

Constitution, laws, and jurisdiction of the United States to installations and devices attached to the seabed of the Outer Continental Shelf for the production and support of production of energy from sources other than oil and gas, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMPLEX FISH STOCKING ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 2351) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to continue stocking fish in certain lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALLOWING YSLETA DEL SUR PUEBLO TRIBE TO DETERMINE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1560) to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BOX ELDER UTAH LAND CONVEYANCE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on

suspending the rules and passing the bill (S. 683) to provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of land to the town of Mantua, Utah.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CORRECTING ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 470, HOOVER POWER ALLOCATION ACT OF 2011

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and concurring in the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 32) to authorize the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make technical corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 470, an Act to further allocate and expand the availability of hydroelectric power generated at Hoover Dam, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1820

EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today we're here to talk about the need to extend unemployment insurance. The numbers are staggering. If we do not act by the end of this month, in January well over a million people will lose their unemployment insurance, by mid-February the total will be well over 2 million, and by the end of next year, if we do

not act, over 6 million people. As I said, these numbers are staggering. But the people behind these numbers are overwhelming.

We're here today to talk about the numbers and also talk about the people who are involved. When we've had emergencies like this, we have never failed to act. Today, we face an emergency beyond any we've seen since the Great Depression, and it's absolutely vital as a result that we act.

I'm joined by some of my colleagues. I want to call on them. As I do so, I want to read stories. I'll start by reading just one story and then call on one or more of my colleagues.

Let me start by reading what came in from a person in Amherst, New Hampshire, Jackie: "Unemployment benefits helped me make ends meet while I was using my savings and 401(k) to keep up with everything. Now they are gone. My savings are long gone. My 401(k) is almost gone. I'm watching everything I worked so hard for my entire adult life slip away from me. I am 50. I will never recover from this."

I would now like to yield to the gentleman from Texas, if he would like to join me.

Mr. REYES. I want to thank my colleague for yielding and some time to speak on this very important issue here.

Mr. Speaker, recently, the Department of Labor reported that the national unemployment rate fell to 8.6 percent in November, its lowest point in nearly 3 years. Coincidentally, in El Paso in the 16th District of Texas, the unemployment rate has also declined. This is very good news and very positive news for not just our respective districts but for our country.

We have been told by economists that once our economy gets going and operating at full strength, it can literally drive the economies of the rest of the world. These positive signs make it evident that, in fact, our economy is moving forward and that we are on the road to recovery. However, as our economy continues to heal, we cannot afford to become complacent. Instead, we need to immediately pass legislation that will help create jobs and put more people back to work.

First, I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we must pass the American Jobs Act. My district, as well as the districts of my colleagues, in talking to them here, would greatly benefit from the President's Jobs Act. For instance, El Paso would receive over \$66 million to upgrade and modernize our schools to meet 21st-century needs. In addition, school districts in the El Paso region would receive funding to keep teachers from being laid off.

For example, our largest school district, the El Paso Independent School District, would receive an estimated \$45 million to keep teachers from being laid off and to perhaps hopefully continue to hire desperately needed teachers in our classrooms. These are smart investments on our part for the future

which will also boost our economy in the immediate future.

Second, we must extend unemployment benefits. I want to thank my colleague for highlighting this and make sure that we extend unemployment benefits to those that are in desperate need. In fact, these benefits are the only thing that stand between them and homelessness and going without. During this downturn, unemployment benefits have kept over 3 million people in food and clothing and the basic essentials. It has also served as a booster to our struggling economy. We must protect these families who are still struggling and help them by the Jobs Act to find a stable source of income.

I have heard, like many other of my colleagues here, many stories from those in my district that have had difficulty in the last months and years in finding a job. So today we cannot and we must not turn our backs on the American people—the American people that need our help and need the passage of the American Jobs Act. They also need for us to step forward, stand with them, and pass the unemployment insurance. Rather than being distracted and being misled by our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, we must focus on our priority, which should be the creation of jobs, the passage of the unemployment insurance, and getting this economy going.

So I pledge to my colleague and my colleagues here that we must continue to work together to create jobs not just for El Paso and not just for Texas, but for our country. And when we talk about the United States economy that literally drives all other economies, people around the world are waiting for us to work together to get this done. With that commitment, we can turn things around. We're seeing some very positive signs. We must continue to work for all the people that have sent us here to do that work.

With that, I want to thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. LEVIN. I thank the gentleman from Texas for joining us and explaining what this means in his State and throughout the country. We're determined to tell the stories and, as I said, to put faces on these numbers. And to do that, I have joined with other Ways and Means Democrats to launch an extend unemployment program e-call Web site. As of this week, 2,590 Americans have joined the e-call, and we have received 501 stories from jobless Americans.

Before I call on the gentleman from Illinois to join, I would like to read, if I might, just a couple more. This is from Nick of Clinton Township, Michigan. "I was unemployed from August 2008 until March 2010 after working for 23½ years at my job.

□ 1830

"My job was sent to Sao Paulo, Brazil. Had it not been for extended unemployment benefits, I would have lost my house." Nick of Clinton Township.

And let me read what was said by Peter of Warren, Michigan: "I was permanently laid off from American Axle. I worked there 15 years and our jobs were sent to Mexico. As of this time, I have not found a job. I have been looking over 2 years now, and nothing in Michigan. I am in the TRA/TAA program to be reeducated, but my benefits will run out before I finish my school, and I will not get the degree in my field." Again, from Peter of Warren, Michigan.

I now would like to call, if I might, on the gentleman from Illinois to join us. And then, if I might, the sponsor of this legislation, Mr. DOGGETT of Texas.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Let me thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding, but I also want to commend him for his many years of excellent service to this body that we know as the United States House of Representatives. And I want to commend him for the tremendous leadership that he provides as the ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is December 7, and Republicans still have not enacted legislation to protect the millions of Americans hardest hit by one of the worst economic crises in our Nation's history. The well-being of 6 million Americans, including 100,000 from my home State of Illinois, hangs in the balance. Our Nation is in an unemployment crisis, and we must act now to help our citizens.

At this time last year, Republicans emphasized that the economy was so horrible that the wealthiest Americans needed 2 years of tax cuts, yet they only saw the need to help the unemployed for 1 year of emergency assistance. Now, 1 year later, as the emergency assistance runs out, Republicans remain comfortable with the \$180 billion in tax breaks for the wealthiest 3 percent of Americans, but they cannot support \$50 billion in 2012 to help millions of the neediest Americans—and never mind any consideration of helping the millions of Americans who have exhausted their Federal benefits and still can't find a job.

Our Nation, yes, is indeed in an unemployment crisis. Over 45 percent of all unemployed workers—more than 6 million people—have been out of work for more than 6 months. There are approximately 6.4 million fewer jobs now than at the beginning of the Great Depression. The Department of Labor data showed that there are over 4.2 unemployed Americans for every one job. Even if every job were filled, 8.9 million citizens would remain unemployed.

During this protracted storm of economic hardship, unemployment benefits are a critical lifeline for our citizens and for our economy. Unemployment benefits have kept 3.2 million Americans—including nearly 1 million children—from falling into poverty in 2010 alone. New research shows that the current Federal unemployment programs provide \$2 in economic stimulus

for every \$1 in unemployment benefits circulating in the economy. The Federal unemployment programs saved or created 1.1 million jobs as of the fourth quarter of 2009 alone. And the Economic Policy Institute estimates that preventing unemployment benefits from expiring could prevent the loss of over 500,000 jobs.

Our Nation is indeed in an unemployment crisis, and we must act now to help our citizens. We cannot protect the wealthy while ignoring the millions of Americans hardest hit by one of the worst economic crises in our Nation's history. We cannot deliver a windfall to the privileged and deny the poor. Such a position is not responsible leadership, and such a position is not consistent with American values.

So I join with my colleagues in urging the Republican leadership to protect vulnerable Americans by extending the unemployment benefits.

I want to thank you, Mr. LEVIN, again for the opportunity to participate.

Mr. LEVIN. And I thank the gentleman from Illinois for your distinguished service and your passion that you bring to this and so many other issues.

I want to yield to the gentleman from Texas, who's the lead sponsor and ranking member on the relevant subcommittee. But before I do that, since you're from Texas, I want to read one of the hundreds that we've received, a word from people who are the unemployed.

This is Jessie of San Antonio, Texas: "I have submitted over 350 job applications and have only been called for two face-to-face interviews and five over-the-phone interviews. I am a disabled Navy veteran whose appendix ruptured in October 2010 and was filled with cancer cells. My State benefits expired at the end of August, and now my Federal benefits will expire in 6 weeks.

"It seems that no one is hiring adults over 56 years of age. I'm a very good, positive employee, and I feel that with every job application I'm due to get hired soon. Please help me in any way possible."

It's now my privilege to yield to the lead sponsor of this legislation, LLOYD DOGGETT from the great State of Texas.

Mr. DOGGETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I still call you "Mr. Chairman," though the formal leadership of the committee has changed with the change in the majority here in the House. And I guess if you were in fact still the chairman with full authority we would not be here, nor would there be any unemployed individual in the United States among the millions whose benefits would expire next year who would be wondering the night before Christmas what would happen the day after their unemployment coverage expired next year.

We face a great challenge, and as you have been pointing out in describing individuals like Jessie, a retired—not

voluntarily retired, but retired, removed from the workforce by unemployment in San Antonio, these are very real human beings, not just unemployment statistics.

With over 6 million fewer jobs than when the recession began and more than four workers competing for every job opening, too many Americans have nowhere to go. They are like the lyrics from that working man song of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band:

Had me a job until the market fell out;
Tried hard to borrow, but there was no help.

Now I've got nowhere to go.
I need a job for these two hands;
I'm a working man with nowhere to go.

And if our Republican colleagues continue to insist that unemployment is caused by the unemployed instead of by the troubling economy we have, there will be about another 5 million Americans with nowhere to go, looking as to where they will find the resources to put food on the table, make the car or pick-up truck payment, take care of the kids and meet the other necessities of life if their unemployment insurance expires.

While the Republicans continue to have a really factless finger-pointing at the unemployed, I think it is past time for us to lay the facts straight out on the table and respond to some of these myths that they've been promoting.

Fact: An unemployment check is not a substitute for a paycheck. People like Jessie know that. An unemployment benefit usually amounts to a fraction of what a worker was making before someone lost his or her job.

Fact: Unless you are actively searching for a job, getting job training for a new job, or are on temporary layoff, you're not likely to be entitled to an unemployment check.

□ 1840

I'm not for just paying people to be idle; but these are individuals who are either getting training, who are actively involved in a job search, or the few that are in the temporary layoff category. There is little evidence to support the Republican claim, repeated again and again, that unemployment insurance benefits are a significant factor in discouraging folks from going out and looking for work.

Fact: to receive extended benefits, an unemployed person is required to accept reasonable offers of employment. Two out of three of the unemployed respondents in the Heldrich Center survey, and 80 percent of those who were receiving unemployment benefits, said they were willing to take a pay cut in order to get a new job, as so many Americans have had to do with the challenges in our economy.

Fact: one economist estimates that for every \$1 dollar we spend on these unemployment insurance benefits, about a \$1.61 in economic activity comes back. In fact, some of the estimates from one group that began its

survey back during the Bush administration for the Department of Labor say it's even higher than that in terms of the economic rewards.

So I believe that we must create jobs. Certainly, we must do the kinds of things that this Congress has failed totally to do in terms of job creation and promoting economic recovery. But we also must provide a vital lifeline for those folks who are out there actively searching for work and the jobs are just not there for them.

The facts are clear. The time for us to extend unemployment coverage is now, not to wait until next year, not to wait until Christmas, and not to wait until these families are faced with the critical situation of not having the unemployment insurance coverage that they should have to meet these basic necessities, but to act right now in the next few days.

It's for that reason, as you well know, that we're working together to try to get this unemployment insurance coverage extended, as it has been done often on a bipartisan basis in the past whenever the unemployment rate was at a level near what it is today.

So, hopefully, in our sounding the alarm here again tonight, in your telling these stories about individual Americans and what a loss of this coverage means, we can begin to involve and get the support of more of our colleagues to do what we really need to have accomplished just as soon as possible.

Mr. LEVIN. Thank you. What we're trying to do, as you say, is to bring America into this debate because if the faces are shown and the voices heard, our faith is that somehow we'll act.

And as you say, Republicans tend to blame the unemployed instead of blaming themselves for inaction. And we're not going to leave here, we're not going to leave here until there's an extension of unemployment benefits; isn't that correct? That's your pledge.

Mr. DOGGETT. It is our pledge, because there's just too much at stake here. This Congress has been incredibly unproductive. You might think it had been unemployed for much of the past year. And we need to stay and complete the work.

This is work that was done practically on Christmas Eve last year, when this extension was in jeopardy again. And we ought not to go right down to the wire like that again. There's no reason that this could not be done in the coming week, but for this ideological commitment saying that unemployment insurance coverage is not good for the economy. The facts don't bear that out.

The individual stories that you're telling us about tonight, those are the individuals, those are the families that have so much at stake. And of course, because of this economic effect, those unemployed families, when they get a dollar of unemployment insurance, they have to spend that dollar. They may be spending it at the grocery

store. They may be paying a landlord or a mortgage company. They may be paying on their credit card or their car, just to have the basic necessities of life; and that's why the economic impact on small businesses is so significant from doing what we would need to do in order to support these families engaged in an active job search or getting the retraining and the retooling they need to have an opportunity for a job in the future.

Mr. LEVIN. It's so important that you've talked about the facts. The more we discuss the facts about unemployment insurance, and the more we talk about the unemployed, the more persuasive is the need for action. There's so much mythology, and the stories help to blast the mythology.

I just would wish that we could get into the shoes—there are 6 million whose benefits are threatened here. If you lined up the 6 million from here, they'd go, I think, to Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

But it's hard for us to receive the stories or to obtain them because, under the Privacy Act, we don't know the names; and that's why you and I and others have joined to, essentially, have a Web site so people can tell us how to reach them.

But your recitation of the facts is so important because, in the end, I think the facts will prevail. The stories will be telling.

And so, Mr. DOGGETT, you've been such a lead person on this. You're the lead person on this legislation. So many of us have been working on this.

As you said, one of the facts is we have never failed to act, and this is a deeper recession than we've known. In fact, one of the facts is that there are now nearly 7 million fewer jobs in the economy today compared to when the recession started in December 2007. Seven million fewer jobs. And so when people search, they're often hitting a wall.

By the way, this gentleman, Jesse, refers to his age. And it's very true that the older—they're not very old—people are having trouble.

I had a forum in Michigan, and it was so heartbreaking that a person said to me—I would guess in her fifties—that I've taken all of the years off of my CV, when I went to college, when I graduated, when I first had a job, and the date of every position she had because she's afraid that when these resumes come in, people look at the age and a stone wall is hit.

It's my privilege, Mr. DOGGETT, to join with you. I'd now like to have join us a very distinguished Member from California. And if you give me a minute, BARBARA LEE, the very distinguished woman, I want to find a story from California. And so if I might just read this before I yield to you.

This is Benjamin of Los Angeles, California:

"I've been actively looking for work for 8 months now. Unemployment insurance has been crucial in my survival. It has literally kept me alive.

It's allowed me to buy food and pay all my bills. Bills have no conscience. They come, regardless if one is working or not.

"I really feel for and extend my empathy to those who are unemployed and have children. I wholeheartedly support the emergency extension of unemployment insurance."

Benjamin of Los Angeles California, your home State.

You do such honor to your State and the whole Nation, and it's my privilege now to call upon the gentle lady from California, BARBARA LEE.

□ 1850

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you so much.

First off, let me thank the gentleman from Michigan for those very kind words, more importantly for your leadership on so many fronts and for caring about those who are falling through the cracks at this point, and also for this very sobering Special Order tonight, because this is very sobering on the need for an immediate extension of unemployment benefits for the millions of Americans who are struggling to find work.

While we received some welcome news on the unemployment rates from last week with the national unemployment rate falling to 8.6 percent from 9 percent, we cannot stop. We cannot abandon the millions of job seekers during the middle of a faltering recovery.

In fact, failing to extend these critical benefits would really cripple our recovery and cost the economy over half a million jobs.

The slow pace of private sector job creation is not because of regulations or uncertainty in the Tax Code. If you speak to nearly any business person, they will tell you that they are not hiring because they don't have customers.

Abruptly ending unemployment benefits during the holiday season, first of all, it's mean and it's morally wrong. It would strip 2 million customers out of the economy by March, and over 6 million customers out of the economy by the end of the year. But again, more importantly this is just morally wrong. This is just not who we are as Americans.

We could not make a worse decision than to cripple our economy by failing to protect millions of families and children from poverty because that is just what unemployment benefits do. It keeps 1 million children from falling into poverty. So we absolutely must extend this critical benefit to workers who were laid off through no fault of their own before the end of this year.

Hidden, though, within the positive 0.4 percent drop of unemployment is the discouraging news that over 300,000 Americans dropped out of the workforce and that the long-term unemployment picture is not improving, with the average length of unemployment now rising from 39 weeks to 40 weeks.

So not only must we immediately extend the emergency unemployment benefits, but we should also immediately pass legislation that Congressman BOBBY SCOTT and myself have introduced, H.R. 589, which would add an additional 14 weeks of tier I unemployment benefits for the millions of Americans who have already completely exhausted their benefits. And I hope that the Republican leadership will bring that bill to the floor for an up-or-down vote.

We can't ignore the needs of people who have hit the 99 weeks, because unfortunately when we extend unemployment benefits, there will be 2 to 3 million people who still won't be covered because they've hit the 99 weeks. So we can't ignore the needs of the millions of Americans who have run out of time and who are now losing their homes, falling out of the middle class, and relying more and more on our help.

In addition, there was a startling rise in the African American unemployment rate from 15.1 percent to 15.5 percent in the same period. There can be no clearer reminder of the ongoing racial and ethnic disparities that continue to plague our Nation and keep minority communities suffering disproportionately than higher rates of unemployment, poverty, near poverty, and tragic health disparities like unconscionably higher rates of HIV infection.

When the national employment picture improved significantly for the first time in months, African Americans faced a marked increase in their unemployment. That means we must take immediate and bold action to implement targeted programs and policies to ensure that we truly are a Nation that provides equal opportunity and leaves no one behind in terms of accessing the American Dream.

Now, Congressman LEVIN, I held a job fair in my district a few months ago. Thousands of people showed up in Oakland for the few jobs—four people for every job—that were available.

But let me tell you, people want to work. They want to work. We in the Congressional Black Caucus held five job fairs around the country, thousands of people showed up for limited jobs. I can say with certainty, people want to work, people want to work.

And so we have to, however, extend the safety net or this bridge over troubled waters until we figure out how we can deal with the politics of getting the American Jobs Act passed, and also other opportunities and legislation to provide jobs for people because people want to work. So we have to extend this unemployment compensation until we do that.

We have to save our economy and the millions of struggling families from poverty and immediately pass and extend unemployment benefits now.

Let's not forget again the 2 million-plus people who've hit that 99-week limit who will not be eligible for an extension unless we figure out a way to

include them in these initiatives and in this policy.

Mr. Speaker, we've got a lot of work to do. But I know we intend to stay here until we do our job, until we extend this bridge over troubled waters, the safety net for people just to survive. That's all this is, is for people just to survive.

If we don't do that, those of us who call ourselves people of faith really need to come to grips with our faith and who we are, and how we propose to move forward within the context of looking out for and making sure that the least of these are addressed and taken care of until we can provide them those opportunities and dismantle those barriers so they can reignite the American Dream, because it's turned into a nightmare for millions and millions of people.

So Congressman LEVIN, I want to thank you again for, again, this clarion call to our conscience. It should prick our conscience tonight. We should, tomorrow, say let's pass this now. The holiday season is upon us. People need some certainty in their lives. They need to know that they have a bipartisan effort to help them through this period, and they need to also know that we're going to work very hard to pass the American Jobs Act so that they can finally get a job, because that's what this is all about. And people want to work. Thank you again.

Mr. LEVIN. Thank you for your eloquent statement.

As you said, this is one estimate, four people for every job. You mentioned this is a matter of faith. A few weeks ago, I met a minister. I had never met him before. And we got to talking about the challenge of unemployment insurance. And I paraphrase what he said to me: This is a challenge to America's soul.

Thank you very much.

Before I call on the distinguished colleague from Wisconsin, I want to read one more story.

I have a story that's given to us, one of the more than 400, from Nathan of Madison, Wisconsin.

So let me read this before I call on my distinguished colleague and friend from Wisconsin, GWEN MOORE.

I quote: "I have been unemployed twice in the past 5 years, and they were not by choice. I have a master's degree in organic chemistry and have worked in the pharmaceutical industry and related industries since finding a job out of school in 1998. After 2 years with my first company, I received a double promotion. So my layoffs have not been due to my performance, abilities, or capabilities."

Anyone who says unemployed people are lazy or have it good are ignoring the fact that people are hurting across the board." From your fellow resident of the State of Wisconsin.

It is now my distinguished privilege to yield to you, Ms. MOORE, from the State of Wisconsin.

Ms. MOORE. Absolutely, Representative LEVIN.

Let me start out by thanking you for this Special Order. And that letter is just one in 58,000 people, off the top of my head, that will be immediately affected by our inability to expand unemployment insurance. That's one story.

As you indicated, it's a person who is from Madison, Wisconsin, well educated, and cannot find a job in this recession.

I just think it is really curious, and I guess I would like to engage in a dialogue with you about this, you being the ranking member on Ways and Means, maybe you can help me understand a little bit better. Our colleagues in the majority, the optic and the narrative in the country for them is they want to preserve benefits for millionaires and billionaires. They want to preserve corporate tax expenditure benefits for corporations.

□ 1900

They want to maintain foreign profits for expatriated funds. They want to maintain a very high tax exemption for estates over \$5 million. They want to maintain capital gains benefits, benefits on dividends.

So I'm just curious, Representative LEVIN, why they don't want to provide this governmental benefit for unemployed people. This is very distressing to me when I consider who the unemployed are. When I think about the people the majority party wants to preserve benefits for and then when I get an optic of the people who would most likely benefit from this unemployment insurance, there is a stark contrast. Perhaps that starts to explain why there is a reluctance, an unwillingness and an unreadiness to provide this benefit.

Now, as you know, the overall national unemployment rate dropped from 9.1 percent recently to 8.6, which is something that I think we can claim some victory for; but when you peel back the curtain and disaggregate these numbers, you're going to see that there's a sharp and problematic racial undertone as it pertains to black unemployment.

When you look at the unemployment for white men, Representative LEVIN, their unemployment dropped from 7.9 percent to 7.3 percent, which is very high; but black men endured a spike from 16.2 percent in unemployment to a disturbing 16.5 percent in unemployment. So those lowered unemployment rates certainly do not reflect what's happening in the African American community.

Of course, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, unemployment declined for every demographic within the white community—for teenagers, men, women—but it actually increased for every measured group within the African American community—for men, women, teenagers.

Even worse is after the fact, when the recession is over, when black unemployment won't be any better than white unemployment is right now. I

guess that's sort of racial inequality 101. When we peel back the layers of this improved economy, what we find, Representative LEVIN, is that single mothers—women—are suffering, that they're some of the hardest hit.

As you will recall, Representative LEVIN, this institution on a bipartisan basis—and I understand I was not here when Mr. Newt Gingrich was Speaker of the House—decided that the most important legislative initiative that they could undertake was to end aid to families with dependent children and to put women and children under the vagaries and vicissitudes of a cyclical economy. So now that we have an economy that is as bad as it was during the Great Depression, we can look at the unemployment numbers among women, especially among single women, and we can find some very, very distressing data.

Poverty among women climbed to 14.5 percent in 2010 from 13.9 percent in 2009, the highest in 17 years. According to a recent report by Legal Momentum, recent Census data on poverty paints a bleak picture for single-mother families. This report finds that the poverty rate for single moms, for people who by definition have to feed their kids every night, reached 42.2 percent last year, up from 38.5 percent in 2009, and way up from 33 percent in 2000. It is chilling to contemplate the predicament of women and children when there is no aid to families with dependent children and no entitlement. When you consider that you've got folks like the gentleman you described in your letter who has a master's degree and who cannot find a job, a mom with kids is competing in that same job market.

There is a great deal of need in these populations. Even as the economy begins to show growth, they're forced to make cuts in the family budgets. They're living with food insecurity—not enough food—and the quality of the food is not good. They're eliminating health insurance. I know families in my district who are taking medicines every other day, doing without transportation, clothing, and where utility cutoffs are very prevalent.

Mr. LEVIN. I was looking through some of the letters. Let me just read a letter in which the author is a single parent from Geneva:

"I never thought that I would have to start all over again looking for work in my late forties. I hadn't even been 1 year cancer free. I'm a single parent of a teenage daughter. So, when my job terminated, so did my medical insurance . . . I had to move back to my mom's house. I could no longer afford my rent, car note, insurance, and the basic everyday needs of raising my daughter and keeping my own place . . . Please don't take away UI so soon. People like me need to keep it until we can find full-time work to take care of our families and help us keep our self-esteem."

Ms. MOORE. I tell you, that is a very moving letter. You say she had to

move with a teenage daughter back into her mom's house. I mean, teenage kids need things other than food. Something like toilet paper becomes an issue when you're sharing a household and when you don't have enough money to make those contributions.

The other thing that makes me very curious, Representative LEVIN, is the rhetoric around the desire to help small businesses. Do you realize if we don't extend this unemployment benefit, economists have calculated that, in 2012, this will take \$90 billion out of the economy? You won't buy that teenager shoes because you're unemployed.

Mr. LEVIN. Absolutely.

We're focusing today on the stories of the unemployed, on the personal stories, in order to put a face on the numbers. It's also important—and you referred to it—for the economy of our country. Every economist, I think without any exception, says that unemployment insurance is one of the two most beneficial instruments that we have in terms of putting money back into the economy because people who are unemployed and who receive their insurance—they work for it—spend it.

We have some other stories from single parents. Let me just, if I might, read another story. Then perhaps we should ask the gentlelady from Texas to join us if she would like.

"I am a military spouse that was forced to move and leave a great-paying office management position since my husband was transferred to a new duty station . . . I have applied for jobs that would barely cover our bills just so that I can be among the working again . . . My soldier can't afford to support us on a military income—and it's not just about me. I have a son to think of. I hope and pray that an extension is approved so that it doesn't cause our family structure to crumble. I believe that an extension should be approved as it is keeping not only my family but millions of other American families from drowning in a sea of financial ruin."

That's from Rachel of Lemoore, California.

It is now my privilege to yield to the gentlelady from Texas, Ms. SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

□ 1910

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I thank the gentleman very much and thank him for his leadership on this issue. And reading these passionate letters, I don't know how anyone could bring us to the brink of disaster where we find ourselves today.

I just want to read from the U.S. Department of Labor a simple sentence that I think speaks volumes:

"The unemployment insurance system helps the population most directly affected by recessions, those who have lost jobs through no fault of their own."

Mr. LEVIN, you have heard my colleagues speak of the double-digit unemployment in distinctive populations,

the young, recent college graduates, African Americans and Latinos who remain at the bottom of the heap, but who are looking for jobs every day. I am reminded of a job fair at the Fallbrook Church in Houston, Texas, where throngs came seeking opportunity and basically refuting the commentary of one Presidential candidate no longer in the race, Mr. Cain, who said if you're broke and if you're unemployed, it's your fault.

And now the front-runner, Mr. Gingrich, says that poor children have no role models, their parents don't get up and go to work, they have not seen anybody go to work. How outrageous to speak about those who have lost their job, their children are poor, and they would blame the victim.

So I think it is crucial that we pass this legislation; and we have never, Mr. LEVIN, not passed this legislation when unemployment in our country has been near 9.1 percent. It is not 9.1 percent, but it's very well near there.

And unemployment benefits will keep us from losing over 500,000 jobs. It will also help some of the bankrupt States. There are States that are, in fact, looking to \$5 billion in tax hikes on employers in nearly two dozen States. These solvency provisions will stop putting \$5 billion in tax hikes on employers in nearly two dozen States, as well as provide \$1.5 billion in interest relief.

Some of these very Members who may be objecting to this, debating about it, come from States that are themselves facing a question of solvency because of the unemployment insurance.

Where is the life raft, if you will? Where is the helping hand? Where is the rescue for the people who are desperate?

You might not be able to see this, but it's a very small picture of a person living in a disastrous home impacted by Hurricane Ike. There was some decision about some funds going there in Houston, Texas, today. I'm not happy with the meager distribution to help people like this. They're not getting all the money that they need.

I can assure you if they're living in some homes like this, many times they may also be unemployed. So they're living in devastated housing in many instances. They are in need of food on their table. They are likewise trying to provide for their children, and they don't have the resources.

Mr. LEVIN. The gentlelady referred to a particular situation. Let me read from another story, if I might.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Please do.

Mr. LEVIN. This is Linda of Seattle, Washington:

"I am a person, a hardworking American person at that, and I will be forced to live on the streets if EUC is not extended. It terrifies me; and if it happens, the struggle I will face to once again be a productive member of this society, in these times, by myself, is

not one that I'm likely to win. There are thousands of stories just like mine that won't be told here. We are people, we have faces and lives and dreams just like everyone who still has a job. I am telling you: we will be on the streets without this extension, and only some of us will ever make it back from that."

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. First, you read about a mother and her child that has to move back into their family's residence, or her parents' residence. These are now senior citizens.

Then you tell me about someone who's actually going to be homeless. Then we hear about a person that's degreed, has the ability to contribute to the engine of this economy in science, and they're unemployed. And then if you would, Mr. LEVIN, just look, I'm on the floor with Mr. GARAMENDI, the gentleman from California, and we use this to show how flat-lined our working and middle class have been in terms of the growth of their income; and we see the top percent of wealth right here shooting up to an enormous amount—that is the blue line. This is how the wealthy have progressed and grown.

And then we hear our friends saying the poor little rich person, where the very rich person in this group, because I'm not involved in class warfare, is saying we understand and we're willing to have the burden of sacrifice with the benefit of living in this great country.

And so when we look at this wealth, think about this woman who is saying she is near homelessness and think about the 160 million Americans that if we do not do a payroll tax cut; but think about, most of all, the 6 million Americans who will be left to homelessness in contrast to the enormous wealth that is on this poster board and the meager proposal of surtax on the 1 percent for 10 years, starting in 2013, to pay this off and to keep solvent Social Security. It is unbelievable that we would not rush to do this as we are nearing the holiday season.

I am just noting for you, Mr. LEVIN, just to say that the powerful, passionate letters that you have read are volumes in terms of those who are seeking our help.

And for anyone that has been to Occupy Houston or Occupy Wall Street or Occupy any city, if they talk to the people individually, they will know that these are simply hurting Americans who have lost their jobs who are seeking to come and seek opportunity. They want to work; and everyone that I have spoken to, the lady who is here with this home, 56 years old, I know that whether she's employed or not, the condition of her home suggests that she is in need. And the homeless persons, because they have no job, are in need.

I don't believe that the wealthy that are speaking on this particular poster board would argue about the solution that you have come to and that you are advocating and that those who are

writing in are saying, they are asking, just give me a lifeline and help me to survive.

I am prepared to stay here, Mr. LEVIN, as you have indicated, to make sure that we do right by the people who are so much in need.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of extending unemployment insurance. We must not go home for the holidays if we cannot agree to extend unemployment insurance.

With a national unemployment rate of 9.1 percent, preventing and prolonging people from receiving unemployment benefits is a national tragedy. As of today, in the City of Houston, the unemployment rate stands at 8.6 percent as almost 250,000 individuals remain unemployed.

Indeed, I cannot tell you how difficult it has been to explain to my constituents whom are unemployed that there will be no further extension of unemployment benefits until the Congress acts. Whether the justification for inaction is the size of the debt or the need for deficit reduction, it is clear that it is more prudent to act immediately to give individuals and families looking for work a means to survive.

If there is a single federal program that is absolutely critical to people in communities all across this nation at this time, it would be unemployment compensation benefits. Unemployed Americans must have a means to subsist, while continuing to look for work that in many parts of the country is just not there. Families have to feed children.

The American people are relying upon us to stand up for them when they are in need. This is not a time to take a vacation, go home to our families, and watch our unemployed constituents suffer through holidays.

Unemployed workers, many of whom rely on public transportation, need to be able to get to potential employers' places of work. Utility payments must be paid. Most people use their unemployment benefits to pay for the basics. No one is getting rich from unemployment benefits, because the weekly benefit checks are solely providing for basic food, medicine, gasoline and other necessary things many individuals with no other means of income are not able to afford.

Personal and family savings have been exhausted and 401(K)s have been tapped, leaving many individuals and families desperate for some type of assistance until the economy improves and additional jobs are created. The extension of unemployment benefits for the long-term unemployed is an emergency. You do not play with people's lives when there is an emergency. We are in a crisis. Just ask someone who has been unemployed and looking for work, and they will tell you the same.

Currently, individuals who are seeking work find it to be like hunting for a needle in a haystack. For every job available today, there are four people who are currently unemployed. You can not fit a square peg in a round hole and point fingers at the three other people who when that job is filled is left unemployed. Let's be realistic there are currently 7 million fewer jobs in the economy today compared to when this recession began.

Although according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics the State of Texas continues to have the largest year-over-year job increase in the country with a total of 253,200 jobs.

There are still thousands of Texans like thousands of other Americans in dire need of a job.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

A study was conducted the research firm IMPAQ International and the Urban Institute found Unemployment Insurance benefits:

Reduced the fall in GDP by 18.3%. This resulted in nominal GDP being \$175 billion higher in 2009 than it would have been without unemployment insurance benefits.

In total, unemployment insurance kept GDP \$315 billion higher from the start of the recession through the second quarter of 2010;

kept an average of 1.6 million Americans on the job in each quarter: at the low point of the recession, 1.8 million job losses were averted by UI benefits, lowering the unemployment rate by approximately 1.2 percentage points; made an even more positive impact than in previous recessions, thanks to the aggressive, bipartisan effort to expand unemployment insurance benefits and increase eligibility during both the Bush and Obama Administrations. "There is reason to believe," said the study, "that for this particular recession, the UI program provided stronger stabilization of real output than in many past recessions because extended benefits responded strongly."

For every dollar spent on unemployment insurance, this study found an increase in economic activity of two dollars.

According to the Economic Policy Institute extending unemployment benefits could prevent the loss of over 500,000 jobs.

If Congress fails to act before the end of the year, Americans who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own will begin losing their unemployment benefits in January. By mid-February, 2.1 million will have their benefits cut off, and by the end of 2012 over 6 million will lose their unemployment benefits.

Congress has never allowed emergency unemployment benefits to expire when the unemployment rate is anywhere close to its current level of 9.1 percent.

Republicans seem to want to blame the unemployed for unemployment. But the truth is there are over four unemployed workers for every available job, and there are nearly 7 million fewer jobs in the economy today compared to when the recession started in December 2007.

The legislation introduced today would continue the current Federal unemployment programs through next year.

This extension not only will help the unemployed, but it also will promote economic recovery. The Congressional Budget Office has declared that unemployment benefits are "both timely and cost-effective in spurring economic activity and employment." The Economic Policy Institute has estimated that preventing UI benefits from expiring could prevent the loss of over 500,000 jobs.

In addition to continuing the Federal unemployment insurance programs for one year, the bill would provide some immediate assistance to States grappling with insolvency problems within their own UI programs.

The legislation would relieve insolvent States from interest payments on Federal loans for one year and place a one-year moratorium on higher Federal unemployment taxes that are imposed on employers in States with outstanding loans.

According to preliminary estimates, these solvency provisions will stop \$5 billion in tax

hikes on employers in nearly two dozen States, as well as provide \$1.5 billion in interest relief. The legislation also provides a solvency bonus to those States not borrowing from the Federal government.

We must extend unemployment compensation. This will send a message to the nation's unemployed, that this Congress is dedicated to helping those trying to help themselves.

Until the economy begins to create more jobs at a much faster pace, and the various stimulus programs continue to accelerate project activity in local communities, we cannot sit idly and ignore the unemployed.

PAYROLL TAX CUT

For 337 days, the GOP House majority has failed to offer a clear jobs agenda. Congress must not leave Washington for the holidays without extending the payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits that put money into the economy and promote jobs.

GOP is risking tax relief for 160 million Americans while protecting massive tax cuts for 300,000 people making more than a million dollars per year.

Extending and expanding payroll tax cut would put \$1,500 into the pockets of the typical middle class family.

At least 400,000 jobs would be lost if Republicans block the payroll tax cut

In November, Senate Democrats proposed reducing it to 3.1 percent for 2012, and cutting employers' taxes on the first \$5 million in taxable payroll to the same level, which helps small businesses. To pay for the cut, the bill calls for a 3.25 percent tax on gross income over \$1 million for single filers and married couples filing jointly, the so-called "Millionaire's Tax." This is a reasonable compromise.

There are other ideas floating around this Chamber that touch on tax, such as repatriation. Lowering taxes is always a good idea, but scattershot approaches to tax reform almost always lead to undesirable outcomes.

TARGETED TAX RELIEF FOR AMERICAN WORKERS

The 2% payroll tax cut in effect for 2011 has provided \$110 billion of tax relief to 159 million American workers.

If the payroll tax cut is not extended, a family struggling through the economic recovery making \$50,000 will see its taxes go up by \$1,000.

Expanding the 2% payroll tax holiday to 3.1% will cut Social Security taxes in half for 160 million American workers next year.

This targeted tax relief will mean an extra \$1,500 for a typical American family making \$50,000, and \$2,500 for a family making \$80,000.

Mr. LEVIN. Your chart leads me to the last letter I'll read.

I read from Ralph of Warren, Michigan, because your chart shows what's at stake for middle-class America:

"Unemployment insurance must be extended so you can pay your bills and buy food. Without this insurance you would see the foreclosures go through the roof. Start looking out for the middle class that built this country."

And this issue of extension of unemployment insurance is critical for all America, and it surely is critical for the middle class that helped to build this country in that now, and the millions are finding, they have lost their jobs, they are looking for work, they can't find it. We need to respond, and we need to respond right now.

And I close with this pledge from all of us on the Democratic side in the House: we do not intend to vote for a motion to adjourn until we have acted on the payroll issue, continuing on the physician reimbursement issue, and very much so on extending unemployment insurance so that people out of work, through no fault of their own, can be assured there won't be millions of people in this country, beginning the 1st of January, who are left out in the cold.

I thank all my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in unqualified support of extending unemployment benefits for the long-term unemployed.

The United States is a great nation. We're a great nation because we are the land of opportunity. We're a great nation because we are the home of the American Dream, where hard work and playing by the rules have always equaled success. But the United States is also a great nation because we assist our fellow citizens in need—those who have fallen on hard times and through no fault of their own are in need of a safety net.

An out-of-control Wall Street and the reckless deregulation pursued by the Bush Administration brought us the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression. Tens of millions of American's lost their jobs, and fourteen million still are unemployed today. Forty-five percent of those unemployed have been out of work for six-months or more.

Every day, I hear from constituents that lost their job during the great recession and have been struggling to get by.

From one constituent:

I have been unemployed for almost 2 years. Never in my 51 years of life have I ever experienced anything like this. I submit resumes via Craigslist daily, I network and I have done whatever I can to get back to work. I will be homeless if [unemployment] benefits are not extended.

And another:

I'd really like to know if there's another unemployment benefits extension in the works. I am 53, with no family, and no car that I can live in, but I will lose my apartment if I can't find a job . . . or get more benefits. It's no secret that jobs are VERY hard to come by, and I've had a really good work history, but that means nothing right now.

And another:

I have sent out hundreds of resumes, both for positions in my field, and for positions I knew I could do, or have done when I was just starting out. I have received less than ten acknowledgements of receipt of my resume over the course of 21 months. My background and education are solid.

And another:

My job as CFO of a small restaurant chain, headquartered in Santa Monica, was eliminated in Dec. 2010. Since then I have been unable to find employment and, as a result, had to sell my condo at a considerable financial loss. I have been surviving through the extended unemployment program offered by the federal government. If this program is not renewed, I have no idea how I will cope, financially, or mentally.

And another:

I'm 63, was let go from a very significant position back in February 2008 after eight

years of being a Multi Award Winning Sales Executive, in two industries . . . in working over 40 years without interruption I have been collecting unemployment benefits for two years. I'm embarrassed to tell you how many resumes and contacts I've made, competing with men and women in their 20's, 30's, 40's.

This has taken a huge toll on my life as you can imagine . . . my condo is for sale and I'm being audited by the IRS . . . my health has deteriorated and I didn't have health insurance for the past two years.

For too many Americans, unemployment benefits are the difference between having a roof over their head, or sleeping on the street; having food to feed their kids, or skipping dinner; seeing a doctor, or living with chronic illness.

As a great nation, we have an obligation to provide a lifeline to these fellow citizens. It is incumbent on us a decent society.

I have cosponsored legislation to extend unemployment insurance through the end of 2012. I have also cosponsored legislation to help the so-called "99-ers," by extending the length of federal benefits by an addition 14 weeks, to 113 weeks total.

But Congress must do more. My constituents need more than a safety net. They need jobs.

According to a recent report by the Washington Post, this Republican House is on track to be least productive first session in 20 years. In a full year, Republicans have yet to pass a single bill to create a single job.

The Republicans' refusal to take up measures to help restart our economy—like President Obama's American Jobs Act—is all the more reason that we must extend these essential unemployment benefits. I urge my colleagues to stand up for the unemployed Americans who are facing catastrophe through no fault of their own and vote now to extend this critical lifeline.

□ 1920

AMERICANS DESERVE BETTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MACK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I think there are a lot of people back home who are watching this debate unfold, and more importantly, are watching the Congress and the administration. And, you know, I think a lot of people at home are scratching their head. They're saying we the people are outraged at this administration and this Congress. And they should be.

The White House and their liberal allies in Congress and the media go on a nonstop bashing of a group of Americans who are productive and hardworking. Class warfare is as despicable as any other type of stereotyping, and putting citizen against citizen for political gain is outrageous and it's wrong.

Listen to this. The people are told that a tax cut is a tax increase or a tax increase isn't really a tax increase because there are savings that can be

made elsewhere. That doesn't even make sense. Only in Washington can someone say we have to pay for a tax cut. Think about that. What we're saying is, what Washington is saying is, we have to pay for a tax cut. Well, whose money is it? Government doesn't make money. It's the people's money. Yet somehow up here in Washington we keep saying we have to pay for a tax increase. It's that hardworking family that has earned that money. It is not Washington's money.

And people, frankly, I think are disgusted with the notion that somehow the paradigm in Washington is we have to pay for a tax cut. It's their money. Something is very wrong here, and this body is part of the problem.

Let's put out the facts; facts, not spin. Government money doesn't exist. That's a fact. It's the people's money.

Here's another fact. If there are projects that can be cut, they should be cut. They shouldn't be traded like futures in the stock market. If we believe that we ought to extend the payroll tax cut extension, let's extend it. Let's stop playing games about moving money around from one program to another or keeping a bucket of projects or programs that we can save to cut at a time to bargain for something else.

It's time that we get serious, and the American people are saying they've had enough. They've had enough of what they're seeing here in Washington.

Let me say this one more time. Pitting American against American is un-American and outrageous and deserves the condemnation of each and every one of us in this Congress. This is not the America we know and love. We the people deserve better.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REED). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, thank you for joining me this evening to talk about a very special group of veterans, the Navajo Code Talkers. Tonight, my colleagues and I are going to share their stories and highlight the amazing accomplishments of this group of warriors. Their contribution to the Allied effort during World War II is widely credited with winning the Battle of Iwo Jima and making majors gains in the Pacific.

During the early months of World War II, Japanese intelligence experts broke every code the U.S. forces devised. The Japanese were able to decode and intercept communications with ease. To combat this, increasingly complex codes were initiated that sometimes took hours at a time simply to decipher one message. Guadalcanal

in 1942 was a turning point for the Allied military forces, who realized that the military communications needed a new direction, and new inspiration.

Fortunately, an innovative citizen named Philip Johnston had the answer. As the son of a Protestant missionary, Johnston had grown up on the Navajo reservation and was one of less than 30 non-Navajos fluent in the unique Navajo language. He realized that since it had no alphabet and was almost impossible to master without early exposure, the Navajo language was a perfect choice to form a new, impenetrable military code. In 1942, Johnston completed an impressive demonstration of the Navajo language to the Commanding General of the Pacific fleet headquartered in San Diego. He was then given permission to begin a pilot for the Navajo Code Talker program, and I would like to submit his letter dated March 8, 1942, for the RECORD.

HEADQUARTERS, AMPHIBIOUS FORCE,
PACIFIC FLEET, CAMP ELLIOTT,
San Diego, CA, March 6, 1942

Subject: Enlistment of Navaho Indians.

To: The COMMANDANT,
U.S. Marine Corps.

Enclosures: (A) Brochure by Mr. Philip Johnston, with maps. (B) Messages used in demonstration.

1. Mr. Philip Johnston of Los Angeles recently offered his services to this force to demonstrate the use of Indians for the transmission of messages by telephone and voice-radio. His offer was accepted and the demonstration was held for the Commanding General and his staff.

2. The demonstration was interesting and successful. Messages were transmitted and received almost verbatim. In conducting the demonstration messages were written by a member of the staff and handed to the Indian; he would transmit the message in his tribal dialect and the Indian on the other end would write them down in English. The text of messages as written and received are enclosed. The Indians do not have many military terms in their dialect so it was necessary to give them a few minutes, before the demonstration, to improvise words for dive-bombing, anti-tank gun, etc.

3. Mr. Johnston stated that the Navaho is the only tribe in the United States that has not been infested with German students during the past twenty years. These Germans, studying the various tribal dialects under the guise of art students, anthropologists, etc., have undoubtedly attained a good working knowledge of all tribal dialects except Navaho. For this reason the Navaho is the only tribe available offering complete security for the type of work under consideration. It is noted in Mr. Johnston's article (enclosed) that the Navaho is the largest tribe but the lowest in literacy. He stated, however, that 1,000—if that many were needed—could be found with the necessary qualifications. It should also be noted that the Navaho tribal dialect is completely unintelligible to all other tribes and all other people, with the possible exception of as many as 28 Americans who have made a study of the dialect. This dialect is thus equivalent to a secret code to the enemy, and admirably suited for rapid, secure communication.

4. It is therefore recommended that an effort be made to enlist 200 Navaho Indians for this force. In addition to linguistic qualifications in English and their tribal dialect they