

Burglary and robbery are reasons for people to be indicted and sent to jail. That is what happened to G. Gordon Liddy, that is what happened to Howard Hunt, and we will see whether the Republicans in control of this House and the other body, and in control of Washington and all of its agencies, will make sure that there is a criminal investigation of this theft. Stealing from a safe is wrong, even if one has been trusted with the combination.

If this does not happen, then we in the House will have to look at the additional governmental expense involved in having a separate Democratic e-mail server. Because how can we trust a Republican Party that seems to have gone from a party that puts the rule of law first to one that glorifies burglary and defends criminals?

I look forward to the indictment of those who committed robbery.

19-CENTS-A-DAY CAMPAIGN ON SCHOOL FEEDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I have come to the well of this floor many times to speak in support of the George McGovern-Robert Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.

McGovern-Dole provides hungry children around the world at least one nutritious meal a day in a school setting. The Bush administration's own Department of Agriculture has evaluated this program and found it to be very effective at reducing child hunger, increasing academic attendance and performance, especially among girls, and strengthening community commitment to education.

The McGovern-Dole program is carried out in the field by a wide range of partners, principally through U.S. private voluntary organizations and the United Nations World Food Programme, which has a special unit specializing in school feeding programs.

Currently, the World Food Programme, or WFP, carries out McGovern-Dole-supported school feeding programs in Bhutan, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, Tanzania and Uganda. But this is just part of WFP's worldwide effort in the area of school feeding, which reaches literally every corner of the world.

Mr. Speaker, over 840 million people do not have enough food to eat on a daily basis. Three hundred million of these are children, who go to sleep every night without enough food to eat. Today, and every day, 24,000 people will die because of hunger and its ugly effects. This is more than HIV and AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined, although hunger and disease are closely intertwined.

In short, between 8 and 10 million people die needlessly every year because of hunger and malnutrition.

Last year, the World Health Organization listed the top 10 health risks around the world. The number one risk is not cancer or HIV/AIDS or heart disease. It is not war or armed conflict or accidents. The number one health risk in the world is simply the lack of food.

In an effort to reach out to students and communities throughout the United States, the World Food Programme has launched a campaign to raise money and awareness about the hunger and educational needs of children in Third World countries.

This campaign will help shine a light on what life is like for the more than 300 million children who daily endure, suffer and die from hunger. Nearly half of these children, mainly girls, do not go to school. The campaign will give students in communities a simple yet concrete way to make a difference in these children's futures.

The campaign is called the 19-Cents-a-Day Campaign depicted in this poster here. Why 19 cents? Because 19 cents is the average daily cost to feed a child in a school setting.

Think about this for a moment, Mr. Speaker. Nineteen cents a day, a dime, a nickel and four pennies, that is half the cost of a first-class stamp. For about the cost of one Big Mac, a soda and an order of fries each month, we can feed a child for an entire school year.

Mr. Speaker, we know that one of the best steps anyone can take to reduce or escape poverty is to get an education. Offering a meal at school is a proven method of convincing poor families to send their children to school, including their daughters.

Last month, Judith Lewis, the Washington Director of WFP, traveled to her home State of Mississippi to officially launch the 19-Cents-a-Day Campaign. Mississippi is a place that knows something about hunger. Last year, over 392,000 Mississippi children received free or reduced school lunches. I am happy to report the response from the high school students in Brandon, Mississippi, was overwhelmingly positive, raising hundreds of dollars for WFP school feeding programs.

The 19-Cents-a-Day Campaign is a great way to talk about child hunger, both around the world and in our own congressional districts. It is a great way to raise awareness and funds and engage our own students and communities in the fight against hunger abroad and here at home.

□ 1300

In the weeks to come, the campaign will be launched in high schools in Illinois, North Carolina, and California. I hope to launch a similar campaign in Massachusetts, my home State. I encourage my colleagues to contact the World Food Program to find out more about the 19 Cents a Day Campaign and how more students and communities can become involved.

Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe we can end hunger among children, both here in the United States and around the world. It only takes the time, commitment, and political will to do so.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord, did Your ancient seer David see people gathered on Capitol Hill when he asked: "Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in the Lord's awesome presence?"

Surely the Members of Congress know the answer to this question as did David's own: "Those with clean hands and pure hearts. Those who do not desire worthless things or have never taken an oath only to deceive their neighbor."

Lord, this great Nation and its fullness, the whole world and all its people are Yours. Renew Your blessings upon us today and make us humble enough to acknowledge that all is Your gift.

So we enter into Your presence to praise You now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MICHAUD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 9, 2004.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on February 9, 2004 at 1:03 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits the Economic Report of the President.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, L.
Clerk of the House.

ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-145)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLE) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Joint Economic Committee and ordered to be printed:

ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

To the Congress of the United States:

As 2004 begins, America's economy is strong and getting stronger. Over the past several years, this Nation has faced major economic challenges resulting from the decline of the stock market beginning in early 2000, a recession that began shortly after, revelations about corporate governance scandals, slow growth among many of our major trading partners, terrorist attacks, and the war against terror, including in Afghanistan and Iraq. These challenges affected business and consumer confidence and resulted in hardship for people in many industries and regions of our Nation. Americans have responded to each challenge, and now we have the results: renewed confidence, strong growth, new jobs, and a mounting prosperity that will reach every corner of America.

This Report, prepared by my Council of Economic Advisers, describes the economic challenges we faced, the actions we took, and the results we are seeing. It also discusses our plan to continue growing the economy and creating jobs.

In May 2003, I signed a Jobs and Growth bill that focused on three key goals. First, we accelerated previously passed tax relief and let American households keep more of their own money to save, invest, and spend. Second, we increased incentives for small businesses to invest in new equipment and plant expansions. Third, we enacted important tax relief on dividend income and capital gains to help investors and businesses. These actions were designed to promote investment, job creation, and income growth. By all three measures of performance, we are seeing signs of success.

Since May 2003, we have seen the economy grow at its fastest pace in nearly 20 years. Consumers and businesses have gained confidence. Retail sales are strong, and Americans are buying, building, and renovating houses at a record pace. Investment has strengthened, with spending on business equipment the best in 5 years. The unemployment rate has fallen from its peak of 6.3 percent last June to 5.7 percent in December, and employment is beginning to rise as new jobs are created especially in small business. Productivity growth has been strong, leading to higher incomes for workers, while the tax relief we passed means that American families keep more of their money instead of sending it to Washington.

We are moving in the right direction, but have more to do. I will not be satisfied until every American who wants a job can find one. I have outlined a six-point plan to promote job creation and strong economic growth. This plan includes initiatives to help manage rising health care costs to make health care more affordable and accessible for American workers and families; reduce the burden of junk lawsuits on the economy; ensure a reliable and affordable energy supply; simplify and streamline government regulations; open foreign markets for American goods and services; and allow businesses and families to keep more of their hard-earned money and plan with confidence by making our tax relief permanent. This year, I will work with the Congress to achieve these goals.

I will also continue to work with the Congress on another important shared goal: controlling federal spending and reducing the deficit. The federal budget is in deficit, foremost because of the economic slowdown and then recession that began in 2000 and the additional costs of fighting the war on terror and protecting the homeland. We are continuing to take action to restrain spending and bring the deficit down. By carefully evaluating priorities and being good stewards of the taxpayer's money, we will cut the budget deficit in half over the next five years.

The task of reducing the deficit will become easier because America's economy is growing. We have taken the actions needed to restore growth, and we are pursuing additional policies to help create jobs for American workers and families. I'm optimistic about the future of our economy because I know the values of America and the decency and entrepreneurial spirit of our people.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 2004.

PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

(Mr. RADANOVICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, the proliferation of weapons of mass de-

struction poses the most serious of dangers to the peace of the world. Chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons in the hands of terrorists could bring catastrophic harm to America and to our friends around the world. We must oppose that threat by any means necessary.

The men and women of our intelligence community have already found a very revealing component of Iraq's biological weapons program. Two mobile production facilities equipped to produce biological weapons. Iraqis allege that these trucks are pharmaceutical labs. But what possible reason could there be for two such mobile labs in the middle of the desert? And why, if these vehicles were merely pharmaceutical trucks, did the Iraqi soldiers wash them out with bleach while the war was going on?

President Bush's decisive action and leadership is keeping our country and allies safe from terrorist groups that are unrestrained in their choice of weapon and undeterred by conventional means. Our perseverance and our belief in the success of liberty assures our security, and we will not relent until this war is won.

OUTSOURCING OF U.S. SERVICE JOBS OVERSEAS

(Mr. MICHAUD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today in total disbelief. The Washington Post reported this morning that President Bush's top economic adviser, Gregory Mankiw, said that outsourcing U.S. service jobs overseas is actually good for the Nation's economy. This is absolutely outrageous. Sending jobs overseas is good?

Just tell that to the 23,000 Mainers who lost their manufacturing jobs in the last 8 years. Tell that to the 2.2 million Americans who lost their jobs since President Bush took office. These people have seen their hard-earned jobs shipped overseas due to unfair trade agreements and terrible management of our economy. They are the ones who suffer.

I spent 30 years working in a paper mill. It went bankrupt last year. Maybe this administration should take a look at what is happening in places like my hometown, places that need these jobs all across America, before saying that shipping jobs overseas is a good idea.

It might give them a dose of reality that real Americans face every day.

COMMENDING FN MANUFACTURING, INC.

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, when Americans watch the nightly news images of U.S. troops on