

SECRETARY O'LEARY THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S MATERIAL GIRL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. TIAHRT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, Secretary O'Leary is the Clinton administration's material girl. Secretary O'Leary has taken 16 overseas trips since she has taken office. She has been gone 130 days. That is, amazingly, 50 percent more time overseas than Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is responsible for foreign relations and responsible for foreign policy.

There is no material reason why the "material girl" spends so much time overseas. The Secretary of the Department of Defense is responsible for the storage of civilian and Department of Defense nuclear waste. She is responsible for the national energy labs, power marketing administrations, and storage of strategic oil reserves. But Clinton's material girl, all her responsibilities are domestic. Domestic responsibilities.

But Secretary O'Leary has leased a luxury jet, the same luxury jet that Hollywood's material girl, Madonna, uses. Let us look at one of the trips she spent on the Madonna jet. She went to South Africa. She was gone 10 days. She took 51 staffers, 58 guests, a total of 109 people. Photographers were hired. They hired video crews to record the whole event. The cost to the American taxpayer, \$560,000.

Now, Vice President GORE has tried to defend Secretary O'Leary's travels, and he has said her trips have created thousands of American jobs and billions of dollars in contracts, so I think it should all be in perspective. Well, early in the year, when I was debating Secretary O'Leary on the MacNeil-Leher report, she stated she had produced \$19.7 billion in business contracts. Last month she revised that down to \$10 billion. Now we find out it is closer to \$1.4 billion, and those are only signed letters of intent, not signed contracts. And a large part of that \$1.4 billion is claimed by Secretary Brown. In fact, he is taking full credit.

Well, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HOKE] and myself have requested a General Accounting Office audit to find out how this horrible waste can be accounted for. The material girl has spent millions of dollars in travel, but it does not stop there. Secretary O'Leary hired one of her personal friends, after laying off thousands of people, she hired her for a job title she created called the Department of Conflict Resolution Ombudsman at \$93,166 per year plus \$12,000 a year living expenses.

We did not know about that part of the material girl when 80 of us called for her resignation. We thought that was bad enough, because at that point she had just hired a private investigative firm to develop an unfavorable list, for \$56,500. A list of Congressmen

and reporters that she could work on a little. That should have been enough, but even after the travel there is more.

We have found out that the material girl has redirected \$500,000 from the Department of Interior to the Government of India so that they can clean up the Taj Mahal before she arrived. A half a million dollars to clean up the Taj Mahal.

Well, this is just the tip of the iceberg. This reflects the mismanagement that is going on within the Department of Energy. It is time to turn the lights out at the Department of Energy. It is time for Secretary O'Leary to resign.

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RACISM IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is seldom that I take the floor to do special orders, but today I feel compelled to do so because of the rapidly escalating mean-spirited activities that I have read and heard about that are occurring in our country.

On Saturday morning when I went to my front door to pick up my newspaper I was appalled to see in bold letters the following headline "3 White Soldiers Held in Slaying of Black Couple." According to the news report, Michael James and Jackie Burden were just walking down the street at 12:30 Thursday morning in a black neighborhood in Fayetteville, NC, when three white paratroopers who were "cruising the streets of Fayetteville searching for blacks to harass" shot them in the head.

The article went on to say that one of the soldiers "made no secret of his white supremacist views . . . and during his off-duty hours . . . associated with four or five other soldiers who all wear black boots with white laces and red suspenders, a style that represented an unofficial skinhead uniform."

A few months ago I was greatly disturbed when it was reported that agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms displayed racist signs at their summer outing. Earlier, the fact came to light that some employees of the Denny's restaurant chain had refused to serve a busload of black church people and had given clearly discriminatory service to members of the U.S. Secret Service who just happened to be black.

Last week I picked up the Roll Call newspaper and was alarmed to find on the front page an article entitled "Police Probe Anti-Semitic Incident by House Pages" which stated that "The Capitol Police department is conducting a criminal investigation into an act of anti-Semitic vandalism at the House page dorm". It appears that some of the pages got into a dispute and one found a swastika on his door the next

day. While it is not unusual for teenagers to sometimes find themselves in disputes with their peers, but it is alarming to see young teenagers resorting to such hateful means of expressing their disagreements.

I have recounted these stories which are a minute illustration of the myriad incidents that are occurring throughout the Nation because I am concerned about America. Nowadays I don't hear the real Americans speaking out against the racism which has been resurrected and is rearing its ugly head with a roar.

I am concerned because when many of those in this body speak of cutting destitute families off welfare, it is not really about the green buck, but about the black face.

I am concerned because when we discuss the issue of school prayer, it may not really be about prayer itself, but about to whom we pray.

I am equally troubled because some misguided black folk are engaging in reactionary hatred. Racism is un-American from whatever source.

As a Nation, we hold ourselves out to be tolerant of others and their beliefs. We pride ourselves on being the melting pot of the world, we declare that all men are created equal and that we each have the unalienable right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and yet America is allowing these atrocities to continue—and I don't hear the leadership in this Congress or in this country speaking out against them.

We are currently deploying young men and young women in the prime of their lives to Bosnia in an effort to bring peace to that part of the world, while at the same time, some racially-crazed military personnel right here in America are modern-day lynching black folk.

We sing that we are the land of the free and the home of the brave, but black America is not free and those who set out to purposefully do us harm are not brave.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. RAMSTAD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. RAMSTAD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF SWEARING IN OF FIRST BLACK MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. WATTS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I see my colleague, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. MFUME], who is still here in the Chamber, and I extend to my colleague from Maryland, who is my colleague and my friend, I extend to him my sincerest best wishes as he takes on a new challenge in his life in leading the NAACP into the 21st century. Over the last 11 months, I have

seen my friend be the consummate professional, and I extend to him my very best wishes in his new endeavor and challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute tonight to an important anniversary. 125 years ago this very night, the first African-American Congressman was sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives. He was a Republican—a member of the party of Lincoln. He was the Honorable Joseph Hayne Rainey and it was the start of a legacy that continued. Senator Hiram Rhodes Revels of Mississippi was the first black Senator and then Congressman Jefferson Long of Georgia, Robert DeLarge of South Carolina, and Robert Elliot of South Carolina and the list goes on with 20 more Members of Congress serving with Mr. George White of North Carolina serving in the 55th and 56th Congress.

Following the seating of Congressman White in 1897, 15 sessions of Congress passed until another African-American was elected to Congress. In 1928, Oscar De Priest of Illinois became the first African-American elected to Congress from outside the South.

What an odd turn around has occurred and what an important time for us to stop and take stock. Folks, I look forward to the day when all of us will be judged by the content of our character rather than the color of our skin. These people we honor tonight has gone before us as trailblazers—as members of the only party that was founded on an idea—the idea of freedom.

The party of Lincoln believed in equality of opportunity, empowering people, not government, cultural renewal because these are principles which transcend race, creed, color. Lincoln so fervently believed in a government of the people, by the people and for the people that his emancipation proclamation enabled all of us—those who have gone before me and the current African-American Members of this Congress to serve. Freedom also make it possible for every person in this U.S. to have the opportunity to serve regardless of race, creed, or color. Black Americans and white Americans must be full partners in developing policy of this great Nation.

Those were brave souls who first ran after being enslaved. Those were brave souls who against all odds decided they would put their name in the hat for public service. Those were brave souls who went before us in Congress and we must honor them by doing the right thing, now.

Mr. Speaker, we must honor these hallowed Halls and the sacred trust of those who sent us here by telling the truth, by honoring the constitution and by making sure that the ultimate source of power is always with the people of this great Nation.

We must honor those who sent us here by honoring God and seeking his guidance on important issues as those who went before us. We must honor the trust of these Halls by being kind and

extending a hand to all people to serve with us.

Mr. Speaker, on this 125th anniversary of the first African-American, Mr. Joseph Rainey from South Carolina to serve in Congress, I thank God for this Nation that allows J.C. Watts, Jr.—the fifth child of J.C., Sr. and Helen Watts to also stand and serve in this Congress. I owe a great debt to those who have gone before me and I hope that we can leave an even better legacy for our children—red, yellow, black, and white.

SEND THE RIGHT MESSAGE: SHOW SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN TROOPS SENT TO BOSNIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening in anticipation of this body voting on a resolution in regard to the situation in Bosnia sometime before the end of this week.

Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues in this body, I have expressed grave reservations over the last several months about the possibility of placing our ground troops in the Bosnian theater. I have recorded my vote on at least two occasions in opposition to sending ground troops in, despite having supported the President's use of U.S. forces for air strikes, for the sealift and airlift, and for the command and control and other support necessary for NATO's involvement in that part of the world.

While I have opposed the use of ground forces in Bosnia, and while this body has gone on record on at least two occasions in stating its opposition to the use of ground forces, at one time by a vote that gathered in excess of 300 Members of this body in a bipartisan manner, all of us know that in fact the President has made his own decision to deploy troops and, in fact, that deployment is taking place as we speak here this evening.

Therefore, it would be my hope that the resolution that we consider this week does not, in fact, send in any way a signal to our troops that we do not support them.

Mr. Speaker, I come tonight before our colleagues and I ask them to consider cosponsoring this evening, or tomorrow morning, sometime tomorrow, House Concurrent Resolution 118. This bipartisan legislation was introduced by myself and my good friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, PAUL MCHALE, who is also a member of the Committee on National Security.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 118 is a sense of the Congress resolution that has had its language mirrored in two other pieces of legislation; one that has since been introduced in the House, and a second that has been introduced in the Senate by Senator DOLE, that basically puts this body on record saying that while we

have voted against sending ground troops into Bosnia, that in fact the President as Commander in Chief of the military has the authority to do that and has done such.

Therefore, while he has taken actions that we have, in fact, expressed our concern with and oppose, it is time now to support the troops as they follow out the requirements laid out by their Commander in Chief, the President of this country.

So, Mr. Speaker, our resolution states we in fact support the troops, even though we have opposed the policy. But it goes on to state something even more important, Mr. Speaker, something that I think every Member of this body wants to express their support for. That is, now that we have committed troops to Bosnia, and now that this President as Commander in Chief has spoken, we want to make sure that there is no second guessing of the military requirement to support those troops; that in fact when General Joulwan, who is the theater commander for the entire operation in the Bosnian theater, asks for support, troops, or equipment, that there is not a second guessing of that request; that that request is dealt with immediately and is dealt with in a forthright manner.

The reason why it is important for this body to emphasize that support being immediate, Mr. Speaker, is because of what occurred in Somalia, where a similar request came in by the commander in charge of the Somalian theater in August, 1 month before an air fight occurred between American forces and one of the Somali warlords, which caused 18 young Americans to be killed.

There are some who have said that if we had given that commanding officer the support he asked for, perhaps we could have saved those 18 lives. So, while we may disagree with the President's policy, but he has the right to do what he has done, and while we want to support our troops, let us also go on record, Mr. Speaker, in a very emphatic way, and say that we want to make sure that the administration knows, that the Pentagon knows, that when the commanding officer in Bosnia asks for additional backup, that he gets immediate consideration. That is perhaps the most important statement that we can make this week.

Mr. Speaker, I hope our colleagues will cosponsor House Concurrent Resolution 118 and will also vote for it if given the opportunity to consider its passage when it comes to the House floor. House Concurrent Resolution 118 enjoys broad bipartisan support. The gentleman from Pennsylvania, JACK MURTHA, one of our leading members of the minority party on defense, is supportive, as is the gentleman from California, DUKE CUNNINGHAM, as are members of our Committee on National Security, the gentleman from Rhode Island, PATRICK KENNEDY, and the gentleman from Hawaii, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, as well as some of our younger