

Security. For any of you who missed his shocking pronouncement, Mr. Greenspan suggested Social Security benefits be cut for retirees, that the retirement age should be raised, and the cost of living adjustment, which was a whopping 2.2 percent this year, should be modified because it is too "generous."

In 2001, President Bush inherited a strong economy and a \$5.6 trillion 10-year surplus. But that has been squandered and turned into a projected deficit of \$2.9 trillion. We got into this mess not because of the war on terror, that I think all of us support, but because of the administration's fiscally irresponsible tax cuts.

But Mr. Greenspan, who advocates permanent extension of these deficit-creating tax cuts, suggested we fix this economic disaster by raiding Social Security, not just borrowing from it like we do now.

Surely this administration does not want to pay for tax cuts on the backs of the elderly. It is pretty easy for Mr. Greenspan to sit in his ivory tower and modify Social Security to meet his economic world view, but for those people living in the real world, for folks who are hanging sheet metal, who are working on our docks and ports, working on the assembly line all day, Social Security is a critical safety net that cannot be taken away or reduced. These are not folks who have the luxury of playing the stock market, as the administration would propose, or work a few more years, as Mr. Greenspan suggests.

I hope and pray we reject his proposals and do not privatize Social Security.

CONTINUING THE LEGACY OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY BY SUPPORTING THE UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak of a courageous woman in America's history, a woman who fought relentlessly for 69 years to establish equal rights for women, slaves, and the unborn. Her name, Susan B. Anthony.

She had a deep desire, dedication and passion that our country live up to its promise that everyone be treated equally. Her leadership helped lead to the adoption of the 19th amendment, giving women the right to vote.

On this 184th year following her birth, let us honor the woman who fought for equality for all by continuing her legacy today and voting for the Unborn Victims of Violence Act. This act recognizes the rights and values of women and unborn children, and Susan B. Anthony would be proud to see this extension of her life's work by protecting the defenseless and speaking for those who cannot speak for themselves.

THE DEFENSE OF IMPOSSIBILITY

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I think it was highly inappropriate for Justice Scalia to go on a hunting trip with Vice President CHENEY when he was a defendant in a case, but it is inaccurate to say that this calls into question Justice Scalia's impartiality. You cannot call into question that which does not exist.

Questioning Justice Scalia's impartiality is like questioning Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake's sense of propriety, or Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction, or the President's plan to cut the budget deficit in half in 5 years.

In fact, if you read Justice Scalia's opinions, they are singularly devoid of impartiality. Here is a man of very vigorous views and prejudices, and he does not see any reason why he should not write them into various opinions.

So, I guess in some ways this is a defense of Justice Scalia. I wish he had refrained from going on that hunting trip with the Vice President, but those who accuse him of having damaged his impartiality, he has a defense of that, well-known to lawyers, it is a defense of impossibility.

IN HONOR OF SISTER CATHERINE DOMINIC

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Catherine Dominic, whose life has been devoted to helping and caring for her neighbors.

Sister Catherine will be retiring from St. Mary's Hospital in Rogers, Arkansas, after more than 40 years of service. Her devotion and joyful spirit have given us all strength, and we are fortunate to have shared her friendship.

Throughout her career at St. Mary's, Sister Catherine served the hospital in a variety of roles, including administrator, anesthetist, surgery supervisor and nursing service director. As both a registered nurse and chaplain, Sister Catherine has split her time providing medical care and spiritual support to those in St. Mary's Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, our community will greatly miss Sister Catherine as she returns to the Dominican mother house in Springfield, Illinois. We are extremely grateful for her tireless efforts on our behalf.

I ask my colleagues today to join me in honoring this wonderful Dominican sister for her commitment and dedication to the Third District of Arkansas.

HELPING THOSE IN NEED IN HAITI

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as many of us woke up this morning, we saw the pending violence in Port-au-Prince, Haiti; innocent people being subjected to murder and random and reckless violence.

Yesterday the Congressional Black Caucus met with the President and asked for humanitarian assistance. I am reminded of the aid that we gave to Bosnia, Albania and Kosovo when refugees fled for their lives. I think it would be a shame that with our neighbor, just 650 miles away, we turn refugees back who are fleeing because they are in fear of their lives or persecution.

It is time for this administration to share its humanitarian perspective, if you will, to those who are neighbors, who helped fight for our independence.

Let me conclude simply by saying we have another tragedy in this country as well. For anybody to suggest that Social Security should be cut for those who have worked long years and hard for that benefit, they should take another look. I hope that we will stand up as a Congress against the idea of taking away Social Security for those who worked so very hard and have invested in this Nation, who have built this Nation. Social Security cannot be cut for those who have worked and given to this Nation.

PRESERVING SOCIAL SECURITY FOR WORKING AMERICANS

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, what a rather startling revelation by Mr. Greenspan, Chairman of the Fed, that the answer to the deficit that this administration has run up and the long-term debt of this Nation is to raise the basic retirement age of Social Security and to cut benefits.

Mr. Greenspan and the Republicans speaking for the investor class decided that average working people in this country, the ironworkers who are rebuilding the San Francisco Bay Bridge, the people who are building the skyscrapers in our major cities, who are building our transportation systems, who are working out there in snow and rain and cold weather all through the winter to provide for their families, that they should just work a few years longer so that they will not have to pay for Social Security.

This administration has run up the largest deficit in history, and now they are using that deficit as an excuse to attack Social Security, which is the backbone of retirement for millions and millions of Americans. Maybe not for Mr. Greenspan and his friends who have stock options, who have golden parachutes, who have buyouts when they leave their corporations, but for millions of hard-working Americans it

is Social Security, and we should not cut it to take care of the Republican deficit.

EXPRESSING CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR ISRAELI SECURITY FENCE

(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, this past weekend a Palestinian terrorist invaded Israel and detonated a suicide bomb on a bus in downtown Jerusalem. Eight innocent civilians lost their lives, and 50 more were wounded in the latest act of senseless violence perpetrated by the Palestinian terrorists against Israel.

Since September 2000, there have been over 20,000 terrorist attacks against Israel. Because of the unwillingness of the Palestinian leadership to prevent the violence, Israel has become a nation under siege.

In order to protect itself and its innocent citizens, Israel is constructing a security fence. Rather than stopping the violence so that there would be no need for a security fence, the Palestinians have chosen to go to the United Nations and ask the International Court of Justice to intervene.

Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a resolution today with my colleague the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) asking that this process be stopped and that the Palestinians start negotiating in good faith with the Israelis so that there would be no need for a security fence in that region.

□ 1015

AFFIRMING ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO SELF-DEFENSE

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the right of every nation to self-defense is an inalienable right. As my colleague, the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY), just so eloquently described, today we will introduce, along with nearly 60 Republican and Democrat original cosponsors in this House, a resolution affirming Israel's right to self-defense.

Just last month, my wife, Karen, and I traveled along the fence line in Israel, the security fence itself, constructed in the wake of over 20,000 attacks over the last 3 years that have claimed over 1,000 lives. Israel is engaged in the construction of a fence in an act of self-defense, and our resolution affirms this timeless principle.

Mr. Speaker, I pray for the peace of Jerusalem, for all of the people of the region. But affirming, as this Congress should, the wrongness of the action at the Hague and the rightness of Israel's choice to defend itself and innocent civilians is the proper course of action.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Nevada and all of our original cosponsors and urge expeditious action on our resolution supporting Israel's right to self-defense.

PLEADING FOR HELP FOR HAITI

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to once again plead with this administration to act before there is any more bloodshed and death in Haiti.

Now, for the past 3 months, we have been coming to this floor calling on this administration to act. Yesterday, the Congressional Black Caucus met with President Bush and he, too, said that he abhorred the violence and the loss of life in Haiti. Colin Powell, our Secretary of State, said, we cannot allow thugs and murderers to overthrow the democratically elected government of President Aristide.

So we must act now. We have an opportunity to do so. The United States must take a role, or at least at the very minimum not block any United Nations Security Council resolution which could provide international security forces in Haiti. But time is of the essence, Mr. Speaker. Lives are at stake. This is urgent.

So I plead with this administration to heed our call and save the lives of Haitians and save the real life of democracy in terms of our neighbor of 8 million people right next door in our own hemisphere.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to democracy, this country supports democracy in Iraq. We should support democracy in Haiti and come to Haiti's aid right now.

U.S. SHOULD SUPPORT ISRAEL'S SECURITY FENCE

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday morning I was in Jerusalem, and I was within 100 yards of a bus on the number 14 route when a bomb was set off by the Alexa Brigades which are affiliated with the Fattah movement chaired by Chairman Arafat. The bomb was timed to destroy a bus and the people on it during the rush hour when schoolchildren were going to school, when men and women were going to work. Eight people, including two high school students, were killed, over 50 wounded. Chairman Arafat's group later claimed credit for this "successful military operation." That was in Arabic. Later during the day, of course, he condemned it in English.

Mr. Speaker, the bomber came in through a gap in the security fence which has not yet been built. The Israelis must finish that fence as a pure defensive reaction. To criticize the Israelis for building a security

fence when any other country that was under the kind of sustained terror attack that Israel is under would not be building a security fence, but would be attacking with bombs and missiles, is the height of hypocrisy. Frankly, it reminds me of the criticisms of the Czechs in 1938 for endangering the peace of Europe by getting in the way of the peaceful territorial demands of Chancellor Hitler of Europe.

The Israelis should be applauded for trying to stop this carnage and the murder of civilians, not by invasion and by bombs and missiles, but simply by a security fence; and we ought to support it, and we ought to hail the Israelis for their restrained reaction instead of allowing hypocrites to, in effect, support the campaign of terror by opposing completion of the fence.

UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT OF 2003

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 529, I call up the bill (H.R. 1997) to amend title 18, United States Code, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice to protect unborn children from assault and murder, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINDER). Pursuant to House Resolution 529, the bill is considered read for amendment.

The text of H.R. 1997 is as follows:

H.R. 1997

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2003" or "Laci and Conner's Law".

SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 90 the following:

"CHAPTER 90A—PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

"Sec.

"1841. Protection of unborn children.

"§ 1841. Protection of unborn children

"(a)(1) Whoever engages in conduct that violates any of the provisions of law listed in subsection (b) and thereby causes the death of, or bodily injury (as defined in section 1365) to, a child, who is in utero at the time the conduct takes place, is guilty of a separate offense under this section.

"(2)(A) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the punishment for that separate offense is the same as the punishment provided under Federal law for that conduct had that injury or death occurred to the unborn child's mother.

"(B) An offense under this section does not require proof that—

"(i) the person engaging in the conduct had knowledge or should have had knowledge that the victim of the underlying offense was pregnant; or

"(ii) the defendant intended to cause the death of, or bodily injury to, the unborn child.

"(C) If the person engaging in the conduct thereby intentionally kills or attempts to