

supposedly to provide their future benefits, borrow that money, and then transfer it to wealthy investors who do not pay a penny in Social Security taxes.

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This is Mr. Alan Greenspan's world. He hears the pain of those people at the top, those who need further tax cuts, those who have done so well over the last decade. He is willing to say that we should borrow money to finance their tax cuts. He is willing to say we should borrow money from the Social Security trust fund to finance those tax cuts for wealthy people. But now, astoundingly, he says there is not enough money in Social Security to pay benefits. So he just recommends a couple of little things. First, we cut cost-of-living adjustments for seniors. Well, Social Security is already under-adjusted for the cost of living of seniors. They have huge increases, in pharmaceutical, medical costs and other things, and the 2.1 percent they get does not reflect their real cost of living and many saw their Medicare or their insurance go up more than their puny increase in Social Security. But Mr. Greenspan does not know any of those people. He has never talked to them. He is not aware of them. They do not belong to the same clubs that he does.

But he also said in his let-them-eat-cake mode that we should just increase the retirement age a little bit more. We are already phasing it up to 67. If Mr. Greenspan had to work for a living, work hard like a logger or a mill worker or many other professions in this country or was in a profession where he could not work forever, unfortunately he can as long as George Bush reappoints him, he would realize that it is a problem if you increase the retirement age further beyond 67. Many Americans cannot physically work that long to collect their benefits and many others will not have the opportunity to work that long. But Mr. Greenspan is not concerned about those people. It is more important to borrow the money from the Social Security trust fund, to bankrupt the system in the future to finance tax cuts for the wealthy, and that is George Bush's priority, too.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

MOURNING THE LOSS OF MACEDONIAN PRESIDENT BORIS TRAJKOVSKI

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with sadness in my heart as we mourn the loss of Macedonian President Boris Trajkovski. He was a moderate leader who helped unite his ethnically divided country. He was killed on Thursday when his plane crashed in bad weather conditions in mountainous southern Bosnia.

President Trajkovski was a great friend of the United States. He led the efforts to establish relations with the United States and attended the National Prayer Breakfast here in Washington a number of times where he became friends with many Members of Congress and many individuals in the administration. He was a man of great faith. His great faith drove him to be a man who led reconciliation throughout his region of the world.

President Trajkovski was inaugurated as the second President of the Republic of Macedonia on December 15, 1999. Prior to that, Mr. Speaker, he served as deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Macedonia and as chief of the cabinet of the mayor of the Kisela Voda municipality in Skopje from 1997 to 1998.

Since taking office in 1999, President Trajkovski was active on the international level, giving numerous speeches at international forums, such as the World Economic Summit in Davos, the Council of Europe, the United Nations and the South East European Cooperation Process, and addressed the parliaments of several countries. He was dedicated to greater cooperation between states on behalf of the Republic of Macedonia.

President Trajkovski participated in numerous international conferences on conflict resolution, religious tolerance, religious freedom, and served as president of youth work in the United Methodist Church in the former Yugoslavia for over 12 years.

President Trajkovski was widely respected in Macedonia for his neutral stance in the former Yugoslav Republic, where tensions persist between Macedonians and the country's ethnic Albanian minorities after a 2001 war. He had called for greater inclusion of ethnic Albanians in state bodies and institutions.

He has many friends, Mr. Speaker, throughout Europe and the entire world. Macedonia is a good friend and partner to the United States and plays an important role in its support of U.S. and NATO operations in Kosovo.

This loss will certainly be felt throughout the international community. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Trajkovski family and the Macedonian people. The United States has lost a great friend.

GREENSPAN WEIGHS IN ON ECONOMIC POLICY

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it is always a pleasure to succeed the gentleman from Virginia who has a strong commitment to human rights. His talk today underscored that commitment to human rights in our country and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to start with a couple of facts. Under the Bush tax plan, a millionaire in this country got a \$93,000 tax cut, for someone on the average making \$1 million in this country. Alan Greenspan, the President's guy on the Federal Reserve, yesterday said in order to pay for our budget deficits, we are going to have to cut Social Security and cut Medicare. Of course that is what he thinks, an investment banker, a Wall Street banker, someone who has enjoyed, and whose friends have enjoyed, these huge tax cuts and wants to continue enjoying these huge tax cuts, who does not much rely himself on Medicare or Social Security now or in the future.

But, again, the fact a millionaire gets a \$93,000 tax cut and because so many millionaires have gotten such huge tax cuts under the Bush plan over the last 3 years, Alan Greenspan is right, I suppose, if that is the way you think of this, that in order to pay for those millionaires' tax cuts, we are going to have to cut Social Security and Medicare. This Congress and this President have made a series of choices. They have chosen to give tax cuts to people in our society who need them the least, people making \$1 million, \$10 million, \$20 million, \$50 million, \$100 million, people who are billionaires. We have made a choice. They have given tax cuts to that group of people, the people who need it the least, the most privileged in our society, the 1 percent wealthiest people in our country; and because they have gotten tax cuts, according to Alan Greenspan, Congress will need to cut Social Security, cut Medicare, cut spending on education, cut spending on environmental enforcement, cut spending on assisting local and State governments, cut Medicaid, all the things that happen as a result of that.

This is all, Mr. Speaker, in the context of what this President and Alan Greenspan have done with our economy. We saw in the 1990s the creation of more than 20 million jobs, well, well, well over 100,000 jobs a month. In fact, close to 200,000 jobs a month were created during the 1990s. Since President Bush took office, we have seen the loss of 3 million jobs. In my State of Ohio, one out of six manufacturing jobs has simply disappeared, likely never to return. So the Bush answer to this, not much different from his father's answer to the kind of economy that caused him to be voted out of office, the President's answer to this is twofold. It is more tax cuts for the wealthiest people in our society and so-called trickle-down economics. Hoping that those tax cuts will encourage them to invest and maybe they will provide some jobs does not seem to be working.