we always suspected may have had a reason for trying to undercut us in the U.N. with regard to sanctions, countries that had a reason to undercut us with regard to the war

in Iraq. The people involved were the very people who were involved with implementing the program at the U.N.

So it now is incumbent upon this Congress, as we go forward into the 109th Congress, to do all that we can to shine the light of day on this program, to make sure all the facts come out, and to hold all guilty parties responsible. But the only way we are ever going to put pressure on the U.N. is by putting pressure in the area they respond to, and that is their funding.

So as we go into the 109th Congress, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and myself will be supporting legislation to withhold U.S. taxpayer dollars going to the U.N. until they open up their books, provide the audits, allow the people in that organization to testify before Congress and to let all the information come out so that the American public knows exactly where their taxpayer dollars are going.

With that, Mr. Speaker, as we close the 108th Congress, I look forward to the challenges ahead in the 109th Congress. I know that, as Franklin said, the price of liberty is eternal vigilance. Well, this Congress has been vigilant in the past, and I am sure we are going to be ever vigilant with the taxpayers' dollars and the American public's interest as we go through the next 2 years as well and we get to the bottom of the Food-for-Oil scandal.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 480. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 747 Broadway in Albany, New York, as the "United States Postal Service Henry Johnson Annex".

H.R. 2119. An act to provide for the conveyance of Federal lands, improvements, equipment, and resource materials at the Oxford Research Station in Granville County, North Carolina, to the State of North Carolina.

H.R. 2523. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 125 Bull Street in Savannah, Georgia, as the "Tomochichi United States Courthouse".

H.R. 3124. An act to designate the facility of the United States Geological Survey and the United States Bureau of Reclamation located at 230 Collins Road, Boise, Idaho, as the "F.H. Newell Building".

H.R. 3147. An act to designate the Federal building located at 324 Twenty-Fifth Street in Ogden, Utah, as the "James V. Hansen Federal Building".

H.R. 3204. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the tercentenary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3242. An act to ensure an abundant and affordable supply of highly nutritious fruits, vegetables, and other specialty crops for American consumers and international markets by enhancing the competitiveness of United States-grown specialty crops, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3734. An act to designate the Federal building located at Fifth and Richardson Avenues in Roswell, New Mexico, as the "Joe Skeen Federal Building".

H.R. 3884. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 615 East Houston Street in San Antonio, Texas, as the "Hipolito F. Garcia Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 4232. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4025 Feather Lakes Way in Kingwood, Texas, as the "Congressman Jack Fields Post Office".

H.R. 4324. An act to amend chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for Federal employees to make elections to make, modify, and terminate contributions to the Thrift Savings Fund at any time, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4620. An act to confirm the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to collect approved State commodity assessments on behalf of the State from the proceeds of marketing assistance loans.

H.R. 4807. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 140 Sacramento Street in Rio Vista, California, as the "Adam G. Kinser Post Office Building".

H.R. 4829. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 East Kleberg in Kingsville, Texas, as the "Irma Rangel Post Office Building".

H.R. 4847. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 560 Bay Isles Road in Longboat Key, Florida, as the "Lieutenant General James V. Edmundson Post Office Building".

H.R. 4968. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 McHenry Street in Rosine, Kentucky, as the "Bill Monroe Post Office".

H.R. 5360. An act to authorize grants to establish academies for teachers and students of American history and civics, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5364. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5505 Stevens Way in San Diego, California, as the "Earl B. Gilliam/Imperial Avenue Post Office Building".

H.R. 5365. An act to treat certain arrangements maintained by the YMCA Retirement Fund as church plans for the purposes of certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5370. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4985 Moorhead Avenue in Boulder, Colorado, as the "Donald G. Brotzman Post Office Building".

The message also announced that the Senate has passed without amendment for Joint Resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 102. Joint resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Peleliu and the end of Imperial Japanese control of Palau during World War II and urging the Secretary of the Interior to work to protect the historic sites of the Peleliu Battlefield National Historic Landmark and to establish commemorative programs honoring the Americans who fought there.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 620. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide supplemental funding and other services that are necessary to assist the State of California or local educational agencies in California in providing educational services for students attending schools located within the Park.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution

of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 78. Concurrent resolution condemning the repression of the Iranian Bahá'i community and calling for the emancipation of Iranian Bahá'is.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 2781) "An Act to express the sense of Congress regarding the conflict in Darfur, Sudan, to provide assistance for the crisis in Darfur and for comprehensive peace in Sudan, and for other purposes."

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. RAHALL (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of family matters.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal reasons.

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. STUPAK) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STUPAK, for 5 minutes, today.

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

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. WHITFIELD) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KING of Iowa, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker.

H.R. 4818. An act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Accordingly, pursuant to the previous order of the House of today, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Friday, December 10, 2004, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 531, in which case the House shall stand adjourned sine die pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), pursuant to the previous

order of the House of today, the House adjourned until 2 p.m. on Friday, December 10, 2004, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 531, in which case the House shall stand adjourned sine die pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

11248. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Swine Health Protection [Docket No. 04-109-1] received December 7, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11249. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Servicing of Delinquent Community and Business Programs Loans — Workout Agreements (RIN: 0575-AC57) received December 6, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11250. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Mexican Avocado Import Program [Docket No. 03-022-5] (RIN: 0579-AB81) received December 1, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11251. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Melons Grown in Texas; Temporary Suspension of Handling and Assessment Collection Regulations [Docket No. FV05-979-1 IFR] received December 1, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11252. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Milk in the Northeast and Other Marketing Areas; Order Amending the Orders [Docket No. AO-14-A72, et al.; DA-03-08] received December 1, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11253. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Vidalia Onions Grown in Georgia; Change in Assessment Requirements [Docket No. FV04-955-1 IFR] received December 1, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11254. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Cyazofamid; Pesticide Tolerance; Technical Correction [OPP-2004-0211; FRL-7685-1] received December 3, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11255. A letter from the Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) Program exceeds the 15 percent Nunn-McCurdy Program APUC and PAUC thresholds, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433(e)(1); to the Committee on Armed Services.

11256. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting