

tragedy in Oklahoma showed us so very well that these people bleed real blood, they cry real tears, and they lose real lives.

To paraphrase a familiar saying, we have met the government, and it is us.

WORK ON BALANCING BUDGET BEGINS TODAY

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, what a difference this Republican majority has made. I think it is real simple. We did what we said we were going to do. It was promises made and promises kept. The American people like what they saw in the first 100 days, and the Republican majority is committed to keeping our promise with the American public, to balance the budget and make Government smaller and less costly and more efficient and more accountable to the people.

But much remains to be done. Much of the heavy lifting remains to be done. Now we have to get to work, balancing this budget. We begin today.

GOVERNMENT MUST BE A PARTNER IN TRUTH

(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, no doubt the bombing in Oklahoma City was an evil act, and those responsible truly deserve the death penalty. But April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City, and April 19, 1993, Waco, TX, do not appear to be a coincidence to me, and I think the investigation should also focus on that. Many Americans simply did not believe the Federal Government's account in Waco, TX. And when our Government, Mr. Speaker, appears to conceal and hide the truth, our Government plays right into the hands of radical fringe groups with an ax to grind.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve to know the truth about Oklahoma City; and, Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve the truth about Waco, TX. The truth shall set you free, there is no substitute for the truth, and the Government must also be a partner in the truth factor in America.

BRINGING TOGETHER THAT WHICH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, we come back fresh, relaxed; refreshed in the spirit of good will, working together, feeling good; feeling good about having been away, frankly, away from the partisan ship, away from the negativity, away from the acrimony. And we come

back with the high hopes for balancing our budget, for bringing together the things that the American people want.

I am reminded of something that Abraham Lincoln said over 100 years ago, and I wanted to share it with the House in the hopes that it might encourage my colleagues to bring this spirit in the next 100 days.

He said: "You can't bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift. You can't strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You can't help the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer. You can't further the brotherhood of man by encouraging class hatred. You can't keep out of trouble by spending more than you earn. You can't build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves."

SUPPORT FOR FREE SPEECH

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the Oklahoma City tragedy has spread some connective tissue among Americans. It has compelled us not only to recognize our fragile vulnerability, but to reaffirm our basic unity. I am bemused by the new crop of civil libertarians the crisis has awakened. They are a welcome sight, especially those who regularly vilified others who defended unpopular speech on the left and right. Talk show hosts and Members of Congress now often sound like card-carrying members of the ACLU.

I hope that the new found zeal for civil liberties carrier forward when the next bill to curtail them comes to the floor, or when the militia come at us from the left instead of the right.

As a young constitutional lawyer, I was put to the first amendment test when I was called on to defend racists and neo-Nazis. I really had no choice. Surely now we know that none of us do. Free speech is unequivocal, unpolitical, and indivisible.

REAUTHORIZATION OF LEGAL SERVICES

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

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, very soon now the Congress of the United States will be taking up the vexatious issue of the reauthorization of Legal Services. Over the years, the original purpose of this effort to help the poor has become warped and expanded, and sometimes described as out of sight from the original purpose. The shade of opinion as we sit here today ranges from an attempt to zero it out entirely to expanding even further the powers that already are vested in it.

We intend in our committee, in the Administrative Law Subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, to take up this issue through a reauthorization set of hearings, possibly beginning next week. At that time we will let the American public know what these opinions are. Should we expand the powers of Legal Services or should we zero it out, or perhaps somewhere in the middle. To go back to the original purpose, to allow the poor to have access to the courts, should be the guiding light of what we finally do with Legal Services in our country.

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TRIBUTE TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

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

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and I wish to pay tribute to all Federal employees who are so dedicated in their service to our Nation.

At 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, April 19, when the blast leveled half of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, Federal employees were helping veterans receive benefits and other assistance they need; Federal employees were helping poor families afford decent housing and to one day own their own home; Federal employees of the Social Security Administration were helping seniors obtain retirement benefits they so rightly deserve, and Federal employees of the ATF and FBI were working to make our streets safer and our lives more secure.

Ironically enough, we saw the clearest evidence of the invaluable work of Federal employees after the Oklahoma City bombing. We saw Federal employees from FEMA go to Oklahoma city to help free victims from the rubble of steel and cement and help save lives. We saw Federal employees of the FBI quickly respond with an all-out manhunt which produced the prime suspect within hours of the bombing. We saw Federal employees here in Washington volunteering their accrued leave time for the benefit of the survivors of the bombing.

Mr. Speaker, it is the dedication of these Federal employees that truly makes our Nation a united one in times of crisis and hardship.

REVOLUTION SWEEPING ACROSS AMERICA

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

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, it certainly is an honor to be here this morning, and it was an honor to be back in my district during the break and see the excitement that people had

about where this country was going, where their government was going. And to follow up on what a few speakers have said before me, we are not antigovernment.

This revolution that is sweeping across Washington is not an antigovernment revolution. When Thomas Jefferson said that the government that governs least governs best, he was not saying that being antigovernment. He was saying it being pro-freedom, and that is what this has been about. That is what this 100 days has been about. And this is what we are going to do with the next 100 days and the next 2 years; we are going to restore the American dream and, yes, we must pay tribute to the Federal employees that not only lost their lives but also those that went out and sacrificed and worked throughout this tragedy.

But it is our purpose and our function and our goal to free all Americans from an overbearing centralized bureaucracy, so Federal employees and all citizens can enjoy the American dream and can look back to Thomas Jefferson's statement that the government that governs least governs best as a statement that does not decry Federal Government but praises freedom in America. That is what the American dream is about and that is what we are going to be doing the next 100 days, continuing to revive the American dream.

THE NEXT 100 DAYS

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

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, when I ran for office going door to door, people would always tell me, do what you said you were going to do. And that is exactly what the House Republicans did when they came to Congress: promises made, promises kept.

As I had town hall meetings throughout my district, talking to people, they said: We appreciate what you are doing. Do not listen to those special interest groups tell you do not do this, do not do that. Stick to your guns.

That is exactly what we are going to be doing over the next 100 days. We are going to take on the deficit. We are going to balance our budget. There is an \$18,500 debt for every man, woman, and child in this country. For my daughter Madeleine, that is unacceptable. She should not be saddled with an \$18,000 debt.

The question really is going to be in the next 100 days, do we borrow or do we balance? Do we borrow or do we balance? The people of my district and the people of this country and the people of America have said they want Congress to balance its budget. That is exactly what we are going to do over the next 100 days.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COMBEST). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall vote, if postponed, will be taken after votes on the motion regarding a conference on H.R. 1158.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING A VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 53) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding a private visit by President Lee Teng-hui of the Republic of China on Taiwan to the United States, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 53

Whereas United States diplomatic and economic security interests in East Asia have caused the United States to maintain a policy of recognizing the People's Republic of China while maintaining solidarity with the democratic aspirations of the people of Taiwan;

Whereas the Republic of China on Taiwan (known as Taiwan) is the United States sixth largest trading partner and an economic powerhouse buying more than twice as much annually from the United States as do the 1,200,000,000 Chinese of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the American people are eager for expanded trade opportunities with Taiwan, the possessor of the world's second largest foreign exchange reserves;

Whereas the United States interests are served by supporting democracy and human rights abroad;

Whereas Taiwan is a model emerging democracy, with a free press, free elections, stable democratic institutions, and human rights protections;

Whereas vigorously contested elections conducted on Taiwan in December 1994 were extraordinarily free and fair;

Whereas the United States interests are best served by policies that treat Taiwan's leaders with respect and dignity;

Whereas President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan, a Ph.D. graduate of Cornell University, has been invited to pay a private visit to his alma mater and to attend the annual USA-ROC Economic Council Conference in Anchorage, Alaska;

Whereas there are no legitimate grounds for excluding President Lee Teng-hui from paying private visits;

Whereas the Senate of the United States voted several times in 1994 to welcome President Lee to visit the United States; and

Whereas Public Law 103-416 provides that the President of Taiwan shall be welcome in the United States at any time to discuss a host of important bilateral issues: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the President should promptly indicate that the United States will welcome a private visit by President Lee Teng-hui to

his alma mater, Cornell University, and will welcome a transit stop by President Lee in Anchorage, Alaska, to attend the USA-ROC Economic Council Conference.

SEC. 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit a copy of this concurrent resolution to the President.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from California [Mr. BERMAN] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER].

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, this Member rises in strong support for House Concurrent Resolution 53, expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should grant a visa to President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan for a private visit to the United States to receive an honorary degree from his alma mater, Cornell University.

This Member commends the initiative of the author of this resolution, the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. LANTOS]. This Member would also commend the chairman of the International Relations Committee, the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] for bringing this resolution before this body in a timely manner.

Action of the House International Relations Committee on this resolution has demonstrated overwhelming bipartisan sentiment that the United States should grant a visa to President Lee for such a private visit. On April 5, the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and the full Committee on International Relations unanimously endorsed the resolution. It continues to be this Member's view that issuance of a visitor's visa to President Lee is not inconsistent with the United States "One China" policy which limits official contact with Taiwan. Moreover, this Member believes that issuance of the visa is only fitting considering our close economic ties with Taiwan and the democratic strides made by President Lee's government.

The United States pioneered, through the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979 and the establishment of the American Institute in Taiwan, the successful maintenance of unofficial ties with Taiwan. Even as the United States shifted its official recognition in 1979 from Taipei to Beijing, the Congress made it clear to the Chinese that the United States would maintain cultural, commercial, and other unofficial ties with Taiwan. Moreover, as mandated by the Taiwan Relations Act, the United States provides defense material and training to Taiwan to enable it to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability.

The question then is: Why the President of Taiwan would not be permitted to make a private visit to the United States to receive an honorary degree at