Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, can I count on the Speaker to enforce the rule?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members will abide by the rule. When addressing the Chair they must remove their badges.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, H.R. 889, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material therein.

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

There was no objection.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND RESCISSIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 92 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 889.

□ 1304

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 889) making emergency supplemental appropriations and rescissions to preserve and enhance the military readiness of the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995, and for other purposes, with Mr. THOMAS of California in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON] will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON].

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, on Friday, February 10, the House Committee on Appropriations ordered reported two bills: H.R. 889, a bill providing for emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense; and H.R. 845, a depleted by actions taken in support of unbudgeted contingency operations in Haiti, Somalia, Southwest Asia, Bosnia, Korea, and refugee support in the Caribbean. Without these reimbursements, defense readiness will suffer severe and immediate impacts. These necessary appropriations are partially offset by rescissions within the Department of Defense totaling $1.460 billion. The remainder of the offsets, $1.4 billion that are necessary in order to make the entire package budget authority neutral come from rescissions in H.R. 845, in foreign aid programs and low priority discretionary domestic programs.

I want all my colleagues to understand that it is the policy of the Republican leadership to pay for all supplemental whether they are emergencies or not. We're doing that. The reason the committee developed two bills is that in order to pay for the offset shortfall of the Defense supplementals of $1.4 billion, we reported a companion rescission bill of like amount.

I also want to eliminate any confusion at this point. The rescission bill we are considering today is not the rescission bill I have been talking about since January. Development of that bill is on track. In fact, five subcommittees are meeting this very day to report out their rescissions. We expect to have the bill on the floor in early March. The rescissions we are considering today is just a slice of that bill—in order to pay for the Defense supplemental.

The rescissions were developed in a manner that tried to minimize the number of accounts. In order to do this we sought activities that had larger dollar amounts available for rescission. These activities can be grouped into four categories:

The first is: Low priority defense and international programs, including $110 million for the Russian Army Officer Resettlement Program, which has been deemed an unnecessary expensive program; $100 million of atomic energy waste cleanup, funds that are not needed this year; $70 million from the Emergency Immigration Fund, monies available for reduction because of a lack of Haitian and Cuba refugees; and $62 million from the African Development Fund, monies that can't be spent because our government hasn't begun replenishment negotiations.

The second category is low priority domestic programs, including the following: A $200 million youth training program that doesn't work and which even President Clinton wants to cut in fiscal year 1996; a $100 million school velopment program for the Penn Station in New York City; and another unauthorized $400 million wind tunnel program for NASA.

Finally, in the fourth category we scaled back a Presidential increase of $107 million for the National Institute of Standards Industrial Technology Program. This will still leave an increase of $125,000,000 for that program in fiscal year 1995.

In order to explain a few points that I hope our colleagues will keep in mind as we proceed to consider the two bills now merged into one, let me explain the following:

First, it is the leadership's desire that all supplemental funds, even emergencies, be paid for completely. Our approach again does just that.

□ 1310

Second, as the distinguished chairman of the National Security Subcommittee will point out, we have made significant cuts in wasteful nonproductive Department of Defense programs, and we cannot in good conscience go further.

In fact, the President has just sent to this Congress a defense budget that represents a real decline in defense for the 11th straight year, representing a 71-percent cut in procurement of new weapons systems over those 11 years.

This policy is now directly threatening the safety and lives of our young men and women who need our support to defend our country. Although I personally opposed some of the questionable military ventures in Haiti and Somalia and Rwanda and other places that depleted these funds, the fact is that the money has been spent, and we must pay the bills.

That means that we must move this bill through the Congress by the end of March to avert a readiness crisis at the Pentagon.

Mr. Chairman, as you can see, the two bills that were developed in committee are not intimately linked together, and I urge their adoption and the passage of this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON] has consumed 6 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, this is really where the rubber hits the road for those Members who have told their constituents that they want to support a balanced budget and for those Members who have voted for a constitutional amendment on a balanced budget.