

kooky thing this morning. They are suggesting that the Secretary of the Treasury be impeached because he is trying to avoid a Government default. Truly now, I realize that the Republican side, the Republican leadership has really gone over into the realm of the unbelievable. They are acting like a bunch of crazies who want to impeach the Secretary of the Treasury because he wants to avoid a default, who want to send the Government workers back to work and get paid but they are not allowed to perform their jobs.

HAZEL O'LEARY'S JUNKETS

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

Mr. ZIMMER. Mr. Speaker, the recent General Accounting Office revelations on Hazel O'Leary's junkets show that her performance is even worse than we had imagined. There are hundreds of thousands of dollars that are completely unaccounted for of the expenditures that she made in her trips overseas.

She spent more days out of the country than in the country, including a trip to South Africa for \$663,000 with 63 staffers using Madonna's airplane; India for \$730,000 with 37 staffers; Pakistan, \$500,000; China, \$845,000; Vienna, three times to beautiful Vienna, one time with an entourage so large that a diplomat from the United States wired back to the State Department that the size of her entourage exceeded critical thermonuclear mass.

Moscow, four times, London, Brussels, Florence, Hong Kong, Prague, Costa Rica, the Ivory Coast. Mr. Speaker, it is time for Hazel O'Leary to go. She must resign or be fired.

TOP 10 REASONS FOR REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, from the home office in Bronx, NY, the top 10 reasons why House Republicans shut the Government down: No. 10, they are not essential. No. 9, they never liked the Washington Monument anyway. No. 8, if Medicare can wither on the vine, why should not Federal workers? No. 7, furloughed employees will have more time to read Time magazine's Man of the Year story. No. 6, it does not matter whether people work or not; Republicans have been gutting worker protection laws all year long. No. 5, the CR to reopen the Government will contain a clause allowing the Speaker to leave the President's plane by the front door. No. 4, Republicans say furloughed workers will not dare to bitch when we give a tax break to the rich. No. 3, the EPA will not be able to monitor the hot air coming from the

freshman House Republican caucus. No. 2, Republicans are writing a new poem entitled, "If Government Can Be Shut, Then Medicare Can Be Cut."

And the No. 1 reason why House Republicans have shut the Government down: To give more time for furloughed workers to return those unwanted Christmas gifts.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, what is the truth about the Government shutdown? The truth is this. The radical liberal left of the House of Representatives have been obstructionists for many, many years and they are continuing it this year, and in this coming year.

Mr. Clinton, in his second so-called budget, wanted to slow the rate of growth in Medicare, bring about tax relief. That was greeted with, my goodness, this is terrible, this is awful, from our friends across the aisle.

I wonder when the President talked about extreme Republican freshmen if he should not have looked at himself when he was talking about the tail wagging the dog. Is he afraid he might lose his base if he presents a balanced budget and puts the Government back to work?

JAPAN HAS A NEW PRIME MINISTER

(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, while the American Government is shut down, Japan has a new Prime Minister. The new Prime Minister was their Trade Minister, Mr. Hashimoto. The new Trade Minister is the Prime Minister for one major reason: Mr. Hashimoto beat back American demands to open up Japanese markets. The Japanese people say Mr. Hashimoto fights for Japanese workers. Mr. Hashimoto takes care of Japan. Mr. Hashimoto will not cave in to America.

My colleagues, Mr. Hashimoto's rise to power says it all. In Japan, elected leaders are expected and rewarded for taking care of Japan. Maybe in America we should follow suit. Think about it.

WHAT IS TRULY HAPPENING

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

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Democratic Party could have put back to work 133,000 public employees in what is called the Interior appropriations bill. We are trying on this

side of the aisle to remedy some of the problems that this country faces and putting the Government back to work and providing services for the American people.

We were not able to do that, and yet we are being criticized as the obstructionists in this process. We are not the only obstructionists. We are trying everything possible to put this Government back to work within the balanced budget that we have presented to the President. But instead we are being criticized for doing our work by the other side, who will not even come across and help us put these people back to work.

I think that it is about time we look at the issue. Stop listening to the big lies and start realizing what is truly happening here.

PUT THE GOVERNMENT BACK IN OPERATION

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, lunacy still prevails in the House of Representatives under Speaker NEWT GINGRICH. Since December 15, we have had Federal employees locked out, cannot go to work. We have Federal employees that are working but are not going to get paid.

Now the Republican lunatics are now going to propose that we let the Federal workers go to work, that is fine, get paid, that is fine, but they cannot do anything because they are not going to fund the functions that they are to perform. Lunacy still prevails.

Now, it is interesting to me that just last night the Speaker said, "As a former Army brat, I believe it is morally wrong and indefensible to have Federal workers in the crossfire." Yet he has refused to permit a clean resolution to continue the operation of the Federal Government to come forward.

We, on this side, have repeatedly, since December 15, asked to take up a clean resolution. Let us put the Government back in operation.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would caution those who are giving 1-minutes not to use words that might be taken down. "Lunacy" and "lunatics," in addressing any Members on the floor of the House, are not permissible words.

THE HARD NUMBERS

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, \$5 trillion of debt, \$200 billion deficits, \$187,000 in interest debt for a child born

today. These are the hard numbers—the facts that back up the need for a balanced budget. I could stand here all day and talk numbers. But, the fact is, Mr. Speaker, balancing the budget is not about numbers—it is about people. People like our children and grandchildren that will bear the burden of today's fiscal irresponsibility. It is about letting taxpayers keep more of their hard-earned money. It is about who can spend money better, the Federal Government or the American family. It is about lower interest rates so families can afford to buy a home and live the American dream. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Congress is serious about balancing the budget—the President needs to start doing what he said he would do, and work with this Congress to give the American people what they deserve—a balanced budget.

IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 155, A CLEAN CONTINUING RESOLUTION

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that we have an extreme disagreement about this budgeting process. Many of us disagree that we should take \$245 billion as a tax cut to give to those making over \$200,000. That is a fair debate, Mr. Speaker. But what we should not be doing is holding hostage public servants who need to provide services for Americans.

I agree with the Speaker of the House that it is morally wrong and indefensible to have Federal workers in the crossfire. Again, Mr. Speaker, I agree with that. This is why House Joint Resolution 155, a clean continuing resolution that I introduced with over 40 original cosponsors will open this Government entirely for the veterans, for those receiving Social Security, for those receiving Meals on Wheels, for the NASA employees preparing now to launch another *Challenger*, for passports for businesses in Houston, TX, who are being blocked by not being able to do their business, and the missionaries that cannot go and do missionary work.

Mr. Speaker, pass a clean continuing resolution that will open this Government today, House Joint Resolution 155.

IN SUPPORT OF A BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. FRISA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand tall in this Congress as a freshman Republican, because for the first time in more than a lifetime Congress has done its job. We have done the hard work to balance our budget with no gimmicks and no tricks.

But our big spending President refuses to do his job. He talks. He ducks.

He zigs. He zags. He flips and he flops. But the one thing the President will not do is his job. That is to present the balanced budget.

I think the American people, Mr. Speaker, should call the White House at 202-456-1414. Ask the President where is his balanced budget. America demands it for our children and our grandchildren. It is about time the President rolled up his sleeves and did the hard work for America.

TAX DOLLARS NOT AT WORK

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, today is day 21 of the Government shutdown. Again, your tax dollars are not at work. But it does appear that the haze may be lifting a bit on the Republican side. Even these self-styled revolutionaries seem to have figured out that Government operations are essential and that we should not be abusing the taxpayers' employees by having them out of work.

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The only problem is, while they are proposing to send them back to work with pay, they are not proposing to fund the operations and functions that they perform. It seems highly questionable. Let us take a look.

Toxic waste inspections that preserve our clean water cannot be performed, health inspections may not be able to be performed. Occupational safety inspections may not be performed, and trade operations at the Department of Commerce may not be performed, these trade operations which create jobs.

So, although the haze may be lifting a little bit, there is still a lot of confusion because the employees are at work, but they cannot do their jobs.

IT IS TIME TO GET THE FEDERAL WORKERS BACK TO WORK

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

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I was moved today to hear the comments of a young man from Baltimore at a rally outside here, a Federal employee talking about the hardships that this furlough has placed on him and his young family, and I place the following in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Like the rest of you who are here today, I am a furloughed Federal Government employee . . . and I am essential.

I work for the Health Care Financing Administration in Baltimore, Maryland. At HCFA, I work to assure that all Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries receive quality health care. While my fellow furlough workers and I are not at work, millions of beneficiaries run the risk of not receiving quality health care. This is an extremely serious matter.

I am here today to explain to President Clinton, Bob Dole, Newt Gingrich, Dick

Armev and other House Republicans what it means to be on furlough while the Government continues to be shut down.

I am not alone. My situation is not unique. This past summer I got engaged to be married. My fiancé is a full time graduate student. We knew this year was going to be tough managing on one income. Not this tough. The rent is still due on the 1st of the month. Creditors want their payments. Tuition needs to be paid. Our lives will go on, but not without some serious pain.

The furlough not only has affected my state of finances, but also my state of mind. First, our political leaders declare us "not essential"—an ultimate slap in the face. Then they allow this Government Shutdown to continue through Christmas and New Years—Happy Holidays everyone. Lastly, we have been told that we will receive back pay. This, however, does not keep the creditors at bay.

We deserve the respect we are entitled to. We serve because we want to serve. We work for the Federal Government because we want to help the public. Are the negotiators really helping the public? I think not.

Here we are standing in front of the U.S. Capitol. A symbol of Democracy. An institution where leaders debate over differences in ideology. In the past, these debates have ended in compromise. Compromise is the name of the game. If an individual decides to come to Washington, DC to serve, he or she must understand the importance of compromise. I urge the negotiators to reach a compromise on the budget so we can put this behind us.

As a result of the budget impasse, federal workers are being used as pawns. But the real loser is the American Public.

Enough is enough. Again, we urge you, send us back to work.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that it is time to get the hostages off the plane. It is time to get the Federal workers back to work. They have been unintended victims of this. We are on the verge of at least paying them for the time that some of them have missed, and some of them have been working and not been paid, and now it is time to get the rest of them back to work and performing the duties of Government.

I favor a clean continuing resolution, but, if we cannot get that, I am for taking whatever steps we can toward moving this Government to open again.

My message to both the President and the congressional leaders is let us negotiate this out, and to the President it is let us see what his balanced budget is. We know he does not like what his balanced budget is. We know he does not like what has come from this side. I would like to see what he proposes in comparison.

I hope that they will work this out in the very near future. We are going to give them until January 26 to work this out.

ARE THERE NOT JUST 21 RESPONSIBLE REPUBLICANS?

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

Mr. HOYER. Capital crisis, shutdown II, day 21, and we are looking for just 21