

testimony given by JOHN KERRY in 1971 in condemning our troops.

Mr. KERRY testified that American soldiers from top to bottom committed human rights violations, "cutting off ears, murder, rape, destruction," et cetera. The problem is, he relied on reports by a group of supposed Vietnam veterans who were not what they seemed. They claimed to be former Vietnam veterans. They were not. They were frauds. They were out only to discredit the military and our country.

But JOHN KERRY never repudiated or apologized for his statements. Instead, he has excused his behavior to youth. Now his misleading, inaccurate, hateful words are being used by a government with an atrocious human rights record against the United States.

That was a difficult time in our history. Passion and tensions were high. Whatever one's opinion of Vietnam, our troops suffered because of this kind of false witness to their efforts in Vietnam; and as a Vietnam veteran, I think Mr. KERRY should apologize once and for all and disavow those statements as false before other nations decide to use them.

SAUDI ARABIAN ANTI-SEMITISM

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to speak out against the continued pattern of anti-Semitism and racism by the Saudi royal family.

Last month, Crown Prince Abdullah was quoted as telling Saudi television that "Zionists" were behind the May 1 attack on contractors at the Saudi oil facility in Yanbu. The Crown Prince was also quoted in a story appearing in a Saudi newspaper as saying, "Our country is targeted; you know who is behind all of this. It is Zionism."

Enough is enough.

□ 1015

This is not the first time I have come to the floor to protest hatred emanating from the kingdom. It is the first time that I have come to the floor to protest the scapegoating of Israel and the Jewish people when, in fact, it was Saudi radicals who perpetrated these attacks. And it is not the first time that I have spoken of the danger of fueling the fires of religious extremism and hatred.

The irony is that it is the Saudis who have exported their homegrown terrorists throughout the world and have financed these murders for over 20 years. Only now when their own terrorists have turned back against the Saudi Royal Family are they remotely concerned with anything about terrorism.

Continually spreading and advancing of hateful and anti-Semitic rhetoric only provides ammunition who those who would support and condemn terrorism. Enough is enough. The Saudis have to stop.

VOTE YES ON THE SPENDING CONTROL ACT

(Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, for years, the Democrats have offered a simple approach to the American economy: Increased taxes on the hard working American people. For starters, we voted down three proposals by the Democrats during the debate on the budget. Each would have raised taxes by over its \$00 billion minimum to the American people.

Last year Republicans rejected Democrats' alternatives to major legislation that would have added almost \$1 trillion to the deficit, Mr. Speaker. Now I understand that they may be proposing a resolution to the floor calling for billions and billions of dollars of, again, increased taxes to the hard working American people.

I hope, and this week we should have a chance, to reign in spending by voting in favor of the Spending Control Act and some amendments to that Act.

As a member of the Committee on the Budget, Mr. Speaker, I have heard endless rhetoric by our friends the Democrats about the deficit, but at the end of the day, all they propose is more spending and more taxes. If they are serious, Mr. Speaker, about reducing the deficit, then they will join us voting yes on the Spending Control Act.

STOP THE CUTS IN VETERANS' HEALTH CARE

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 4th of July, I rise in sharp disagreement with the priorities of this administration for our veterans. Americans everywhere will tell you that we owe our Nation's veterans a huge debt of gratitude. We must fulfill the promises we have made to them. During a time when hundreds of thousands of our troops stand in harm's way, we certainly must live up to our commitments to veterans. They deserve the very best health care our Nation can provide.

I believe all of us in Congress feel the same way, but why, then, will no one from the other side stand up to reject the Bush administration's plan to cut 900 million from veterans health care next year after the election? That is another massive cut coming on top of the budget that already underfunds veterans' health care by \$1 billion.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans do not deserve this and they cannot afford it. I urge my colleagues to demand the Bush administration to stop the cuts in veterans health care.

AMERICAN FAMILY BUDGET ACT

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the question on the hearts and minds of millions of Americans was expressed last week on the editorial pages of the Wall Street Journal. Will Republicans step up to control spending? In an age where we have seen an extraordinary increase in non-defense discretionary spending, as a conservative member of this institution, it is my honest hope that we will answer in the affirmative to that question.

And thanks to the leadership of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN), the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CHOCOLA) with the American Family Budget Act Congress is poised to do just that.

Tomorrow we will consider the first major budget process reform in 3 decades on Capitol Hill. And their initiatives will be a part of the amendments. But some now are considering not even bringing budget process reform to the floor.

And I rise today to say, Mr. Speaker, that we must today answer the question in the affirmative. Will Republicans step up and control spending? To answer yes, Republicans must bring spending reform to the floor tomorrow. Debate it, amend it, and say yes to the American people that fiscal discipline is alive and well in the House of Representatives and in this Republican majority.

JOBS ARE COMING BACK IN OUR ECONOMY

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

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, in this very negative bitter political year, we hear a lot of negative stories. I want to talk about something that is good that is happening in America, and that is jobs are coming back in our economy.

If you take a look at what is happening in this economy, our U.S. economy is growing at the fastest rate it has grown in 20 years. We have added 1.4 million jobs in economy since last August alone.

In my home State of Wisconsin, where we are so dependent on manufacturing jobs, we are seeing a great recovery in manufacturing. Over 3,000 jobs just last month alone in high paid manufacturing jobs, almost 12,000 jobs in total alone last month in the State of Wisconsin.

So what is happening is the tax cuts that passed a year ago, the good economic policies that have been put in place, the seeds that were planted are bearing fruit and we are now on the

road to an economic recovery. Yes, everyone who lost a job has not yet found one, but the good news is the fastest growth in 20 years, over a million jobs created within a year, we are on record pace to earn back and build back the jobs that we lost and that is good news for America.

THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IS STRONG

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

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I have noted with interest that some prominent Democrats have decided that part of their election strategy is apparently to scare the American people into believing that the economy is weak.

I hate to rain on their parade, but here are some numbers: Inflation is at record lows; interest rates have been at record lows; real GDP has grown 5 percent during the last four quarters, the fastest annual rate in almost 20 years; the unemployment rate is 5.6 percent, which is lower than the 30 year historical average. Real disposal personal income increased at 4.9 percent annual rate in the first quarter of 2004.

Mr. Speaker, it sounds to me like some of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, including the presumptive nominee for President, have apparently failed to do their homework. I, for one, do not think the voters are going to be impressed by this nonsense.

THE REAL RECORD ON ECONOMIC GROWTH

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

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to set the record straight on the economic outlook in America and in my home State of Michigan. Let us look at the facts. Real GDP has grown 5 percent during the last four quarters, the fastest annual growth in almost 20 years. Inflation remains low, productivity has grown at the fastest 3-year rate in 40 years. Business investment surged 12½ percent in the last four quarters. Industrial production saw its largest quarterly increase in nearly 4 years during the first quarter of 2004 and increased further in April. Yes, even in Michigan we added 8,300 jobs just last month.

But more important than all of these statistics is that real disposable income is on the rise. That is more money in the hands of moms and dads all across the country who can invest in their family and buy the things they need. More jobs for our workers and more prosperity for our families. Now, that is a record we can be proud of.

JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

(Mr. PORTMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am here also to talk about our economy. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) just talked about all the positive economic indicators. I guess one could say the only economic indicator that is not positive are the statements from the presumptive Democrat nominee for President. And I do not know why he is doing it because it hurts the economy to badmouth the economy, to talk it down. It reduces consumer confidence at a time when we need to be sure that consumers are confident about where we are.

Before me, others talked about the fact that our unemployment numbers have gone from 6.3 percent down to 5.6 percent. That is lower than the average in the 1970s, 1980s, or 1990s. 1.4 million jobs have been created in the last 9 months.

Let me talk about those jobs. These are good-paying jobs. After tax income increased at a strong 4.9 percent annual rate in the first quarter of this year. Think about that. Hourly compensation in the last year has gone up 2.7 percent. That is faster than the 1.5 percent in the 1990s and people talk about its great growth. Average weekly earnings increased 2.5 percent from the same period a year ago.

So this notion that somehow we are creating jobs but they are not the right jobs or not increasing income are just wrong. Income is up. Productivity is up. Jobs are up.

Mr. Speaker, some politicians who are serving their own special interests are bad-mouthing this economy, but it is strong and good. It can get stronger if we take the right steps here in Congress.

UNFAIR ALLOCATION OF HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDS

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

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to protest the unfair practice by the City of Miami, Florida, in allocating Federal urban area security money to Broward, Palm Beach, and Monroe Counties. Under the current definition, Broward and Palm Beach and Monroe are integral partners with Miami and Miami-Dade County in protecting south Florida's over 5 million residents.

However, in the over \$30 million allocated to the south Florida urban area, only 10 percent was assigned to Broward County and zero dollars to Palm Beach and Monroe Counties, and, in fact, the other municipalities in Dade County.

Mr. Speaker, to neglect the necessary funding these other three counties deserve is simply outrageous. Both Palm Beach and Broward Counties have an international airport, seaport, and critical petroleum reserves. Let us not for-

get, Mr. Speaker, that this area was the home to al-Qaeda operatives prior to 9/11.

So I am here today to voice my unwavering support for the Department of Homeland Security, to create a new urban area for Palm Beach and Broward Counties. I am speaking for my constituents and will continue to do so until this outrageous offense is resolved.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4548, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 686 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 686

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4548) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.