

the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds are being held hostage by the Clinton-Gore administration.

It has been 36 days since Congress proposed locking away Social Security and Medicare surpluses and dedicating 90 percent of the total surplus to paying off the public debt; and still no response from President Clinton and Vice President AL GORE.

There is a good reason they have not responded. They want to overspend.

President Clinton has threatened to veto seven appropriations bills because he claims they do not spend enough. Vice President GORE's budget proposal spends the entire surplus and raids the Social Security Trust Fund.

The President and Vice President should put debt reduction and protection of Social Security and Medicare ahead of spending and support the 90-10 debt reduction plan proposed by the Republican Congress.

REMEMBERING CHERONE LOUIS GUNN, KILLED ON U.S.S. "COLE"

(Mr. COLLINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, on October 12, a terrorist bomb left, not only a hole in the side of the U.S.S. *Cole*, but a hole in the lives of families and friends of the 17 sailors killed by the blast. This is especially true of friends and family of 23-year-old Signalman Seaman Recruit Cherone Louis Gunn.

Seaman Gunn's life was marked by service to family, friends, community and Nation. His neighbors in Rex, Georgia remember him for always being available to help the local youth.

His passion to serve his community fueled his ambition to serve in law enforcement.

His desire to serve his Nation was expressed by his decision to follow his father's footsteps and join the Navy, where he would gain valuable experience which would help him enter law enforcement upon the end of his tour of duty.

□ 1615

Mr. Speaker, Cheron Louis Gunn always sought to serve his country, knowing the risk inherent in the military and in law enforcement. Yet he did not shrink from making his commitment.

I wish to offer my condolences to the Gunn family. It may be inadequate consolation, but it is important to remember that Seaman Gunn serves as a bright example of the qualities of honor and self-sacrifice which inspire the men and women of our Armed Forces.

CORRECTING ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2348, AUTHORIZING BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO PROVIDE COST SHARING FOR ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS FOR UPPER COLORADO

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 151) to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill, H.R. 2348, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLILEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 151

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 2348) entitled "An Act to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost sharing for the endangered fish recovery implementation programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins.", the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction:

Strike section 4 and insert:

"SEC. 4. EFFECT ON RECLAMATION LAW.

"Specifically with regard to the acreage limitation provisions of Federal reclamation law, any action taken pursuant to or in furtherance of this title will not—

"(1) be considered in determining whether a district as defined in section 202(2) of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390bb) has discharged its obligation to repay the construction cost of project facilities used to make irrigation water available for delivery to land in the district;

"(2) serve as the basis for reinstating acreage limitation provisions in a district that has completed payment of its construction obligations; or

"(3) serve as the basis for increasing the construction repayment obligation of the district and thereby extending the period during which the acreage limitation provisions will apply."

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 5308, FIVE NATIONS CITIZENS LAND REFORM ACT OF 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that in the engrossment of the bill (H.R. 5308) to amend laws relating to the lands of the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Cherokee, Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations, historically referred to as the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes, the Clerk be authorized to make the following correction that I have placed at the desk.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. WALDEN of Oregon:

At the end of section 403, add the following new paragraph:

"(2) OTHER CONSTRUCTION NOT VALID.—Nothing in this subsection is intended to or shall be construed to create, affect, or imply the existence or nonexistence of authority of any federally recognized Indian tribe over—

"(A) any other federally recognized Indian tribe;

"(B) the members of any other federally recognized Indian tribe; or

"(C) any land in which any other federally recognized Indian tribe or any member of any other federally recognized Indian tribe has or is determined by the Secretary or a court of competent jurisdiction to have any interest."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when proceedings resume on the unfinished business of the motion to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 964) to provide for equitable compensation for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes, as amended, that the amendment be deemed to include the corrections that I have placed at the desk.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. WALDEN of Oregon:

Strike Title IV of the bill and insert instead—

"TITLE IV—CONVEYANCE OF KINIKLIK VILLAGE

"SEC. 401. CONVEYANCE OF KINIKLIK VILLAGE.

"(a) That portion of the property identified in United States Survey Number 628, Tract A, containing 0.34 acres and Tract B containing 0.63 acres located in Section 26, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Seward Meridian, containing 0.97 acres, more or less, and further described as Tracts A and B Russian Creek Church Mission Reserve according to U.S. Survey 628 shall be offered for a period of one year for sale by quitclaim deed from the United States by and through the Forest Service to Chugach Alaska Corporation under the following terms:

"(1) Chugach Alaska Corporation shall pay consideration in the amount of \$9,000.00;

"(2) In order to protect the historic values for which the Forest Service acquired the land, Chugach Alaska Corporation shall agree to and the conveyance shall contain the same reservations required by 43 CFR §§2653.5(a) and 2653.11(b) for protection of historic and cemetery sites conveyed to a Regional Corporation pursuant to section 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

"(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Forest Service shall deposit the proceeds from the sale to the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund established by Public Law 102-154 and may be expended without further appropriation in accordance with Public Law 102-229."

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous

consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 5 p.m.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 5 p.m.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BLILEY) at 5 p.m.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE CREW OF THE GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER U.S.S. "COLE"

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 631) honoring the members of the crew of the guided missile destroyer U.S.S. *Cole* (DDG-67) who were killed or wounded in the terrorist bombing attack on that vessel in Aden, Yemen, on October 12, 2000, expressing the sympathies of the House of Representatives to the families of those crew members, commending the ship's crew for their heroic damage control efforts, and condemning the bombing of that ship, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 631

Whereas the guided missile destroyer U.S.S. COLE (DDG-67) was severely damaged on October 12, 2000, when a boat bomb exploded alongside that ship while on a refueling stop in Aden, Yemen;

Whereas the explosion resulted in a 40-by-45 foot hole in the port side of the ship at the waterline and left seven of the ship's crew dead, ten of who as of October 17, 2000, are missing and presumed dead, and over three dozen wounded;

Whereas the U.S.S. COLE had stopped in Aden for routine refueling while in transit from the Red Sea to the Persian Gulf to conduct forward maritime presence operations in the Persian Gulf region as part of the U.S.S. George Washington battle group;

Whereas the members of the United States Navy killed and wounded in the bombing were performing their duty in furtherance of the national security interests of the United States;

Whereas United States national security interests continue to require the forward deployment of elements of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the members of the Armed Forces are routinely called upon to perform duties that place their lives at risk;

Whereas the crew members of the U.S.S. COLE who lost their lives as a result of the bombing of their ship on October 12, 2000, died in the honorable service to the Nation and exemplified all that is best in the American people; and

Whereas the heroic efforts of the surviving crew members of the U.S.S. COLE after the attack to save their ship and rescue their wounded shipmates are in the highest tradition of the United States Navy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives, in response to the terrorist bombing attack on the U.S.S. COLE (DDG-67) on October 12, 2000, while on a refueling stop in Aden, Yemen, hereby—

(1) honors the members of the crew of the U.S.S. COLE who died as a result of that attack and sends heartfelt condolences to their families, friends, and loved ones.

(2) honors the members of the crew of the U.S.S. COLE who were wounded in the attack for their service and sacrifice, expresses its hopes for their rapid and complete recovery, and extends its sympathies to their families;

(3) commends the crew of the U.S.S. COLE for their heroic damage control efforts; and

(4) condemns the attack against the U.S.S. COLE as an unprovoked and cowardly act of terrorism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 631.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SPENCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a profound sense of sadness that I join my colleague, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), in offering this resolution for consideration by the House.

Last Thursday, October 12, 2000, a small boat exploded alongside the U.S.S. *Cole* during a brief refueling stop in the port of Aden in Yemen. The blast ripped a 40 by 45 foot hole in her side, killing 17 sailors and wounding some three dozen more.

This unprovoked and cowardly act of terrorism was perpetrated against an American warship while en route to the Persian Gulf to conduct maritime operations in the legitimate pursuit of our national security interests abroad.

The resolution before the House condemns this senseless act of violence against our military forces and ex-

presses the sympathies of the House of Representatives to the families of those crew members who were killed or wounded in the attack.

What can you say? What can you do? How can you really express to the families of these young men and women our profound sympathies and appreciation for their commitment?

Mr. Speaker, as we meet today, hundreds of thousands of young Americans from all corners of our great Nation are serving in the military, overseas and here at home. They go about their daily duty quietly and without fanfare. Yet, until something like this happens, we, as a Nation, tend to forget what they do every single day of the year to uphold our values, to protect our freedom and deter those who seek to do us harm.

Mr. Speaker, we forget; freedom is not free.

The resolution before us today appropriately, I think, recognizes and honors the price of freedom paid by the members of the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole*.

We are free and secure as a Nation today because of all the men and women of our military who fought to gain our freedom and independence, in the very first instance during the Revolutionary War, and have gone all over this world in war and peace since that time defending that freedom, every day. People who are no longer with us, they have done it.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know. I think as we honor these today, who have paid the price for freedom, and their families too, I think of all the others who have gone before too, who have paid the price, with their lives, their limbs, their health, many were prisoners of war, many are still missing in action, we should remember every single day we live that the price of freedom has been paid by other people, so that we can be free today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, Members speak on this floor for many reasons. We debate, we advocate, we commemorate, we celebrate.

Today, though, I rise to give honor to a crew of brave Americans, the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole*, and to give warning.

I want to honor those who gave their lives or were wounded while serving their country in a distant port, far away from home and in the cause of furthering the national security interests of our country. I also want to honor the surviving crew members, who stayed with the crippled ship and worked valiantly to recover their wounded or missing shipmates and to repair the damage to their ship.

And while I say I speak to give them honor, truly it is they who honor us. They and the millions of others who wear our country's uniform, who honor America by their gift of service and dedication.