

shifting more decisionmaking out of Washington back to States and local communities. As we move into the era of balanced budgets and smaller government, we must work in new ways to enable people to make the most of their own lives. We are helping America's communities not with more bureaucracy but with more opportunities.

Through our successful empowerment zones and community development banks, we are helping people to find jobs, to start businesses. And with tax incentives for companies that clean up abandoned industrial properties, we can bring jobs back to places that desperately, desperately need them. But there are some areas that the Federal Government should not leave and should address and address strongly.

One of these areas is the problem of illegal immigration. After years of neglect, this administration has taken a strong stand to stiffen the protection of our borders. We are increasing border controls by 50 percent. We are increasing inspections to prevent the hiring of illegal immigrants. And tonight I announce I will sign an executive order to deny Federal contracts to businesses that hire illegal immigrants.

Let me be very clear about this. We are still a nation of immigrants. We should be proud of it. We should honor every legal immigrant here working hard to be a good citizen, working hard to become a new citizen. But we are also a nation of laws.

I want to say a special word now to those who work for our Federal Government. Today the Federal work force is 200,000 employees smaller than it was the day I took office as President. Our Federal Government today is the smallest it has been in 30 years, and it is getting smaller every day. Most of our fellow Americans probably don't know that. There's a good reason, a good reason. The remaining Federal work force is composed of hard-working Americans who are now working harder and working smarter than ever 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.

[Applause, the Members rising.]

At 10 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m. the President of the United States accompanied by the committee of escort retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet.

The Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT SESSION DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m., the joint session of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered printed.

The motion was agreed to.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST THE CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1124, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-451) on 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, which was referred to the

House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. TORKILDSEN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week, on account of personal reasons.

Mr. TATE (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. COOLEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, for 5 minutes, on January 24.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, on January 24.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, for 5 minutes, on January 24.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, on January 24.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. SCHUMER in two instances.

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.

Mr. BONIOR.

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.

Mr. PALLONE.

Mr. FOGLIETTA in two instances.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mr. TORRICELLI.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

Ms. DELAURO in two instances.

Mr. BEILENSEN.

Mr. STOKES.

Mr. MATSUI.

Mr. RAHALL.

Mrs. SCHROEDER.

Mr. ACKERMAN.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. COOLEY) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. OXLEY.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

Mr. DORNAN in two instances.

Mr. HOUGHTON.

Mr. GEKAS.

Mr. EMERSON.

Mr. QUINN.

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."

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 24, 1996, at 12 noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1942. A letter from the Director, Congressional Budget Office, transmitting CBO's final sequestration report for fiscal year 1996, pursuant to Public Law 101-508, section 13101(a) (104 Stat. 1388-587); to the Committee on Appropriations.

1943. A letter from the Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting notification that the Department of the Navy intends to transfer by sale the ship U.S.S. *Edenton* to the Government of Spain, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7307(b)(2); to the Committee on National Security.

1944. A letter from the Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting notification that the Department of the Navy intends to transfer by sale the following ships, the U.S.S. *Affray*, the U.S.S. *Fortify*, and the U.S.S. *Exultant* to the Taiwanese Navy, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7307(b)(2); to the Committee on National Security.

1945. A letter from the Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting notification that the Department of the Navy intends to transfer by sale the ship U.S.S. *James M. Gillis* to the Government of Mexico, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7307(b)(2); to the Committee on National Security.

1946. A letter from the Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting notification that the Department of the Navy intends to transfer by sale the following ships, the U.S.S. *Beaufort*, and the U.S.S. *Brunswick* to the Government of Korea, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7307(b)(2); to the Committee on National Security.

1947. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Industrial Affairs), Department of Defense, transmitting the strategic and critical materials report during the period October 1994 through September 1995, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 98h-2(b); to the Committee on National Security.

1948. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting a report on credit for small businesses and small farms in 1995, pursuant to section 477 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 [FDICIA]; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1949. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting notification concerning a cooperative project with Israel on the Arrow Deployability Program [ADP] (Transmittal No. 02-96), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

1950. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 96-8: Suspending Restrictions on U.S. Relations with the Palestine Liberation Organization, pursuant to Public Law 103-236, section 583(b)(2) (108 Stat. 489); to the Committee on International Relations.

1951. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-180, "Community Development Corporations Money Lender Licensing Fee and Bonding Exemption Temporary Amendment Act of 1995," pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1952. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-181, "Budget Support Act of 1995," pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1953. A letter from the Manager, Benefits Communications, Ninth Farm Credit District, transmitting the annual report for the plan year ended December 31, 1994, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9503(a)(1)(B); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1954. A letter from the Administrator, Panama Canal Commission, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1995, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1955. A letter from the Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting the semiannual report of the inspector general for the period April 1, 1995, through September 30, 1995, and the semiannual report of management on final actions, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1956. A letter from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Department of the Interior, transmitting notification of proposed refunds of excess royalty payments in OCS areas, pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1339(b); to the Committee on Resources.

1957. A letter from the executive director, American Chemical Society, transmitting the society's annual report for the calendar year 1994 and the comprehensive report to the board of directors of the American Chemical Society on the examination of their books and records for the year ending December 31, 1994, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1101(2) and 1103; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1958. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report for fiscal year 1995 to identify the contracts that were awarded in excess of the dollar threshold in section 4(11) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 403(11)) pursuant to a waiver of the prohibition on contracting with a foreign entity unless that entity certifies that it does not comply with the secondary Arab boycott of Israel, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2401i; jointly, to the Committees on National Security and Appropriations.

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