HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
Washington, DC, November 28, 1995.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 2702(a)(1)(B)(vi) of Public Law 101–509, I hereby appoint as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress the following person: Roger Davidson, 3510 Edmunds Street, NW, Washington, DC.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE, *Clerk.*

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair desires to announce that pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bills on Monday, November 20, 1995:

S. 440, to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for the designation of the National Highway System, and for other purposes; and

S. 1328, to amend the commencement dates of certain temporary Federal judgeships.

TIME TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, as one of the Republican freshmen, one of the new Members of this body, I came here with a commitment to change how Washington works. I now as a privilege of serving as a Member of the House carry a voting card, a piece of plastic with which to record my vote.

For the last 26 years, Members of the House have used this card and made it the world's most expensive credit card, running up a $4.9 trillion debt. We think about our own families, when someone runs up a massive credit card debt, what that means and how it needs to be paid off.

I have with me a bag full of play money, but this bag represents the $19,000 that every Illinois citizen, that very American citizen currently owes as their share of the national debt. If we had to pay off the national debt today, every American citizen would have to write a check for $19,000.

It is time to change how Washington works, to balance the budget. The President has now agreed with the Congress that we should do it in 10 years.

Republicans have a plan to balance the budget in 7 years by reforming welfare, strengthening Medicare and providing tax relief to working families, but the President has failed to show us his plan. Now he is going to leave the country for 6 days. All he issues is a press release saying he would like to do it in 7 years.

Mr. President, I think it is time, before you leave the country for 6 days, when we need to provide a balanced budget by December 15, that you show us the specifics. Show us, Mr. President, if you do not like our plan to balance the budget, how you would do it. We need to see the fine print.

REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN IS UNFAIR

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have been very critical of the Republican budget plan because I believe that it cuts Medicare in order to provide major tax breaks primarily for wealthy Americans. This of course is disputed by some of the Republican leaders, most notably the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER], who is the chairman of the Republican, or in this case, the House Committee on Ways and Means, the tax-cutting committee.

The New York Times last week put out an editorial based on the Treasury Department's figures. Basically the Treasury Department shows that in fact the tax breaks are primarily for the wealthy in this Republican bill.

It says in the New York Times editorial that the Treasury estimated that the richest 1 percent would rake in almost twice as much, or 17 percent of the tax cut under the bill. Indeed, under the Republican bill the poorest 20 percent of families, taken as a group, would pay higher taxes as a percentage of their income. The Treasury figures are solid evidence that the Republican tax cut is heavily weighted toward the rich.

As we proceed over the next 2 weeks in this budget battle, in negotiating a compromise, I am very hopeful that we will see a lot of money brought back into Medicare, to make sure that the Medicare Program is viable, and that we cut back on these tax breaks for wealthy Americans. It is not fair to cut Medicare and essentially destroy it at the expense of the average American in order to finance tax breaks primarily for those wealthier members among us.

PRESIDENT SHOULD SIGN BALANCED BUDGET ACT

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

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, if the President is honestly looking for a plan that balances the budget in 7 years, uses legitimate numbers, and protects his priorities, he need look no further than the Republican Balanced Budget Act. Let us consider some of the areas the President says he has problems with our bill.

Medicare—our plan increases Medicare spending every year and ensures Medicare's solvency through at least 2010. There are no cuts.

Education—there are no education cuts in the Republican bill. The dollar volume of student loans increases 50 percent during the next 7 years. More student loans will be available next year than ever before.

The environment—not a single environmental protection program is touched in the Republican Balanced Budget Act. There are no environmental cuts in the Republican bill.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican Balance Budget Act is a good bill. It balances the budget while preserving the American people's priorities. The President should sign this bill.

SAYING NO TO GROUND TROOPS IN BOSNIA

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I oppose sending ground troops to Bosnia. All military experts agree that Bosnia is not a military threat to the United States. Also, they agree that Europe has more than enough military capability to handle the peacekeeping problems in Bosnia.

But there is another argument that keeps popping up, and that is that we must protect the integrity of NATO. My colleagues, NATO was created to protect Europe from Soviet invasion. I say it is time that America stop subsidizing Europe's protection. It is time to disband NATO, let them create their own military alliance that they can support.

Let Congress not forget, in the 1960's the Johnson administration asked Europe to help us in Vietnam. Europe said, ''It's too costly. There's too much killing. It's your way, America.''

I say, look, we have all come to know him as Uncle Sam. Now we are letting him be treated like Uncle Sucker. They have enough money. They have enough military capability. This is in Europe's backyard. Let them send their troops to the front. We can provide support with air strikes, with training, with advisers, but not with ground troops.

COLONIAL BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, the Colonial Beach Volunteer Fire Department got its start in March 1884, with a resolution passed at the 35th meeting of the town council, promising cooperation with property owners in raising funds to purchase a fire extinguishing apparatus to be operated by a volunteer fire company. A committee was appointed in October 1895, to ascertain the cost and to determine how much money interested citizens would contribute toward its purchase.

A request was received in July 1896, from the Howe Pump and Engine Company of Indianapolis, IN, to demonstrate a piece of fire apparatus in Colonial Beach, VA. The apparatus was to be drawn by a team of two horses, and would be operated by eight men, four on each side of the pump by cantilever action. It would be capable of dispensing 60 gallons of water per minute and was equipped with 500 feet of 2¼ inch