

## AMERITECH

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ameritech, an outstanding corporation headquartered in my district, for honoring eight outstanding individuals with the Ameritech Award of Excellence in Crime Prevention.

Ameritech, a model company and community leader, is one of the world's 100 largest companies. Ameritech is a full service communications company, committed to supporting crime prevention. Ameritech and the National Crime Prevention Council collaborated to develop an award which will be presented to eight recipients at the Ameritech Awards of Excellence in Crime Prevention dinner on October 14.

Ameritech continues to work to reach its goal of becoming a single source of communications solutions. It has 68,000 employees, 1 million share owners and more than \$23 billion in assets. It provides customers, dependent on their desires and needs, with the best communications products available. Operating from these two principles, Ameritech helps millions of customers in 50 States and 40 countries communicate and manage information through cellular telephone, data, video, cable TV and security monitoring networks.

Richard Notebaert, Ameritech's chairman and chief executive officer, has had a profound effect on the company. In addition to the five primary regions, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio, that Ameritech provides with local telephone service, Ameritech has expanded its outreach to offer additional products and services throughout the United States and Europe.

Mr. Notebaert began his career in 1983 as vice president of marketing and operations at Wisconsin Bell. In June 1993 he became Ameritech's president and chief operating officer. In January 1994 he was elected president and chief executive officer, and in April 1994 he was named chairman and CEO.

As chairman and CEO, Mr. Notebaert is responsible for Ameritech's total operations. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1969 and a Master's degree in business administration in 1983, both from the University of Wisconsin, and has received honorary doctorate degrees from Indiana Wesleyan University, the University of Indianapolis and Ripon College.

President Clinton appointed Mr. Notebaert to the President's Export Council in March 1995, where he currently serves as a member. He is a trustee of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the University of Notre Dame, a charter trustee of Northwestern University, and a member of the Business Council and other civic and community organizations.

Ameritech takes part in numerous community projects in Illinois, Wis-

consin, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. Additionally, Ameritech has developed resources and initiatives designed to help teachers and students. It contributed \$2 million to the Library of Congress to establish a digital grant competition; created the Ameritech Hispanic Advisory Panel [AHAP] web site that provides Ameritech's Hispanic employees with opportunities to network and provide mutual support and develop. Finally Ameritech has sponsored many events such as the Ameritech Awards of Excellence in Crime Prevention, and created information and products for seniors and people with special needs.

Ameritech's involvement in this project has once again demonstrated its leadership in private sector promotion of safety and community strength. Additionally, Ameritech's participation has illustrated that the private sector must be engaged in positive community development.

Ameritech's commercial and social reputation provides the foundation for companies and organizations to follow. I urge America to join with me tonight in commending Ameritech and Mr. Notebaert for their work in creating the Ameritech Awards of Excellence in Crime Prevention.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

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

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

#### ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE WHITE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thought it was appropriate to come to the floor of the House as I have watched the unfolding of the controversy swirling around the question of campaign finance reform but accusations being thrown at the White House, the question of lost tapes and found tapes and the real issue before the American public.

I am frankly disappointed and certainly outraged that the real issue that has been raised by most citizens as I have encountered them, the question of coming to a common consensus on reforming the process of campaign finance reform, now lost in a swirl of refusal on the other side of the street, in the other body, is not really the point of which we are looking at. We now hear voices calling for the impeachment of the Attorney General of the United States of America, casting accusations unfairly, no investigation on the basis of which the Attorney General and staff made their decision not to proceed at this time without accusations made against the President of the United States.

I want the truth. I think it is important for the debate to be full and open, for any investigation to fully provide for the American people and for those of us in this body the real facts, so that we can in a forthright manner answer to the American people and provide reasoned campaign finance reform. If there are accusations to be made, let them be made and let them be tested and let them be factually determined and discovered.

As it seems, the President and the White House have answered the question of the so-called missing tapes by indicating that in their inquiry they did inquire of the retainers of these videotapes and those individuals responded that they had nothing. And when they were pressed further, they then put White House counsel to the test, and they discovered the tapes and indicated and informed the Attorney General's office that such tapes existed.

But after reviewing of the tapes it has been determined that, one, without the sound, and there are sound tapes to come afterwards, that there seems to have been no asking for campaign dollars at these coffees. It seems that these coffees were similar to those held by many other administrations. In fact, when they did a search of fund-raising or coffee tapes through the search file, 150 of them were discovered preceding or including the Clinton administration, but including as well the Bush administration and other administrations.

So I would ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, what is the real issue? Do we want to unveil and unfold the facts or do we want to make accusations? First against the President of the United States, then the Vice President of the United States? Do we want the facts or do we want cameras and coverage and accusations and hearings? Do we want to hear what witnesses are saying, that they did in fact follow the rules and the law? Do we want to engage in real change and real reform, that is, passing campaign finance reform, unlike what happened today, a total collapse, if you will, of the debate and the passage of real campaign finance reform in the other body?

I would simply say, Mr. Speaker, that I want reform. I have signed on to

several pieces of legislation, proudly so, that raise up the question fairly of real campaign finance reform. This is a difficult question. It is a question that many Americans, it falls on deaf ears, it is confusing. It is inside the beltway. It is a bunch of politicians fighting each other.

I do believe it is important for us, this body, with its integrity and hard working Members who do believe in what the real responsibility of this Congress is, is to provide for the leadership and guidance of this great government and for this country and for its citizens, many of whom are vulnerable, like children and senior citizens, our veterans. These are the responsibilities that we have, among many others.

So false accusations and getting in the spotlight and making statements that the President is a criminal and the Attorney General should be impeached, false accusations I think need to come to an absolute halt. We need to let the proceedings proceed. We need to understand that the independent or special prosecutor is not in and of itself a saviour. The Whitewater prosecution, some \$35 million later, with Ken Starr as the leader, has found nothing of substance and yet it proceeds to take taxpayers' dollars. All of the special prosecutors have not been what they have led to believe.

I think that we need to get on the right track, Mr. Speaker. As I close, the right track is real campaign finance reform, is ridding ourselves of the false accusations, the misleading comments and the unfortunate calling for the impeachment of the Attorney General of the United States of America.

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

[Mr. HULSHOF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

#### HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY TO LEROY AND JEANETTE LINCK

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

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I have seldom taken the floor of the House here in the 9 years which I have served to present congratulatory remarks, but this is an occasion which gives me great pleasure to do so. Mr. Speaker, in an era when many are concerned with the demise of the institution of marriage and family here in the United States, I rise today to honor Leroy and Jeanette Linck. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Leroy and Jeanette on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Leroy and Jeanette were married on September 5, 1947 at the Methodist church in Bartonville. The Lincks joy-

ously celebrated their 50th anniversary with close friends and family on September 6 at an intimate reception in the Spillertown Baptist Church educational building for all to share in this wonderful occasion.

I tell you, Mr. Speaker, that Leroy and Jeanette have been great and dear friends of mine for many years and I have had the opportunity to watch firsthand the tremendous service that they have given their family, their friends, their community and also their party.

Leroy has been an active volunteer in the political arena and through his work experience he is a jack-of-all-trades. He has been a Democrat precinct committeeman for 32 productive years, working hand in hand with members of both political parties to show people in our area in southern Illinois what it means to participate in the democratic process.

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His fervor for community involvement was intoxicating. He is permanently responsible for letting people in the surrounding area become aware of and getting them to participate in the political process.

Jeanette dedicated many years of her career as a nurse at a local doctor's office until she decided to retire when the practice closed.

Mr. Speaker, in a day where marriages are too often short lived, it is a real treasure to be a witness to a couple that has endured the daily trials and tribulations that cause many couples to fail. The Lincks have proven that they can work things out and get through their struggles. Their family is no stranger to life's hardships. They have had many along the way, but for 50 solid years they have shown us how to overcome those problems, keep the family together and they have been a great testimony to young people in our area. Leroy and Jeanette have been blessed with a large loving family and a strong marriage.

Mr. Speaker, what a monumental achievement to be married for 50 years. It is an honor to represent a couple like the Lincks. They are an inspiration to us all in southern Illinois, and I am very proud to represent them in the United States House of Representatives.

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

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

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

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

#### CONGRESS MUST CONTINUE THE PATH TOWARD TAX RELIEF

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, this Congress has made tax relief, middle class tax relief, a high priority, and we have passed tax relief, but it is not enough. The average American this year will spend more time working to pay taxes than he or she will to work to pay for housing, food and clothing combined. On average, Americans will spend 2 hours and 49 minutes each day laboring to pay taxes.

Tax Freedom Day for 1997 was May 9. That is the latest Tax Freedom Day in history. We are still paying too much taxes. Let me give my colleagues some examples, because people do not realize the hidden taxes. They often focus on income taxes, but the pass-through taxes we in Congress are always dumping on corporations also get picked up by our constituents and taxpayers.

A bottle of beer is 43 percent taxes; an airplane ticket, 40 percent taxes; a bottle of liquor, 72 percent taxes; the electric bill, 25 percent taxes; a loaf of bread, 31 percent taxes; a car, 45 percent taxes; a hotel bill, 43 percent taxes; restaurant meal, 27 percent taxes; a package of cigarettes, 75 percent taxes; the telephone bill, 50 percent taxes; a pizza, 38 percent taxes; a can of Coca Cola, 35 percent taxes; and a gallon of gas, approximately 54 percent taxes.

Mr. Speaker, Americans are still being overtaxed. We have got to continue the path for tax relief. I think it is extremely important when we consider that the budget increases spending by over \$50 billion, but the tax relief was less than \$18 billion. It is not even a first step. It is a half step. We have to continue this.

Now, in addition to reducing taxes, Mr. Speaker, we have also got to simplify our taxes. Today, in terms of regulations, there are more than 7,500 pages in the Internal Revenue Code. It has tripled in the last decade. There are over 1 million words in it. Now, that is just the regulation. If we put in the laws, there is 17,000 pages in the IRS Code. There are 480 IRS tax forms. The IRS sends out 10 million corrections, tax correction notices, each year. And in 1990 alone, there were 190,000 disputes between the IRS and the taxpayers that required legal action.

Mr. Speaker, the American taxpayers do not wake up in the morning and try to figure out new ways to cheat the IRS. Most of the problems are just genuine misunderstandings in not being able to figure out this very complicated tax system that we have.

One taxpayer was fined \$10,000 for using type 12 pitch on a typewriter instead of using type 10 pitch on his typewriter. A \$10,000 fine. In 1993, a taxpayer was fined \$46,806 for an alleged underpayment of 10 cents. How is that for one thin dime?