

has a theoretical policy that it does not sell federally owned weapons to the public. The Civilian Marksmanship Program violates this policy, and the new corporation would continue to violate it.

Why we should be subsidizing rifle practice—which is the theory behind this—baffles me. Hardly any of those who will use the weapons will enter into the armed forces. The Defense Department did not request this.

I had never fired a rifle or handgun before entering the Army, and with minimal training I became a fair-to-good marksman.

Senator Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey and I tried to eliminate this incomprehensible expenditure from the bill and we got only 29 votes for our amendment. The NRA still has power.

We should be reducing the numbers of weapons in our society, not increasing them.

A government policy of destroying weapons and not selling outmoded guns to the public is sound.

While rifles are not the primary weapons for crime—pistols are—some of those 176,000 weapons will get into the hands of people who should not have them. If 1 percent reach someone who is irresponsible, that is 1,760 weapons.

Let me in advance extend my sympathy to the families of the people who will be killed by these weapons. They will be needless victims of this folly. ●

U.S. AID TO AFRICA

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, The salaries of the most elite professional basketball players who became free agents and signed contracts during a 1-week period in July outstripped the amount of United States development aid to all African nations except Egypt. I discussed this development in a weekly column written for newspapers in my State and ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The column follows:

NBA Star Pay Shoots Past U.S.
Development Aid To Africa

(By Senator Paul Simon)

Ask people at any town meeting whether we are spending too much money on foreign aid and there will be a resounding "yes" response—but there would not be if they knew the facts.

The world's poorest continent is Africa, and this year we are spending \$628 million in development aid to African nations, if Egypt is excluded from the calculation.

Compare that with the total for the contracts signed July 11th to July 18th for free agents with the National Basketball Association: \$927 million.

Twenty-nine African nations have total government revenue less than the amount paid to these star athletes.

I have no objection to the money earned by Michael Jordan and the others. They are players of unbelievable talent. And the people of the nation are not making any great sacrifice to provide these funds for them.

Nor are we making a great sacrifice in foreign aid.

That \$628 million in aid to Africa compares to \$1.2 billion we get from one cent of gasoline tax in the United States. So the aid to Africa is slightly more than one-half cent a gallon, if we were to use the gasoline tax to pay for it, which we are not.

The United States was once the most generous nation in helping the poor beyond our borders. Now, of the nations of Western Europe and Japan, Australia and New Zealand, we are dead last.

We once gave almost 3 percent of our national income to help the needy beyond our borders, and now we give less than one-sixth of 1 percent. Norway gives eight times as much as we do, in percentage terms.

Foreign aid is less than 1 percent of our Federal budget. And the total is getting smaller each year.

Should we be doing a better job of giving opportunity to the poor here at home?

Of course we should. And those of us who advocate doing more to help the poor at home are the same ones who advocate helping them beyond our borders.

If instead of giving the Defense Department \$18 billion more than they requested for this year and next, which we are doing, we were to devote one-third of that amount to helping the poor here at home, one-third to helping the impoverished in other countries, and one-third to reduce the deficit, we would have a stronger nation, a better nation, and a more stable world.

The United States is gradually becoming more short-sighted and provincial both at home and abroad. "Let's take care of ourselves," is the cry, and "ourselves" excludes the poor at home and the poor abroad.

And so we fall far behind in paying our United Nations dues, and do not provide adequate leadership in troubled areas at home and abroad.

Congressman Ray Thornton of Arkansas suggested that the United States should have a Marshall Plan for impoverished areas of our Nation. He is right. We need it both here and for other nations.

But that requires creativity, courage and compassion by leaders. "Welfare reform" for too many has become a code phrase for bashing the poor even more, though genuine reform is obviously needed.

The nation that led the world with the exciting and compassionate and sensible Marshall Plan is now a nation in retreat. We are now a nation that pays more money to a few professional basketball players than we spend to give opportunity to the people of Africa.

We can do better. ●

THE POLITICS OF WHITEWATER

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, my attention has been called to an article in the Miami Herald by Ernest Dumas, who is described in the Miami Herald as "Sometime critic of Bill Clinton who teaches journalism at the University of Central Arkansas, and writes a column for the Arkansas Times. A former political writer, and associate editor of the Arkansas Gazette in Little Rock, he wrote this article for the Herald."

I don't believe I've ever met Mr. Dumas, but he has written an article that gives a perspective on the Whitewater situation that I frankly have not seen in the media elsewhere.

I call this to the attention not only of my colleagues in the Senate and in the House, but I call this to the attention of editorial writers who may be looking through the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

It gives a very different perspective on "The Politics of Whitewater."

I ask that the Miami Herald article be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Miami Herald, June 23, 1996]

THE POLITICS OF WHITEWATER

(By Ernest Dumas)

When Sens. Jesse Helms and Lauch Faircloth, the North Carolina Republicans, had

lunch in 1994 with their old friend and protégé, Judge David R. Sentelle of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, even they must have fathomed the importance of what Sentelle was about to agree to do.

His Judicial panel would remove Robert B. Fiske Jr. as the independent counsel for Whitewater and replace him with a far more doctrinaire Republican, Kenneth W. Starr, who had lost his job as solicitor general when Bill Clinton became president and who was representing the Republican National Committee and groups hostile to the Clinton administration, including the tobacco industry.

Starr would keep the Whitewater investigation on track for the 1996 presidential election all right, but he would prove far more valuable to his party.

The majority report of the Senate Special Whitewater Committee last week said the two lending institutions that were the heart of the scandal were "piggy banks for the Arkansas political elite."

It was half true. A who's who of Arkansas Republicans had helped David L. Hale plunder his federally subsidized small business investment company.

Hale, who triggered the Whitewater investigation and the appointment of an independent prosecutor when he accused President Clinton of asking him to make an illegal loan in 1986, actually was illegally channeling federal tax dollars into the campaign of Clinton's Republican opponent. Moreover, according to his testimony at the trial in April, he was paying the Republican state chairman to help him defraud the federal Small Business Administration. Another former state Republican chairman and perennial candidate was on the books for a substantial federally subsidized loan when the Clinton administration moved to shut Hale down in 1993. Other prominent Republicans collaborated with Hale to skim money from the company.

Other than Gov. Jim Guy Tucker, then a private businessman, and the ubiquitous James D. McDougal himself, the owner of Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan Corp., no Democratic political figure had anything to do with the dummy companies and scams that Hale ran.

Thanks to Kenneth Starr, this is not the picture Americans got of Whitewater.

Not only did Starr not seek indictments against the Republicans when they began to turn up on every chapter of the examinations of Hale's small-business lending company, he did not call them as witnesses at the trial at Little Rock. The prosecutors persuaded the trial judge not to allow the deeds of Hale's Republican collaborators to be used as proof of selective prosecution. It would have confused the picture of Whitewater, a story about the rascality of Bill Clinton and his Democratic friends.

The special prosecutor's refusal to explore any of the Republican bigwigs to the glare of trial—while leveraging misdemeanor pleas from many spear carriers in the real estate deals who made no profits from the deals—makes a compelling case that the investigation is politically motivated and the prosecution selective.

Hale ran a federally licensed and subsidized small business investment company at Little Rock called Capital Management Services, which in 1992 applied to the Small Business Administration for another \$45 million. It claimed an expanded capital base. He didn't get approval before the election and Clinton's SBA in 1993 got suspicious. When auditors began digging into the company's records, Hale told the SBA to just forget the whole thing. Clinton's new SBA director, Erskine Bowles, referred the matter to the Justice Department. When the SBA put Hale's