before to make sure the quality of our services does not decline.

I would like to give you one example. His name is Richard Dean. He is a 49-year-old Vietnam veteran who has worked for the Social Security Administration for 22 years now. Last year he was hard at work in the Federal building in Oklahoma City, when the blast killed 169 people and brought the rubble down all around him. He reentered that building four times. He saved the lives of three women. He is here with us this evening and I want to recognize Richard and applaud both his public service and his extraordinary personal heroism.

But Richard Dean's story doesn't end there. This last November, he was forced out of his office when the government shut down. And the second time the government shut down, he continued helping Social Security recipients, but he was working without pay.

On behalf of Richard Dean and his family and all the other people who are out there working every day doing a good job for the American people, I challenge all of you in this Chamber, never, ever shut the Federal Government down again.

On behalf of all Americans, especially those who need their Social Security payments at the beginning of March, I also challenge the Congress to preserve the full faith and credit of the United States, to honor the obligations of this great nation as we have for 220 years, to rise above partisanship and pass a straightforward extension of the debt limit and show the people America keeps its word.

I know that this evening I have asked a lot of Congress and even more from America, but I am confident. When Americans work together in their homes, their schools, their churches and synagogues, their civic groups, their workplace, they can meet any challenge.

I say again, the era of big government is over, but we can't go back to the era of fending for yourself. We have to go forward to the era of working together as a community, as a team, as one America, with all of us reaching across these lines that divide us, the division, the discrimination, the rancor, we have to reach across it to find common ground. We have got to work together, if we want America to work.

I want you to meet two more people tonight who do just that. Lucius Wright is a teacher in the Jackson, Mississippi public school system. A Vietnam veteran, he has created groups to help inner city children turn away from gangs and build futures they can believe in.

Sergeant Jennifer Rogers is a police officer in Oklahoma City. Like Richard Dean she helped to pull her fellow citizens out of the rubble and deal with that awful tragedy. She reminds us that in their response to that atrocity, the people of Oklahoma City lifted all of us with their basic sense of decency and community.

Lucius Wright and Jennifer Rogers are special Americans, and I have the honor to announce tonight that they are the very first of several thousand Americans who will be chosen to carry the Olympic torch on its long journey from Los Angeles to the centennial of the modern Olympics in Atlanta this summer, not because they are star athletes but because they are star citizens, community heroes meeting America's challenges. They are our real champions. Please stand up.

Now each of us must hold high the torch of citizenship in our own lives. None of us can finish the race alone. We can only achieve our destiny together, one hand, one generation, one American connecting to another.

There have always been things we could do together, dreams we could make real which we could never have done on our own. We Americans have forged our identity, our very union, from the very point of view that we can accommodate every point on the planet, every different opinion. But we must be bound together by a faith more powerful than any doctrine that divides us, by our belief in progress, our love of liberty and our relentless search for common ground. America has always sought and always risen to every challenge.

Who would say that having come so far together we will not go forward from here? Who would say that this Age of Possibility is not for all Americans?

Our country is and always has been a great and good nation, but the best is yet to come, if we all do our part.

Thank you, God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

At 10 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m., the President of the United States retired from the Hall of the House, followed by his Cabinet.

The Chief Justice of the United States and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court retired from the Hall of the House.

The ambassadors, ministers and charges d'affaires of foreign governments retired from the Hall of the House.

The SPEAKER, at 10 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m., then declared the joint session of the two Houses dissolved.

The Vice President and Members of the Senate retired from the Hall of the House.

¶5.23 REFERENCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On motion of Mr. DIAZ-BALART, the message of the President, as delivered, together with the accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 104–168).

¶5.24 WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1124

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, by direction of the Committee on Rules, reported (Rept. No. 104–457) the resolution (H. Res. 340) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 1124) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

When said resolution and report were referred to the House Calendar and ordered printed.

¶5.25 ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that the committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1606. An Act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 24 Corliss Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as the ''Henry Kizirian Post Office Building.''

H.R. 2061. An Act to designate the Federal building located at 1550 Dewey Avenue, Baker City, Oregon, as the ''David J. Wheeler Federal Building.''

¶5.26 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted—

To Mr. TORKILDSEN, for today and balance of the week; and

To Mr. TATE, for today.

And then,

¶5.27 ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. SCARBOROUGH, pursuant to the order of the House agreed to on January 22, 1996, at 10 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m., the House adjourned until 12 o'clock noon on Wednesday, January 24, 1996.

¶5.28 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DIAZ-BALART: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 340. Resolution waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 1124) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104–451). Referred to the House Calendar.

¶5.29 PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. HOUGHTON (for himself, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. CRANE, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SHAW, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. KENNELLY):

H.R. 2864. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for 501(c)(3) bonds a tax treatment similar to governmental bonds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MEEK of Florida:

H.R. 2865. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the tax on handguns and assault weapons, to increase the license application fee for gun dealers, and to use the proceeds from those increases

to pay for medical care for gunshot victims; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

H.R. 2866. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to health care fraud, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SOLOMON (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. DORNAN, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. EWING, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, and Mr. HILLEARY):

H.R. 2867. A bill to prohibit U.S. voluntary and assessed contributions to the United Nations if the United Nations imposes any tax or fee on U.S. persons or continues to develop or promote proposals for such taxes or fees; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. TEJEDA (for himself, Mr. BUYER, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. MONTGOMERY):

H.R. 2868. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent alternative teacher certification programs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WHITFIELD:

H.R. 2869. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Kentucky; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. ZIMMER (for himself and Mr. SPRATT):

H.R. 2870. A bill to eliminate the duties on Tetraamino Biphenyl; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. OBEY:

H.J. Res. 157. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

¶5.30 PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 1 of rule XXII,

Mr. YOUNG of Florida introduced a bill (H.R. 2871) to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade and on the Great Lakes and their tributary and connecting waters in trade with Canada for vessel *Ark;* which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

¶5.31 ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 65: Mr. CHAMBLISS.
H.R. 103: Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
H.R. 109: Mr. HAYWORTH.
H.R. 163: Mr. GEJDENSON.
H.R. 218: Mr. SALMON, Mr. FRAZER, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. KING.
H.R. 359: Mr. CLEMENT.
H.R. 497: Mr. HANSEN.
H.R. 784: Mr. POMBO and Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 852: Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey.
H.R. 911: Mr. DORNAN.
H.R. 940: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
H.R. 1363: Mr. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 1386: Mr. GUNDERSON.
H.R. 1454: Mr. COX.
H.R. 1560: Mr. GEJDENSON and Mr. TORRES.
H.R. 1591: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 1619: Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. STUDDS, Mr. BURR, and Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 1625: Mr. VOLKMER, Mr. HANCOCK, and Mr. STOCKMAN.
H.R. 1684: Mr. PETERSON of Florida, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. WARD, and Mr. WILSON.
H.R. 1707: Ms. JACKSON-LEE.
H.R. 1733: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 1791: Mr. WELDON of Florida.
H.R. 1818: Mr. BEREUTER.
H.R. 1893: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 1968: Mr. TORKILDSEN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, and Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 2009: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 2128: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LINDER, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. BAKER of Louisiana, and Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 2192: Mr. LANTOS.
H.R. 2276: Mr. LATOURETTE.
H.R. 2350: Mr. EHLERS and Mr. STOCKMAN.
H.R. 2445: Mr. ISTOOK.
H.R. 2458: Mr. LATOURETTE and Mr. CARDIN.
H.R. 2477: Mr. ENSIGN.
H.R. 2548: Mrs. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. HAYWORTH.
H.R. 2566: Mr. BLUTE, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 2568: Mr. CRAPO.
H.R. 2579: Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. QUILLEN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. WOLF, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. CRANE, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. FOGLIETTA, and Mr. ORTON.
H.R. 2585: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 2634: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.
H.R. 2655: Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. BREWSTER, Mr. TANNER, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. LONGLEY, and Mr. MENENDEZ.
H.R. 2657: Mr. WARD.
H.R. 2664: Mr. COBLE, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. BASS, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky, and Mrs. WALDHOLTZ.
H.R. 2683: Mr. LANTOS.
H.R. 2690: Mr. GUNDERSON, Mr. CALVERT, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE.
H.R. 2707: Mr. WICKER.
H.R. 2723: Mr. NETHERCUTT and Mr. HAYWORTH.
H.R. 2724: Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. MILLER of California, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. VENTO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. DELLUMS.
H.R. 2725: Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. MILLER of California, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. VENTO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. DELLUMS.
H.R. 2751: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 2757: Mr. EHLERS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BREWSTER, Mr. QUILLEN, and Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.
H.R. 2769: Mr. WELDON of Florida and Mr. OXLEY.
H.R. 2779: Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. DREIER, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. STUMP, and Mr. TRAFICANT.
H.R. 2796: Ms. RIVERS, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, and Mr. HYDE.
H.R. 2837: Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. PETE GEREN of Texas, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. FILNER, Mr. MOAKLEY, and Mr. FROST.
H.R. 2839: Mrs. MINK of Hawaii and Mr. FROST.
H.R. 2841: Mr. BROWDER, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. FROST, and Mr. BONIOR.
H.J. Res. 93: Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, and Mr. MCCOLLUM.
H.J. Res. 106: Mr. GREENWOOD.
H. Con. Res. 50: Mr. CHRISTENSEN.
H. Res. 59: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.
H. Res. 333: Mr. RICHARDSON.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1996 (6)

¶6.1 DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The House was called to order by the SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. HOBSON, who laid before the House the following communication:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 24, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable DAVID L. HOBSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

¶6.2 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. HOBSON, announced he had examined and approved the Journal of the proceedings of Tuesday, January 23, 1996.

Mr. STEARNS, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, objected to the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House agree to the Chair's approval of said Journal?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. HOBSON, announced that the yeas had it.

Mr. STEARNS objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. HOBSON, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that the vote would be postponed until later today.

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶6.3 COMMUNICATIONS

Executive and other communications, pursuant to clause 2, rule XXIV, were referred as follows:

1959. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting OMB estimate of the amount of change in outlays or receipts, as the case may be, in each fiscal year through fiscal year 2000 resulting from passage of H.R. 1655 and H.R. 2627, pursuant to Public Law 101–508, section 13101(a) (104 Stat. 1388–582); to the Committee on the Budget.

1960. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting OMB's estimate of the amount of discretionary new budget authority and outlays for the current year—if any—and the budget year provided by H.R. 1643, H.R. 1358, and House Joint Resolution 134, pursuant to Public Law 101–508, section 13101(a) (104 Stat. 1388–578); to the Committee on the Budget.

1961. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting a copy of the annual report on the Coke Oven Emission Control Program for fiscal year 1995, pursuant to Public Law 101–549, section 301 (104 Stat. 2559); to the Committee on Commerce.

1962. A letter from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting the 1996 annual report to the Congress on foreign policy export controls, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. app. 2413; to the Committee on International Relations.

1963. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning the unauthorized transfer of U.S.-origin defense articles, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2753(e); to the Committee on International Relations.

1964. A letter from the Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, transmitting the Comptroller General's 1995 annual report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 719(a); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1965. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report on the activities of Federal agencies in implementing the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act for calendar years