## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 136. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 109. An act to provide Federal housing assistance to Native Hawaiians.

## ON NATIONAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADY of Texas). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk with my colleague the chairman of the R&D subcommittee the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) and talk a little bit to our colleagues and those that are listening about some of the background with respect to the defense requirements that we just talked about with the Speaker (Mr. GINGRICH). First, Mr. Speaker, let me talk about personnel shortages, because when we put together a defense budget, often the newspapers say the Pentagon got $300 billion, or the Pentagon got $250 billion or the Pentagon got this or got that. And the picture that they create is of just a big bureaucracy in Washington that takes up money, and that bureaucracy does not translate into real people who have real needs. Actually the Department of Defense is about 50 percent people. That means that not only the soldiers, the sailors, the airmen, the marines who serve this country, but also the many people who back them up. That means people who repair aircraft like those at North Island naval air rework depot in San Diego, California in my district or the people that repair the ships or the people that do the high-tech work or the teams that fly around the world as we project American military power to support a very complex military. Personnel is a very important part of our national defense. If you talk to folks like Commandant of the Marine Corps Chuck Krulak and others, you may come to the conclusion that actually they are the primary part of our national defense, they are the most important part, the good people, and they come from America's villages and towns and cities and farms and they serve in the American military often at great inconvenience and often at a pay scale that is much less than their civilian counterparts.

Let us talk about personnel shortages that we have today. The United States Air Force is going to be short almost 800 pilots, a little over 700 pilots for this fiscal year that is coming up. Now, when you train a pilot, you put several million dollars minimum into his training, so we are losing not only those good people and all that experience but we are also losing the money that we put into their training.

□ 1445

We are going to be very short on pilots.

In the Navy we are going to be short 18,000 sailors and 1,400 recruits in this fiscal year. That means that when a guy comes back from a 3 or 4 or 5-month deployment, we have to send him out immediately to another deployment because there is nobody there to rotate with him, to fill his shoes and to give him a little family time.

Marine aviators have been traditionally our most loyal people with respect to re-upping, taking that next jump of 5 or 6 years or 4 years in the service and opting to do that instead of being in the private sector, and yet our Marine aviators are now leaving the service at a rate of 92 percent.

Even the Army, which has a limited air power but also has, obviously, a very large helicopter force attending its ground forces, is going to be 140 Apache pilots short in 1999. Now those Apache pilots you saw on CNN when they were doing such a great job on Saddam Hussein's tanks during Desert Storm. Those are the pilots that we will be lacking in this next year.

Now I talked a little bit about mission capable rates with the Speaker, and once again here are the mission capable rates, and this is a chart that shows how they are going downhill very quickly.

Mission capable is kind of like the Speaker described it. If you send out 10 aircraft or you have 10 aircraft on the line, how many of them can actually fly out and do their mission? Just like having four or five combines on your farm, and it is time to harvest the wheat, and the first thing you ask your foreman is how many of the combines are working. It may not be all the combines are working; maybe only half of them are working.

Well, we have gone from a mission capable rate that, for example, for the Air Force was 83.4 percent in 1991; that is when George Bush led us in Desert Storm; to today to about 74 percent. We have gone with the Marine Corps from 77 percent to about 61 percent, and with the Navy from 69 percent, almost 70 percent, to 61 percent. That means 6 out of 10 aircraft are able to actually get off the ground and perform their missions.

That is a good example of our declining readiness rates, and that means we have a lack of spare parts and we do not have enough components and enough people in some cases. That means mechanics and the people, the high-tech people that make these very complex weapons systems work, not enough people in the pipeline, not enough people on-station at that particular base to take care of those problems.

Let us go to equipment shortages.

We had almost a 600-ship Navy when Ronald Reagan left office. Today we are down to about 330 ships. We actually had about 546 ships in 1991. Today we are down to about 330. But we are losing a lot of those ships, we are retiring a lot of them. A lot of them are getting older, and, as you know, it takes a long time to build a ship. In fact, it was remarked the other day by one of our assistant secretaries for shipbuilding that actually when we started World War II, all the keels for the battleships had already been laid, meaning we had actually started to build these battleships knowing that there might be a problem. When FDR knew we would probably have a conflict with Adolf Hitler, he started a pretty good shipbuilding program in the late 1930's, and those ships got completed and got put to sea during World War II in the 1940s.

But the point is you have to start ships early. If you are going to field a ship in 1997, you need to start it in 1993 or 1994. Well, in this case we are building down to a 200-ship fleet by 2020. That means we are not replacing the ships in a 1-for-1 fashion. That means every time you retire three old ships, you only replace it with one young ship, one new ship. That means that we are going to have a 200-ship fleet by the year 2020 if we do not increase shipbuilding.

Ammunition shortages; we are $1.7 billion short for the basic ammunition supply for the Army.

Now I would say that we have a couple of duties to the people that wear uniforms who still carry rifles in the field and still fire artillery and do those very things that are very, very difficult in this modern world where you have bio warfare, biological warfare, chemical warfare threatening them, surface-to-surface missiles threatening them. Well, one of the basic things you do for your soldiers and your marines is you give them enough ammo. We do not have enough ammunition for the so-called two regional contingency that we are supposed to plan for. That means if Saddam Hussein starts a fight in the Middle East, and North Korea takes advantage of that by coming down the peninsula, you have to have enough ammo to handle both those wars, both those contingencies.

We are short right now, we are short $1.6 billion in basic ammunition.

Now that is not money for the Pentagon, that is money for people in the field who carry weapons in defense of this country who need to have ammo. There is nobody here who would send out a police force in a very difficult area without giving them ammunition for their guns, and yet we are preparing to do that with our people who wear the uniform in the Army and the Marine Corps.

Age and equipment; this is a pretty good example.

The CH–46 is kind of our workhorse helicopter in the U.S. Marine Corps. We

are trying to replace that. But the average CH–46, and if you look at the crashes that have taken place in the last 5 years, you are going to see a lot of these CH–46s there because a lot of them have crashed and taken the lives of the young Marines flying those airplanes and attending those airplanes as crewmen. But the average age of that CH–46 right here, about 40 years old.

We owe those people new equipment. They have a tough enough job as it is.

The assault vehicle; that is the amphibious vehicle that comes out. If you watched Saving Private Ryan, that is a vehicle that comes out, hits a beach and makes the assault from there; that is called an AAV. The average age of those vehicles is 26 years, so they are getting old, and we need to replace them with a new assault vehicle. We do not have money for it because this budget has been handed down to us by the so-called budget deal pressed by the Clinton administration to cut defense.

Now my Republican colleagues have added $21 billion to the defense budget over the last 5 years, and I am very proud of that, and, as the chairman of the Military Procurement Subcommittee, I am really proud of the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) who is our chairman of the full Committee on National Security, and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) who is chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, because they tried to swim against a tide that was being handed down to them by the White House, and we put $21 billion extra to try to meet some of these shortages.

But even after we put that in, the services finally came forth the other day, and they gave us a list of what they are short. They are $80 billion short in what they call unfunded requirements. That means ships that we planned to build that we cannot afford to build, it means ammunition we cannot afford to buy. That means flying hours for our pilots, and we cannot afford to send them up because it is too expensive to fly the planes for those hours. That means spare parts and a lot of other things.

Well, the Speaker, when he put together this, our side's position on the negotiation on this emergency supplemental spending plan that we just made the deal with President Clinton on, argued for a strong national defense, and he said I have got to have extra dollars for defense. He said we have got to have extra dollars for intelligence.

We put $2 billion into intelligence. That is so that when somebody is planning to blow up an American embassy, we have a network of people who are in key critical places in that particular country, wherever it might be, who have their ear to the ground with the terrorist networks. It was some of the state sponsored terrorist organizations, and they find out about the plan, for example, to blow up an embassy or to do something else in a terrorist fashion, and they relay it back to our people here, and we are able to take action to keep it from ever happening in the first place. We need a strong intelligence force more than ever.

You know, the Soviet Union was big and it was strong, but it was very predictable in the so-called Cold War. We could see a lot of what they did, they moved in a very traditional fashion, and we knew where to go to get information.

Today we live in a world in which the CIA Director, Jim Woolsey, once said is full of poison snakes, although we have killed the big dragon of the so-called Soviet Union, and that is very true. There is a lot of small organizations that are terrorist organizations that want to kill Americans, and we need to have a good intelligence operation to cut them off at the pass. That means to find out what is going to happen before it happens and stop it. And to those ends, after a lot of behind-closed-doors briefings about the world situation, the Speaker fought for 2 billion extra dollars in intelligence funding.

We also fought hard for missile defense, and let me tell you what the problem is with missile defense.

The North Koreans have just launched a missile, went out over the Sea of Japan which surprised us. It surprised us just like the two nuclear blasts in India and Pakistan that our intelligence people did not know about, did not predict. We thought that the North Koreans would not achieve this ICBM capability for about 10 years. We thought that would not happen. But actually they have achieved it now. The missile that they launched, which is a so-called Taepo DONG I missile with three stages is capable of hitting parts of the United States. Now, if you couple that with the ongoing program that the Koreans, the North Koreans have followed, sometimes with greater exposure to us than other times, but nonetheless they have historically followed of trying to achieve nuclear capability and biological and chemical capability; that means the ability to throw a biological warhead with nerve gas in it, for example, that will kill civilians on contact; that program, married up with their missile program, will give them very soon the capability to reach some of the United States with missiles.

Now the problem with that is we have a military that is designed to stop tanks, it is designed to stop ships, it is designed to stop planes, it is designed to stop infantry. We have nothing, nothing that will stop an intercontinental ballistic missile from hitting a city in the United States, and that is a question I ask President Clinton's Secretary of Defense every time he appears before us: Could we stop a single incoming ballistic missile. And he always has to tell myself and other members of the National Security Committee, no, not one.

So we have to build a defense against incoming ballistic missiles. We live in the age of missiles. We have to understand that, we have to acknowledge it, and we have to prepare for it. We do not at this point have a missile defense, but we need to have one, and the Speaker put almost a billion dollars into missile defense and got the Clinton administration to agree with it. That alone, with a lot of the things in this bill that I do not agree with that the Clinton administration pressed for, the President's agenda, the fact that he gave us that extra billion dollars for missile defense, that we got that, that alone is a compelling reason to vote for this emergency supplemental, because having a missile defense, of all the things in this package, is probably the one that I would deem the greatest emergency.

I want to close by going back to what we call the growing pay gap because this may tell you a little bit about what I started with. What I started to talk about, of course, was personnel, people. Why are they leaving the military after we put 1, 2, 3 or $4 million into training a young man or a young woman to be a pilot? Why are they getting out? Why are our sailors leaving? Well, I will tell you why.

Since 1982, and I can remember being a Republican freshman in 1982, one of the first things that Ronald Reagan did was put in two bills that brought up our military to where they were level, they were even, with civilian pay, and that gave great morale to the people that were already in and it also gave a great incentive to young people that thought about joining to come into the military. Since then, and that is 1982 on this chart, you can see this big pink area which is now the difference between military people and civilians in the same type of work. So that means if you have got an electronics technician on the inside of the military, he is working in the military, and he looks outside and sees his friend who has the same schooling, same capability, that young person is making 13½ percent more than he is on the average. And so when you ask a young person to come into the military, and they look at that job level and the job description inside the uniformed services and the job description on the outside of the uniformed services, they come to the conclusion that it is best to stay on the outside, and that is what has been happening.

So we need to address this pay gap between the civilian sector and the uniformed sector, and we are going to be doing that.

□ 1500

Now, there are a couple of other things in the defense bill that are in the emergency supplemental before us, this big omnibus bill, that are defense-related.

We have the Y2K problem. We devoted some money to the Y2K problem. We have to solve that, because a lot of military activities are related to computers and could be badly damaged if we have a Y2K problem. That is this idea that in the Year 2000 many of the

computers are not predictable with respect to what they are going to do. So we are going to solve that Y2K problem. We have to do that in national security, as well as in the domestic area.

Also some of this money is devoted to paying for Bosnia. Let me tell you, that tells us where some of the money went that should have gone to pay, some of the money that should have gone to equipment, some of the money that should have gone to spare parts and training, and some of the money that should have gone to personnel retention bonuses. That money instead went, among other places, to Bosnia. So now we are paying for the money for the President's Bosnia operation, without taking it out of ammunition, without taking it out of training, without taking it out of readiness.

What we did in the old days, the President just said you military folks go look at your other areas, like training and people and ammunition, and pull some money out of those accounts, and we will use that money to go to Bosnia on. That is called taking it out of hide.

Well, we stopped that in this emergency supplemental, so even that money going to Bosnia does not directly help us with respect to modernization or pay rates or spare parts. At least it takes the pressure off the defense budget so we can buy ammunition, so we can pay our personnel more and give them some retention bonuses and we can buy those spare parts.

We spent about $1 billion in this emergency supplemental on readiness. Most of that is going to go to parts. That means if you are working on a carrier and you need a certain part now for an aircraft, and a week later you may need another part, instead of having to fly that in with an airplane from some parts depot in the United States to halfway around the world, hopefully we will be able to buy enough of those spare parts so you have a couple of them on the shelf in the plane or on the ship, or, for example, have some of those components for the air crew that works that particular plane. So that will solve some of our readiness problems. So we have devoted over $1 billion to that so-called readiness account in this emergency supplemental.

Let me just make the case again that there was a lot of negotiation that took place in this bill, but the important national security problems that the Speaker and his negotiating team took care of far outweigh any concessions that we might have had to make to big government and to the President.

## 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 Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. OBEY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. TOWNS, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. SKAGGS, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. RIGGS, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. TIAHRT, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. EHLERS, for 5 minutes, today.

## SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2476. An act for the relief of Wei Jingsheng; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2431. An act to express United States foreign policy with respect to, and to strengthen United States advocacy on behalf of, individuals persecuted in foreign countries on account of religion; to authorize United States actions in response to violations of religious freedom in foreign countries; to establish an Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom within the Department of State, a Commission on International Religious Freedom, and a Special Adviser on International Religious Freedom within the National Security Council; and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 136. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes.

## SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1892. An act to provide that a person closely related to a judge of a court exercising judicial power under article III of the United States Constitution (other than the Supreme Court) may not be appointed as a judge of the same court, and for other purposes.

S. 1976. An act to increase public awareness of the plight of victims of crime with developmental disabilities, to collect data to measure the magnitude of the problem, and to develop strategies to address the safety and justice needs of victims of crime with developmental disabilities.

## ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday October 19, 1998, 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:

11677. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting the Department's ''Report On Alternative System for Availability of Funds''; to the Committee on National Security.

11678. A letter from the AMD-Performance Evaluation & Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule— Amendment of Part 95 of the Commission's Rules to Provide Regulatory Flexibility in the 218–219 MHz Service [WT Docket No. 98–169 RM–8951] Amendment of Part 95 of the Commission's Rules to Allow Interactive Video and Data Service Licensees to Provide Mobile Services [WT Docket No. 95–47 RM–8467], pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

11679. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a letter providing information concerning the transfer of defense articles; to the Committee on International Relations.

11680. A letter from the Interim Auditor, District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of a report entitled ''Audit of the Financial Accounts and Operations of ANC 5B for Fiscal Years 1991 through 1997,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 47—117(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

11681. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to Establish an Additional Manatee Sanctuary in Kings Bay, Crystal River, Florida (RIN: 1018–AE47) received October 15, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

11682. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled ''Body Armor Penalty Enhancement Act of 1998'' received October 15, 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

11683. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Administrative, Procedural, and Miscellaneous [Revenue Procedure 98–54] received October 15, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## 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. DREIER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 604. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1132) to modify the boundaries of the Bandelier National Monument to include the lands within the headwaters of the Upper Alamo Watershed which drain into the Monument and which are not currently within the jurisdiction of a Federal land management agency, to authorize purchase or donation of those lands, and for other purposes, and for consideration of the bill (S. 2133) an act to preserve the cultural resources of the Route 66 corridor and to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance (Rept. 105–823). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Committee on Resources. Monumental Abuse: The Clinton Administration's Campaign of Misinformation