

Description of how the money will be spent and why the use of Federal taxpayer funding is justified: In an effort to support the needs of the Special Operations Community with regard to establishing remote area communications and intelligence, Alkan has designed a C4 module capable for use on the smaller ATV platforms. The module design incorporates the latest in satellite communications, UAV & IR camera surveillance and military mesh network antenna systems. It will provide a means by which to gather field intelligence and transmit this data back to the tactical operations center. This project funding would be used to build a military ATV vehicle and C4 module and has already received \$500,000 in funding from SOCOM.

Description of matching funds: This project has received \$500,000 in funding from SOCOM.

Authorized Amount: \$1,500.00.

Project Name: Command and Control, Communications and Computers (C4) module.

Detailed Finance Plan: \$300,000, ATV; \$300,000, Shelter; \$300,000, C4 Components; \$600,000, Engineering.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the nine drug courts in my State and around the country during National Drug Court Month. Over 2,100 drug courts in the United States provide an alternative to incarceration for non-violent, drug-addicted offenders by combining intense judicial supervision, comprehensive substance abuse and mental health treatment, random and frequent drug testing, incentives and sanctions, clinical case management and ancillary life skills services. The tireless efforts of the judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment providers, rehabilitation experts, child advocates, researchers, educators, law enforcement representatives, correctional representatives, pre-trial officers and probation officers that are involved in drug courts provide substance abusing offenders with the much-needed chance at long-term recovery and productive lifestyles.

I have seen firsthand the impact of the drug courts in my State, where drug court programs have enhanced public safety, saved taxpayer dollars and, most importantly, saved lives. Since opening their doors, Hawaii's drug courts have graduated over 840 adult clients, 180 family clients, and 81 juvenile clients statewide. During fiscal year 2006, the recidivism rate for adult graduates was a mere 8 percent. For juvenile clients the recidivism rate was 13 percent. Family drug court clients experienced no recidivism whatsoever in 2006.

As we face a growing population of drug-addicted offenders in the American justice system, we must expand our efforts to bring treatment to a larger number of those in need. According to a recent study by the Urban Research Institute's Justice Policy Center, approximately 1.5 million drug-involved offenders should be diverted to drug court, which would generate \$46 billion in savings to American

taxpayers. Armed with our existing research that drug courts work, reduce recidivism, and save lives and money, we must work on taking drug courts to scale.

If society is truly going to save the lives of the addicted, break the familial cycle of addiction for future generations, have a substantial impact on associated crime, child abuse and neglect, reduce poverty, alleviate the over-reliance on incarceration for the addicted, and reduce many of the public health consequences in the United States, drug courts must be taken to scale. There is no greater opportunity for systemic social change in the American justice system. There is no greater opportunity to heal families and communities.

Again, congratulations to the dedicated drug court professionals and graduates from Hawaii and around the country on a job well done.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD CRISIS AND HAITI

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the Congress and to the American people the plight of the western hemisphere's second oldest republic, Haiti. The Haitian people are being negatively affected by market forces out of their control that have driven food prices up drastically. Haiti, where about 4 out of 5 people live at or below poverty, is an island nation that consists of approximately 8.7 million people. To put this in perspective, imagine the City of New York; now imagine that same city with 80 percent of its citizens in poverty.

The American people and Congress have already assisted Haiti with the HOPE and HOPE II (Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement) Acts. HOPE was the tip of the iceberg. It provided jobs to allow Haitians to overcome poverty. HOPE II will create even more gainful employment and more sustainable jobs for Haitians and create a self-sustaining infrastructure. These acts will provide jobs needed to help more Haitian citizens emerge from poverty and gain employment which will lead to a more prosperous Haiti.

However, there is much more work to be done, Mr. Speaker. Right now the World Food Programme is in need of \$755 million to meet immediate demands and USAID also needs an additional \$240 million. Increases in these programs will ensure that school food programs in the developing world are not eliminated due to current food price inflation. The food price escalation is also affecting the region as a whole.

Due to escalating market prices, in rural El Salvador, with the same amount of money today, people can purchase 50 percent less food than they did 18 months ago. This means that, in principle, their nutritional intake, on an already poor diet, is being cut by half.

In Nicaragua the price of tortillas went up 54 percent between January 2007 and January 2008.

We cannot let our neighbors suffer due to circumstances out of their control. We have taken small steps but now the government of

the United States must be an active agent in the development of the third world. We must follow the lead of our philanthropic and non-profit sectors.

Too often those in government see aid to developing nations as a waste of money, throwing taxpayers' dollars down a well. India is a great example of the benefits of foreign aid. In the 1960s American dollars funded fertilizer subsidies and high-yield seed varieties led India out of poverty and famine into self-subsistence. India is now entering the developing world, so much so that their demand for processed foods is now decreasing the supply of food aid available to countries such as Haiti.

This can happen in Haiti if the United States focuses on delivering basic goods to the hemisphere's poorest people. By increasing vaccines, textbooks, water pipes, and medical care we will not make countries dependent, we will be giving Haitians the basic inputs they need to improve their lives. We must invest in high-yield, proven, and scalable strategies to empower the Haitian people and those suffering throughout the world.

I have submitted for the record an article from the New York Review of Books authored by Jeffrey D. Sachs.

[From the New York Review of Books, Dec. 21, 2006]

HOW AID CAN WORK

(By Jeffrey D. Sachs)

In a very different era, President John Kennedy declared "to those peoples in the huts and villages across the globe struggling to break the bonds of mass misery, we pledge our best efforts to help them help themselves, for whatever period is required—not because the Communists may be doing it, not because we seek their votes, but because it is right. If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich."

It is difficult to imagine President Bush making a similar pledge today, but he is far from alone in Washington. The idea that the US should commit its best efforts to help the world's poor is an idea shared by Bill Gates, Warren Buffett, and Jimmy Carter, but it has been almost nowhere to be found in our capital. American philanthropists and non-profit groups have stepped forward while our government has largely disappeared from the scene.

There are various reasons for this retreat. Most importantly, our policymakers in both parties simply have not attached much importance to this "soft" stuff, although their "hard" stuff is surely not working and the lack of aid is contributing to a cascade of instability and security threats in impoverished countries such as Somalia. We are spending \$550 billion per year on the military, against just \$4 billion for Africa. Our African aid, incredibly, is less than three days of Pentagon spending, a mere \$13 per American per year, and the equivalent of just 3 cents per \$100 of US national income! The neglect has been bipartisan. The Clinton administration allowed aid to Africa to languish at less than \$2 billion per year throughout the 1990s.

A second reason for the retreat is the widespread belief that aid is simply wasted, money down the rat hole. That has surely been true of some aid, such as the "reconstruction" funding for Iraq and the cold war-era payouts to thugs such as Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire. But these notorious cases obscure the critical fact that development assistance based on proven technologies and directed at measurable and practical needs—

increased food production, disease control, safe water and sanitation, schoolrooms and clinics, roads, power grids, Internet connectivity, and the like—has a distinguished record of success.

The successful record of well-targeted aid is grudgingly acknowledged even by a prominent academic critic of aid, Professor Bill Easterly. Buried in his “Bah, Humbug” attack on foreign aid, *The White Man’s Burden*, Mr. Easterly allows on page 176 that “foreign aid likely contributed to some notable successes on a global scale, such as dramatic improvement in health and education indicators in poor countries. Life expectancy in the typical poor country has risen from forty-eight years to sixty-eight years over the past four decades. Forty years ago, 131 out of every 1,000 babies born in poor countries died before reaching their first birthday. Today, 36 out of every 1,000 babies die before their first birthday.

Two hundred pages later Mr. Easterly writes that we should “put the focus back where it belongs: get the poorest people in the world such obvious goods as the vaccines, the antibiotics, the food supplements, the improved seeds, the fertilizer, the roads, the boreholes, the water pipes, the textbooks, and the nurses. This is not making the poor dependent on handouts; it is giving the poorest people the health, nutrition, education, and other inputs that raise the payoff to their own efforts to better their lives.

These things could indeed be done, if American officials weren’t so consistently neglectful of development issues and with many too cynical to learn about the constructive uses of development assistance. They would learn that just as American subsidies of fertilizers and high-yield seed varieties for India in the late 1960s helped create a “Green Revolution” that set that vast country on a path out of famine and on to long-term development, similar support for high-yield seeds, fertilizer, and small-scale water technologies for Africa could lift that continent out of its current hunger-disease-poverty trap. They would discover that the Gates and Rockefeller Foundations have put up \$150 million in the new Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa to support the development and uptake of high-yield seed varieties there, an effort that the US government should now join and help carry out throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

They would also discover that the American Red Cross has learned—and successfully demonstrated—how to mass-distribute antimalaria bed nets to impoverished rural populations in Africa, with such success and at such low cost that the prospect of protecting all of Africa’s children from that mass killer is now actually within reach. Yet they’d also learn that the Red Cross lacks the requisite funding to provide bed nets to all who need them. They would learn that a significant number of other crippling and killing diseases, including African river blindness, schistosomiasis, trachoma, lymphatic filariasis, hookworm, ascariasis, and trichuriasis, could be brought under control for well under \$2 per American citizen per year, and perhaps just \$1 per American citizen!

They would note, moreover, that the number of HIV-infected Africans on donor-subsidized antiretroviral therapy has climbed from zero in 2000 to 800,000 at the end of 2005, and likely to well over one million today. They would learn that small amounts of funding to help countries send children to school have proved successful in a number of African countries, so much so that the continent-wide goal of universal attendance in primary education is utterly within reach if financial support is provided.

As chairman of the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health of the World Health

Organization (2000–2001) and director of the UN Millennium Project (2002–2006), I have led efforts that have canvassed the world’s leading practitioners in disease control, food production, infrastructure development, water and sanitation, Internet connectivity, and the like, to identify practical, proven, low-cost, and scalable strategies for the world’s poorest people such as those mentioned above.

Such life-saving and poverty-reducing measures raise the productivity of the poor so that they can earn and ingest their way out of extreme poverty, and these measures do so at an amazingly low cost. To extend these proven technologies throughout the poorest parts of Africa would require around \$75 billion per year from all donors, of which the US share would be around \$30 billion per year, or roughly 25 cents per every \$100 of US national income.

When we overlook the success that is possible, we become our own worst enemies. We stand by as millions die each year because they are too poor to stay alive. The inattention and neglect of our policy leaders lull us to believe casually that nothing more can be done. Meanwhile we spend hundreds of billions of dollars per year on military interventions doomed to fail, overlooking the fact that a small fraction of that money, if it were directed at development approaches, could save millions of lives and set entire regions on a path of economic growth. It is no wonder that global attitudes toward Africa have reached the lowest ebb in history. It is time for a new approach.

“HONOR FIRST:” COMMEMORATING THE 84TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BORDER PATROL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 84th birthday of the United States Border Patrol.

Next Wednesday, May 28, 2008, we will be commemorating the establishment of the United States Border Patrol, which began as the Patrol Inspectors in El Paso, Texas. The Border Patrol began under the Bureau of Immigration, then became a part of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Since the creation of the Department of Homeland Security in 2003, the Border Patrol has become an integral part of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Today, the Border Patrol is led by my friend and former colleague, Chief David V. Aguilar. Under his strong direction and leadership, the Border Patrol has grown to over 16,000 agents stationed throughout the Nation’s southern, northern, and coastal borders.

Guided by their national strategy, with the proper mix of manpower, technology, and infrastructure, the Border Patrol’s primary goal is to gain and maintain operational control of our borders. Agents protect and defend the United States by preventing the smuggling of illicit materials, and surreptitious entry of persons into the United States. Last year alone, the Border Patrol arrested over 876,000 persons illegally entering or already present in the United States, and seized over 1.8 million pounds of marijuana and 14,000 pounds of cocaine.

Today, the Border Patrol uses state of the art technologies to aid in the performance of their duties. Infrared cameras, remote video surveillance, unattended underground sensors, and ground radar support their national strategy. Their special response teams and tactical units are specially trained for domestic and international emergencies and they have search, trauma, and rescue teams that provide humanitarian and rescue capabilities and perform countless rescues each year. The Border Patrol’s mission is also supported by air and marine assets and personnel from CBP Air and Marine.

Before coming to Congress, I was honored to serve as a Border Patrol agent for 26½ years, of which 13 were spent as sector chief in McAllen and, then, in my home district of El Paso, Texas. My time in the Border Patrol gave me firsthand knowledge of the vigilance and dedication that are constantly required of these agents. The task of protecting our Nation’s borders is no small charge.

Sadly, over the years, the Border Patrol has lost 105 men and women who courageously served our country. Let us take a moment to remember these brave men and women and honor their sacrifice.

The Border Patrol lives by their motto “Honor First”; so today, I ask that we honor the men and women in green for the work they have done and the sacrifices they have made.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I submit the following: Bill Number: H.R. 5658, Navy, RDT&E, Line 181, PE # 0206623M.

Legal name and address of entity receiving earmark: Alkan Shelters, LLC, 1701 S. Cushman St., Fairbanks, AK 99701.

Description of how the money will be spent and why the use of federal taxpayer funding is justified: In an effort to support the needs of the Special Operations Community with regard to establishing remote area communications and intelligence, Alkan has designed a C4 module capable for use on the smaller ATV platforms. The module design incorporates the latest in satellite communications, UAV & IR camera surveillance and military mesh network antenna systems. It will provide a means by which to gather field intelligence and transmit this data back to the tactical operations center. This project funding would be used to build a military ATV vehicle and C4 module and has already received \$500,000 in funding from SOCOM.

Description of matching funds: Alkan Shelter, LLC will contribute internal R&D in the amount of \$100,000.

Authorized Amount: \$2,000,000.00.

Project Name: EMI Hardened Expandable Shelter.

Detailed Finance Plan:

Phase 1: \$300,000 Engineering; \$200,000 Testing; \$150,000 Materials.

Phase 2: \$200,000 Engineering; \$300,000 Testing; \$400,000 Expandable Shelter.

Phase 3: \$150,000 Engineering; \$300,000 Testing.