

not rest until all of our troops are out of danger and brought safely home.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONTINUING ON THE ROAD TO RUIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, throughout what was supposed to be a recovery summer, the President has repeated a familiar theme, that the Republicans ran us into a ditch and now they want the keys back. That's an important point. We need to understand exactly what it was that the Bush administration did to run us into a ditch.

In fact, President Bush made two major policy blunders. The first was to preside over unprecedented regulatory intervention into the housing market that deliberately enticed people who couldn't afford homes to buy them anyway. At the same time, these policies deliberately encouraged lenders to make irresponsible loans by promising them that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac would cover the risk. This created a massive artificial housing bubble that ultimately burst with catastrophic impact.

But my question of President Obama is, if we know that this road leads to ruin, why does he continue down it at even higher speeds? Failing to learn from the damage that government intervention does by creating artificial bubbles in the economy, the President has repeated and amplified Mr. Bush's blunders not only in the housing market with mortgage subsidies and home purchase credits, but now also in other markets like automobiles and home improvements. Each time he has squandered billions of dollars merely to borrow from future demand, leaving behind economic craters each time these bubbles have burst.

President Bush's second blunder was to increase Federal spending at an unsustainable rate, transferring economic decisions from the productive sector to the government sector and crowding out the capital market by excessive government borrowing. Now remember, the \$168 billion stimulus bill was a Bush brainchild. That's when we all got those \$600 checks. If massive deficits and record government spending create prosperity, well then the final Bush years should have produced a golden age for the American economy. Has the President reversed these irresponsible Bush-era policies? On the contrary. He has amplified and expanded them.

In his first 19 months in office, this administration has run up more pub-

licly held debt than all 8 years of Bush combined, with a promise that this would keep unemployment under 8 percent. Yet all this has accomplished is to crowd out trillions of dollars of capital that could otherwise have gone to employers to add jobs or to homebuyers seeking to re-enter the housing market or to consumers seeking to make consumer purchases. Thus, instead of the sharp V-shaped recovery that normally follows a recession, America is now entering its third year of economic distress.

The reason these policies have not worked is because they cannot work. They didn't work under George W. Bush, and they have not worked when Barack Obama doubled down on them. The core of Obamanomics is the proposition that, if government can inject enough money into the economy, it can stimulate consumer spending and, therefore, demand for production.

Unfortunately, government cannot inject a single dollar into the economy that it has not first taken out of the same economy. It's true, if the government takes a dollar from Peter and gives it to Paul, Paul will have an extra dollar to spend—but Peter now has one less dollar to spend in that very same economy.

On paper, the economic effects of income transfers always net to zero. In practice, transfers net to much less than zero because they shift huge amounts of capital away from decisions that would have been made in the productive sector based on economic return towards decisions that are made in the government sector based on political return.

We see very clearly the government jobs that are created when government puts that dollar back into the economy. What we don't see as clearly are the productive jobs that were prevented from forming as government first takes that dollar out of the economy. We see those lost jobs reflected in a chronically high unemployment rate and a stagnating economy.

It's time that we stopped wrestling for the steering wheel and recognized bad public policy for what it is, whether the driver is a Republican or a Democrat. The problem is not the driver but the direction, and the direction hasn't changed.

We all know the road to prosperity. We've taken it before. When we've reduced the burdens on productivity, the economy has blossomed. It worked when Ronald Reagan did it. It worked when John F. Kennedy and Harry Truman did it. And it will work again, but we will need leaders with a far better sense of direction than what we have today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

A TRIBUTE TO TAN'KO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SABLON. Mr. Speaker, in the Northern Mariana Islands, as in the rest of America, baseball is the national pastime. And no single person in our islands' history did more to establish and maintain the sport of baseball than Francisco M. Palacios. Yet he did it without playing a single game.

The American military brought baseball to our islands during World War II. Along with the rifles and planes came gloves, bats, and balls for the soldiers' recreation. Schoolboys and young men on our islands picked up the game naturally from the military. Then play became formalized. Teams were organized around neighborhoods, and the first league was formed in 1953.

As a young man, Palacios would walk the 3 miles to Garapan to watch the Sunday afternoon games. He wanted to play but didn't have the skill to make the starting nine of his district team in Chalan Kanoa. So, sitting on the bench in the dugout, Palacios decided to contribute by becoming the scorekeeper.

He learned the art of scorekeeping from a Navy man stationed on Saipan, and a look at Palacios' score sheets reveals a military preciseness and meticulousness. The system he used was invented a hundred years ago earlier by American Henry Chadwick, who is now in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Soon after becoming his team's scorekeeper, Palacios began keeping score for the entire league, and he remained the official scorekeeper for every baseball league on Saipan until his retirement in 2006—a span of six decades.

Palacios, called "Tan'ko" in our vernacular language, raised over a dozen children and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. But he always made time for his duties as scorekeeper.

Without a scorekeeper, there is no game; without a record keeper, there are no records. And baseball, more than any other game, depends on its records. The box score preserves a game for all time no matter when or where it's played. Season records give us a way of comparing players, even those who never played against each other. The records connect the past to the present.

Thanks to Tan'ko, Saipan was the only island in all of Micronesia that maintained yearly statistics, season after season.

Thanks to Tan'ko's dedication as a volunteer, baseball grew. Frank Palacios was there to help when Little League was first organized in 1973. Since then, teams from the Northern Mariana Islands have been frequent contestants at the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania; at the Junior League World Series in Taylor, Michigan; at the Senior League

World Series in Bangor, Maine; and at the Big League World Series in Easley, South Carolina. Players from Saipan have gone to play college baseball in the mainland.

In 1994, the Commonwealth legislature recognized Tan'ko's contributions by renaming it's only regulation baseball field Francisco M. Palacios Field.

□ 1910

In 2007, Palacios co-authored the book "Saipan Baseball: From the Beginning," which included all the individual and team records from the inception of the Saipan Major League in 1982.

Francisco M. Palacios has been voted into the CNMI Sports Hall of Fame. When his name came up for selection, there was no argument. He was selected unanimously.

Tan'ko provided the solid, steady foundation for baseball to become Saipan's favorite pastime. And he did it all, not by hitting home runs or striking out batters; he accomplished it with his calm, dependable presence, sure knowledge, and selfless devotion. That is why he came to be a legend in his own time, in his own way, on his own island.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

END THE PERSECUTION OF CHEN GUANGCHENG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week one of China's most heroic defenders of human rights, Chen Guangcheng, was transported from prison to his family's house. This was good news, but only a step in the right direction. We must not gloss over the fact that Chen, who in 2006 revealed to the world the massive violence and brutality of the one child per couple policy enforcement campaign in Linyi, Shandong province, remains under house arrest, imprisoned in his own home, which is surrounded by surveillance cameras and police. Foreign reporters attempting to enter his village have been beaten and driven away, and Chen is reportedly in need of urgent medical attention, having been regularly beaten in prison, where he lost a great deal of weight.

Just today a Radio Free Asia reporter spoke with Chen and his wife over a cell phone. Chen's wife said, and I quote, "He has a sort of haunted look. And for the first few days after his release he couldn't speak at all." Think about it. This is a very, very tough and

articulate man, yet for the first few days after his release he couldn't speak at all. Such was the brutality of Chen's imprisonment.

So it is all the more inspiring to read Chen's words. The Chinese Government may have broken his body in the laogai, but they have absolutely not broken his spirit. Chen got on the phone and called on "international organizations and people of conscience" to react to his continued arrest in a united manner. That's the house arrest. And, "If they can help me today," he said, "their actions will help another person tomorrow."

A few words about Chen, Mr. Speaker. He is a self-taught lawyer, having been denied the benefits of higher education due to his blindness, and was known in Linyi for advising his neighbors on how to resist the government's injustices. In 2005 and 2006 he took the brave step that changed his life. He began interviewing people and gathering evidence about the massive violence and brutality of the one child per couple policy and its enforcement campaign that shook Linyi in 2005. What he uncovered was shocking: 130,000 forced abortions and sterilizations in Linyi County in that year alone, in addition to mass detentions and beatings.

In order to stop Chen's investigation, officials placed him under house arrest. But he managed to slip away and travel to Beijing, where he met with journalists from Time magazine and conferred with legal scholars about filing a large class action suit against officials responsible for the campaign. Officials soon abducted him back to Shandong, returned him to house arrest, and then convicted him on trumped up charges of property destruction. Chen served the full term of his 4-year, 3-month sentence, despite health problems indicating the appropriateness of medical parole.

Mr. Speaker, the Chinese Government's relentless pursuit of Chen corresponds to the continued violence of the one child per couple policy, which Chen bravely exposed. Sadly, what he documented in 2005 and 2006 is still going on today all over China. This year alone we have reliable reports of large-scale forced abortion and sterilization campaigns in Guangdong, Fujian, Yunnan, Zhejiang, and Jiangxi provinces. The campaign in Guangdong province was widely reported, the story having been broken by The Times of London in April of this year.

In Guangdong's Puning County, officials rounded up women and men, as well as the relatives of any resisters, detained them in cramped conditions, and working 20-hour shifts for 20 days, forcibly sterilized their quota of almost 10,000 people.

Mr. Speaker, Chen Guangcheng documented the fact that Chinese women are immensely traumatized by these campaigns and by the entire one child per couple policy. It's been estimated by the World Health Organization that some 500 women per day commit sui-

cide—not per week, not per month, but per day commit suicide—in China, largely attributable to this horrific and barbaric policy called one child per couple. It is invasive. There is a crude surveillance of women's reproductive cycles, including monitoring their cycle per month. The strict birth limits drive sex selection abortion and the tragedy of what we call gendercide—the missing girls in China, which may be as many as 100 million girls since 1979, when this barbaric policy was first pushed on China by the West and by the United Nations.

It's been estimated that upwards of 40 million men will not be able to find wives by 2020 because they had been forcibly aborted as part of the China policy.

Finally, I appeal to our government, I appeal to our President, please speak out on behalf of Chen Guangcheng for his release so that this terrible nightmare he has had to endure will end.

[Sept. 14, 2010]

RADIO FREE ASIA: BLIND ACTIVIST CALLS FOR HELP

A CHINESE LAWYER IS UNDER CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE FOLLOWING HIS RELEASE FROM PRISON.

HONG KONG.—Authorities in the eastern Chinese province of Shandong are holding a Chinese legal activist under house arrest though his jail term ended on Monday, prompting him to call on concerned citizens to support him in protest.

Chen Guangcheng, 38, had exposed abuses by local family planning officials, leading to a jail term of four years and three months for "damaging public property and obstructing traffic" handed down by a Linyi municipal court in August 2006.

Chen served the full term of four years and three months in spite of repeated requests for medical parole.

"Now that I have come out of jail, the authorities are putting a lot of effort into keeping me under close surveillance," said Chen, calling on the international community to protest his treatment by the Chinese government.

"I am hoping that international organizations and people of conscience will react to this in a united manner," he said.

"If they can help me today, their actions will help another person tomorrow," Chen said, calling on rights activists and ordinary people to come to his house and photograph the security personnel with their mobile phones.

"If they take away A's cell phone, then B can take a photo. If they go for B's cell phone, then C can record it," he said.

LAYERS OF SECURITY

Chen's wife Yuan Weijing said there are four different layers of security personnel watching the family home.

"Between the national highway and our home, there are four layers of surveillance," she said. "Yesterday I wanted to go out to buy some food but they wouldn't allow it."

"I told them we have to eat, and that maybe they should buy food for us, but they said that wouldn't do either."

"The moment I went outside, about 20 people got to their feet and started to surround me," Yuan said.

She said friends and relatives who tried to bring food to the family were being refused entrance as well, and only Chen's 76-year-old mother was being allowed out to buy food for the entire family.