

"Crony capitalism" was not the cause of Indonesia's trouble. Inflationism and political corruption allows crony capitalism to exist. It would be better to call it economic interventionism for the benefit of special interests—a mild form of fascism—than to abuse the free market term of capitalism.

Any serious economic crisis eventually generates political turmoil, especially if political dissent has been held in check by force for any significant period of time. There should be no surprise to see the blood in the streets of Jakarta—soon to spread and build. Political events serve to aggravate and magnify the logical but subjectively sensitive declining currency values and the faltering economy. The snowballing effect makes the political crisis much more serious than the economic crisis since it distracts from the sound reforms that could restore economic growth. These circumstances, instead of leading to more freedom, invite marshal law for the purpose of restoring stability and the dangers that go with it.

Errors in economic thinking prompt demands from the masses for more government programs to "take care" of the rapidly growing number of poor. Demands for more socialism and price controls results whether it's in education, medical care, unemployment benefits or whatever—all programs that Indonesia cannot afford even if they tried to appease the rioting populous.

SOLUTIONS ATTEMPTED

The IMF's \$43 billion bailout promise has done nothing to quell the panic in the streets of Jakarta. If anything, conditions have worsened the Indonesians deeply resent the austere conditions demanded by the IMF. Since the U.S. is the biggest contributor to the IMF and the world financial and military cop, resentment toward the United States is equal to that of the IMF. The Indonesian people know they won't be helped by the bailout. They already see their jobs disappearing and prices soaring. The political and economic future, just a few months ago looking rosy, but it is now bleak beyond all description. Indonesians know what the American taxpayers know; the IMF bailout helps the rich lenders who for decades made millions but now want their losses covered by weak victims. Is there any wonder resentment and rage prevails in Indonesia?

The U.S. has just sent a military delegation to study and obviously advise the Indonesian government regarding the law and order crisis now in process. Our officials say that we're there to watch that the Indonesian military do not abuse the rights of Indonesian citizens. Even if true, and well motivated, where did this authority come from for us to run to the scene of the crime—on the other side of the world and pretend we have all the answers. Proper authority or not put aside, the Indonesian people perceive even a few U.S. military advisors as a further threat to them. The U.S. is seen as an extension of the IMF and is expected to more likely side with the Indonesian military than with the demonstrators. No government likes to see any dissolution of government power even the questionable ones. It might encourage others unhappy with their own government. And it is not like the U.S. government is innocent and benign, considering our recent history at Kent State, Waco, and Ruby Ridge and the hundreds of no-knock entries made in error, causing loss of life, multiple injuries and destruction of

property. Let us make sure our own government acts responsibly in all matters of law and order here at home before we pretend we can save the world—a responsibility not achievable even if motivated with the best of intentions.

Effort to prop up an ailing economy after the financial bubble has been popped, prolongs the agony and increases the severity of the correction. Japan's bubble burst in 1989 and there is not yet any sign of the cleansing of the system of bad debt and mal-investment which is necessary before sound growth will resume. And Indonesia is embarking on the same predictable course. Restoration of free markets, and establishing sound monetary policy has not yet been considered. The people of Indonesia and the rest of the world should prepare for the worst as this crisis spreads. For Congress, the most important thing is to forget the notion that further taxing American workers to finance a bail-out, that won't work, is the worst policy of all for us to pursue.

The Indonesian government had one idea worth considering under these very difficult circumstances. They wanted to replace their central bank with a currency board. It's not the gold standard, but it would have been a wise choice under current conditions. But the United States and the IMF insisted that in order to qualify for IMF funding this idea had to be rejected outright and the new central bank for Indonesia had to be patterned after the Federal Reserve with, I'm sure, ties to it for directions from Greenspan and company. A currency board would allow a close linkage of the rupiah to the dollar, its value controlled by market forces, and would have prevented domestic Indonesia monetary inflation—the principle cause of the economic bubble now collapsed. The shortcoming of a currency board is that the Indonesian currency and economy would be dependent on dollar stability which is far from guaranteed.

REFUSAL

In the approximately 8 months since the crisis hit Indonesia there has been no serious look at the underlying cause—monetary inflation brought about by a central bank. Nor has any serious thought gone into the internationalization of credit as United States exports of billions of dollars, and thus our own inflation, to most nations of the world who hold these dollars in reserve and use them to further inflate their own currencies. Our huge negative trade balance and foreign debt is not considered by conventional wisdom to be relevant to the Asian currency problems, yet undoubtedly it is. True reform to deal with the growing worldwide crisis can only be accomplished by us first recognizing the underlying economic errors that caused the current crisis.

The philosophy of the free market, holds a lot of answers, yet the difference between free market capitalism and interventionist political cronyism has not been considered by any of the world banking and political leaders currently addressing the exploding Southeast Asian crisis.

Concern for personal liberty is not a subject associated with the crisis and is an ongoing casualty of past and current policy. A greater concern for individual liberty will be required if a positive outcome is to be expected from the fall-out of the Indonesian crisis. Let's hope we can get our priorities straight. Congress has an obligation not to worsen the crisis by capitulating to more bail-outs and to remain

vigilant enough to keep the administration from accomplishing the same bail-out through Executive Orders outside the law.

MESSAGE

What should the message be to the Congress and the American people regarding this sudden and major change in the economic climate in Indonesia? First and foremost is that since we operate with a fiat currency, as do all the countries of the world, we are not immune from a sudden and serious economic adjustment—at any time. Dollar strength and our ability to spend dollars overseas, without penalty, will not last forever. Confidence in the U.S. economy, and the dollar will one day be challenged. The severity of the repercussion is not predictable but it could be enormous. Our obligation, as Members of Congress, is to protect the value of the dollar, not to deliberately destroy it, in an attempt to prop up investors, foreign governments or foreign currencies. That policy will only lead to a greater crisis for all Americans.

As the Asian crisis spreads, I would expect Europe to feel the crunch next. Unemployment is already at a 12% level in Germany and France. The events can be made worse and accelerated by outside events like a Middle Eastern crisis or a war between India and Pakistan both now rattling their nuclear weapons. Eventually though, our system of "crony capitalism" and fiat money system will come under attack. Our system of favoring industries is different than the family oriented favoritism of Suharto, but none-the-less is built on a system of corporate welfare that prompts constant lobbying of Congress and the Administration for each corporation's special interests. We have little to talk about as we preach austerity, balanced budgets and sound money to the current victims. Our day will come when we will humble ourselves before world opinion as our house of cards comes crashing down.

We will all know we are on the right track when the people and our leaders are talking of restoring liberty to all equally, and establishing a sound money system that prevents the Fed from manufacturing money and credit out of thin air for the benefit of politicians, corporations and bankers who directly benefit.

PREVENTING TEEN PREGNANCY

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I am pleased to have the time to speak here today about the importance of preventing teen pregnancy, and I think it is crucially important that we recognize this month as Teen Pregnancy Prevention month.

As a member of the Women's Congressional Caucus and the Chair of the Children's Congressional Caucus, I have been a strong advocate of teen pregnancy prevention.

I recently offered an amendment to H.R. 2264, a labor and appropriations bill which was to increase funding by \$2 million for teen pregnancy programs sponsored by the CDC.

The consequences of teenage pregnancy and child-bearing are serious and contribute to many of the nation's enduring social problems.

Becoming pregnant and having a baby early in life makes it difficult to create an emotionally and financially sound environment for children.

Yet every year, approximately one million teenagers in this country become pregnant and 90 percent of those pregnancies are unintended.

Teenage girls have a higher risk of pregnancy complications, including maternal mortality and morbidity, miscarriages, still births, premature births and nutritional deficiencies than adult women.

Fewer than 60% of these teen mothers graduate from high school by age 25, and in addition to a lower educational status, early childbearing has an impact on the economic status of teens by affecting employment opportunities, marital options, and family structure.

Teen mothers are four times as likely as women who have their first child after adolescence to be poor in their 20's and early thirties, and are likely to have lower family incomes later in life.

In my home state of Texas, the birth rate for teenagers 15-18 years of age is 78.9%.

Although this is a decrease by 3.9% since 1991, far too many of our communities' children across the United States are having children of their own.

Teenage pregnancy and childbearing come hand in hand with a levels of risk for all involved.

We all carry the potential burden when children themselves have children, personally, societally and economically.

Our country spends more than \$20 billion dollars each year assisting teen parents and their children.

Only through education and programs such as campaigns such as The National Campaign to Prevent Pregnancy, and a similar program through the Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas that focuses on the prevention of pregnancy in pre-adolescents and adolescents.

Our children and our adolescents carry the future of tomorrow. We must do everything we can to help our children prolong childbearing and parenting until they can truly be responsible adults and parents.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCINNIS 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 California (Mrs. CAPPS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CAPPS 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 Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF 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 New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FRANKS 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 Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. BROWN 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 California (Mr. RIGGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. RIGGS 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 Virgin Islands (Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN 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 Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SMITH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

JASON HU—A MODERN DIPLOMAT WITH VISION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SOLOMON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, in the April 10 edition of the Central Daily News, published in Taipei, there was an excellent article about Taiwan's Foreign Minister Jason Hu. Jason was the former Taiwan representative in Washington, D.C. and a friend to many of us on the Hill.

I would like to ask the permission to print the article, in an English translation by Professor N. Mao, for the reference of my colleagues and friends.

JASON HU—A MODERN DIPLOMAT WITH VISION

Will Jason Hu be the ruling Kuomintang candidate to run for Mayor of the city of Taipei?

This topic stirred up considerable speculation in the offices of the Taipei Economic Cultural Representative Office in Washington, D.C. Most of Jason Hu's former assistants professed high confidence in Jason Hu's waging a successful campaign for the job, but they would prefer to see Jason stay on as the Republic of China's Foreign Minister.

One close aide of Jason's commented that the Republic of China's diplomatic work needs someone like Jason, a non-career but highly innovative diplomat with fresh ideas and vision. Nearly all of Jason's former aides expressed the view that they would not want to see Jason leave his current post as Foreign Minister.

BREAKTHROUGH IN TAIPEI-U.S. RELATIONS

Will Jason Hu run for the office of the Mayor of Taipei? Someone who knows Jason

well commented that Jason would not have any intention of running for the office, but if Jason were asked by the Kuomintang, Jason will run. Why? Jason is very loyal to the party.

If the Kuomintang can't find any other candidate to run for the office and if the Kuomintang leaders keep asking Jason to run, Jason will run.

Jason is not a career diplomat. During his tenure as Taipei's highest ranking diplomat in Washington, D.C., Jason shed outdated conventions and emerged a winner in gaining new friends for his country during a period of diplomatic low tide between Washington and Taipei.

In June 1996, Jason assumed the post as Taipei's representative in Washington, D.C. Immediately after arrival in Washington, he was an enthusiastic participant in activities sponsored by other diplomats, the U.S. Congress, think-tanks, international organizations, U.S. Government officials and any other persons or groups, whether or not their countries recognize Taipei.

He would meet with anyone if he thought that person would enhance Taipei's diplomatic interests. Jason is a man full of self-confidence, wit, humor, sincerity and considerable personal charm. During his short tenure in Washington, he was a highly visible diplomat and even earned the admiration of diplomats in the U.S. State Department for his professionalism. In fact, during Jason's fifteen months in Washington, he won the confidence of the United States Government, acceptance of the diplomatic corps, respect of the overseas Chinese in the United States and loyalty of his colleagues. He was also popular with the press.

It has been less than 8 years since Jason Hu entered government office.

When he first served as the government's spokesman, he impressed everyone with his leadership abilities. But what distinguished him the most was his service as Taipei's top diplomat in Washington. Before he came to Washington, Taipei maintained low-level contacts with the U.S. Government. But with Jason's efforts, within half a year after Jason's arrival in Washington, the level of contacts between Taipei and Washington was significantly upgraded. Moreover, being a non-career diplomat, Jason was an innovative diplomat with new ideas.

His activities in Washington extended far beyond traditional diplomatic circles; he had direct contacts with many international organizations stationed in Washington.

PERSISTENT JASON HU

A man full of self-confidence Jason is gifted with the ability to foster a favorable environment for talks with friends and strangers. For protocol reasons, he could not be formally addressed as "Ambassador Hu" in Washington but could be properly addressed as "Doctor Hu" of Oxford University.

No one could ignore his impressive Oxonian credentials. In 1995 Jason held a face-to-face dialogue with Dr. Kissinger and he equaled Kissinger in terms of knowledge and sharp analytical ability. Jason is a confident man but definitely not an arrogant man.

In fact, Jason can make any adversary happy to be in his company.

After a few witty introductory remarks, Jason will make his listener eager for more conversation. When the "chemistry" is right, Jason tries his best to persuade his adversary of his viewpoints. Even though differences of opinion may persist Jason never allows his adversary to feel confrontational.

Even though Jason Hu has left Washington for more than six months, friends still talk about his innovative personal style in approaching friends and foe.

Another characteristic of Jason's is his persistence. In April 1997, during Speaker