United Nations leading up to the war against Iraq. I believe the American people have a right to know this and this is what this sentiment of this amendment is, and I would urge the gentleman to reconsider.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) has again expired.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. GOSS was allowed to proceed for 1 additional minute.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Chairman, I well understand the purpose of the gentlewoman's amendment, and what I am trying to say and outline for her is that dealing with the United Nations with intelligence is an extraordinarily complex issue, and I do not think there is a particular body in Congress that has more experience than the oversight committees on intelligence, House and Senate. And I therefore say give us a chance to do our job and I think she will understand. If the gentlewoman wants to know how much intelligence has been shared with the U.N., I guarantee we can find out upstairs.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOSS. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman again for that response; but, again, this amendment allows the American people to know what that information was in a declassified form. This amendment allows for a classified index, and I believe in terms of the fact that U.S. tax dollars were of course used in this war that people, the American people, just have a right to ask these questions and have the right to know. This has nothing to do with whether one supports or opposes the United Nations.

Mr. GOSS. Reclaiming my time, this is not supporting or opposing the U.N. I will tell the gentlewoman flat out that I do not have the capacity to declassify information. Our committee does not. We can get involved in a process, but the declassification question is another issue which I would love to enlist her support on on how we can make it better, but that is not part of this amendment.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The Chair will once again remind Members to refrain from improper references to the Senate.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) will be postponed.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DREIER) having assumed the chair, Mr. SIMPSON, Chairman pro tempore of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2417) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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.)

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

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

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the Special Order time of the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY).

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

There was no objection.

MEDICARE: H.R. 1 TURNS BACK THE CLOCK

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, I worked on the markup of the prescription drug bill, the Republican Medicare privatization bill, the other day; and I really could not figure out why Republicans were in every case doing the bidding of the drug companies and in every case doing the bidding of the insurance companies.

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I asked the chairman if it could be perhaps that because the drug companies contributed about $80 million to campaigns last year, about 85 percent of that to Republicans, and the chairman said that could not be it. I asked if because our committee markup on two different occasions was delayed, stopped until the next day, stopped early because President Bush was headlining a major Republican event honoring the CEO of Glaxo Wellcome, one of the largest drug companies in the world, in this case a British drug company. He said that had nothing to do with it. I asked if it could be perhaps because President Bush was in the midst of raising millions of dollars this year from the drug companies and the insurance companies, if that is why the Republican drug bill was written by the drug industry and the insurance industry, and he said no to that.

Now, I will take the chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce at his word, that Republicans were not at the beck and call of the drug and insurance industry because the drug and insurance industry so richly funds the Republican Party. I will take them at their word.

But I finally figured out the reason that Republicans always do the bidding of the drug and insurance companies and why the Republicans want to privatize Medicare is because they just do not much like Medicare. And while that may sound strange to some Members of this House or anyone else that might be watching, I think we need to look at the history of Medicare.

In 1965, there were only 11 Republican Members of Congress out of 150 or 160 or so, only 11 Members of Congress on that side of the aisle that actually supported the creation of Medicare. Gerald Ford, later to become President, opposed it. Bob Dole, later to be a Senator and then a presidential nominee. Opposed the creation of Medicare. Strom Thurmond, a longtime, longest-serving Senator in U.S. history, opposed the creation of Medicare. Donald Rumsfeld, now the Secretary of Defense, was a Member of the House in those days and he opposed the creation of Medicare. Basically, almost every single Republican opposed the creation of Medicare. They made all kinds of comments about big government and socialized medicine, all of those kinds of things they said because they just did not want a government health care program like Medicare.

Then, during the Reagan administration, Republicans tried several attempts to privatize Medicare. They cut reimbursement for hospitals, they cut reimbursement for doctors, they tried to scale back the Medicare benefit for seniors, but they really could not get much through a Democratic Congress. But then, the day came in 1995 when Newt Gingrich came on the scene as the new Speaker and Newt Gingrich literally waited fewer than 100 days, literally fewer than 100 days until he tried the beginning of the dismantling of Medicare.

What Speaker Gingrich did was he tried to cut Medicare $270 million and