

for. The safety of every decent U.S. soldier is endangered when this administration refuses to find those responsible within its own list of political appointees. It is not sergeants and PFCs at the bottom.

This President has turned worldwide goodwill and unending support after 9/11 into global disgust and worldwide mistrust of America. As long as this President remains in the White House, the United States grows increasingly isolated in the world.

The war on terror will not be won alone. And America will not win when this President's policies lead Amnesty International to say the war on terror is "bankrupt of vision" and concludes, "The U.S. has lost its high moral ground and its ability to lead on peace."

That is the legacy of this administration and the reason that George Bush is going back to Crawford, Texas, on the second of November.

□ 1945

WASHINGTON WASTE WATCHERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FEENEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again as a member of the Washington Waste Watchers.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of Republican efforts, House committees spent a great deal of time last year finding wastes of taxpayer funds in Federal programs. Those efforts, as a matter of fact, highlighted over \$85 billion in potential savings to the taxpayer.

This year, the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman NUSSLE) passed a budget resolution in the Committee on the Budget that goes a long way toward reducing and actually eliminating some of the most outrageous examples of waste, fraud, and abuse. By the way, I have to also applaud President Bush for working on implementing the President's Management Agenda, a performance-based system that seeks to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse. Mr. Speaker, we need to continue to work to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse, because there is a lot more work that can be done.

Let us just look at a couple of examples. Let us look at the Environmental Protection Agency, for example, where, again, hard-earned taxpayer dollars are sent to ensure that our environment is protected. Yet a recent EPA Inspector General report found that an environmental advocacy group received nearly \$5 million in educational grants that it used to lobby the EPA between 1998 and 2001, despite the fact that that is illegal, it is illegal to use those funds to lobby.

Another EPA audit found that they awarded a \$700,000 grant without any knowledge of the work that the recipi-

ent was supposed to perform. They did not even know what it was for.

Yet another audit found that for almost half of the grants reviewed, and this is a quote, the EPA did not even attempt to measure the project's outcomes. Yet the Democrats want to raise hard-working Americans' taxes to do more of this.

The Inspector General also found that the EPA awarded a contract to an engineering firm that used some of those funds to host a golf day, but the Democrats want to raise your taxes to do more of this.

As a matter of fact, last year, the Democrats offered alternatives to major legislation that would have added almost \$1 trillion to the deficit.

Let us make this very clear. The Democrat alternatives, all of their budget alternatives massively increased taxes. One of them increased taxes by \$119 billion, the other one by \$165 billion, and the third one by, again, a little bit over \$165 billion in increased taxes on the hard-working Americans to do more of this.

That is the difference, Mr. Speaker. While the Washington Waste Watchers, while the President, while the Republican majority is trying to root out waste, fraud, and abuse, the Democrats are trying to pile on, and they have this love affair with increased taxes.

So, Mr. Speaker, while our friends, the Democrats, continue their love affair and continue to try to raise the taxes of the American people, those of us in the Washington Waste Watchers will continue to work with the President to try to root out that waste, fraud, and abuse and eliminate it as soon as possible.

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

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

FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF CONDITIONS AT GUANTANAMO BAY

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I could not help but notice, as I am sure many of my colleagues who are in the Chamber this evening noticed, the remarks of the gentleman from Washington State just a few minutes ago, talking about what Amnesty International thinks. Well, I want to remind my colleagues that Amnesty International is about as objective as the gentleman from Washington State; and if anybody feels disgust toward this President, it is because of the harping and carping of people like that who really do not care about this country. They want to believe the Saddam Husseins of the world and not the President and

Commander in Chief of this great country.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening primarily to talk about—

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

For what purpose does the gentleman from Washington rise?

Mr. McDERMOTT. The gentleman was talking about me specifically, and I thought we would take his words down and see if they are appropriate.

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my request.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman withdraws his request.

The gentleman from Georgia may continue.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to talk a little bit about the situation in Baghdad at that Abu Ghraib prison and the reports of abuse by certain prison guards in one cell block.

A lot of the media, Mr. Speaker, has been suggesting that the reason this occurred was because General Miller had come from Guantanamo Bay where, over 2 years ago, we set up that facility for the enemy combatants that were captured in Afghanistan to detain them and that General Miller went over to Baghdad to Iraq to Abu Ghraib to advise them on how to obtain intelligence, actionable intelligence from the detainees, and because of that advice, this so-called "GTMO-izing" the operation in Iraq, this is what led to the abuse, that these miscreant few in this one cell block were not responsible because they were just simply following orders.

Well, Mr. Speaker, tonight I want to explain to my colleagues the opportunity that I had a week ago Tuesday to go to Guantanamo Bay, along with my colleague from the other side of the aisle, the gentleman from Florida. We were both asked to go by our chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services, the honorable gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

So we had an opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to go to Guantanamo Bay and see that operation firsthand. And I am proud, as I know and I feel very confident in listening to and talking with my colleague from Florida, that we did not see any abuse in Guantanamo Bay. We did not see any water torture. We did not see any use of dogs. We did not see any prisoner injury or abuse.

Mr. Speaker, what we saw, rather, was a very well-conceived, well-designed operation that included interrogation, yes, the obtaining of actionable intelligence in a humane way and in a very sophisticated way, and yet a detention facility that took into consideration the prayer activities of the detainees from Afghanistan. Indeed, in each and every cell, there was an arrow pointing to Mecca, to the east. There

were prayer beads, there were prayer caps, there was a Koran, and each of these detainees were treated in a very humane fashion.

So I would say this to my colleagues, that, indeed, if we are "GTMO-izing" the operation in Iraq, amen. That is what we need to do.

UNCOVERING WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss what my colleagues have been discussing here today: issues of waste, fraud, and abuse. But, before I do, I would like to make one statement. I operated as a trial judge in Texas for about 21 years, and we had rules in the court at that time that if the opposing counsel for any purpose attacked or impugned the honesty or integrity of another member or got vicious and attacked them in any form or fashion, we could correct them; and if they continued in that type of style, we could actually fine them. It has been my limited experience here in Congress that if we were able to allow the Chair to issue such fines, we could probably balance the budget here in Congress without much problem at all. And I think we have seen a lot of that here today with the use of some terms like "liar" that I have heard here used today. I just as an aside wanted to say that.

Back about a year-and-a-half ago, I was in a meeting in Houston, Texas. As I said, I have been a trial judge. Before the meeting, I had an undercover Department of Public Safety officer come to me at this meeting and say he would like to talk to me in private for just a minute; and I went in and talked to him.

He said, Judge, I want to tell you about something. There is something going on here in Houston that I think you ought to know about it. There is a gang of Middle Eastern folks that are stealing baby formula from our local supermarkets and selling it to the WIC program.

Well, my first reaction would be the reaction I would think of most Americans, and that was, gee, whiz. I mean, do you guys not have anything better to do than go out and investigate shoplifting? But knowing that he was part of an undercover task force, I figured he had something to say, and I said, well, how big a deal could that be, Lieutenant?

He said, well, Judge, here in Houston it is about \$1 million a month.

And I said, good Lord, \$1 million a month for baby formula?

He said, yes, sir; and, you know, it is not against the law to possess baby formula. It is against the law to possess narcotics and dangerous drugs, but it is not against the law to possess baby formula. So if we catch a guy with a trunk load of baby formula, we cannot

do anything to him. But we know what he is doing. He is stealing this formula, and he is selling it to the WIC program to the tune of about \$1 million a month. In fact, the estimates are that in Texas alone it is \$1.5 million a month Statewide.

He said, we have followed this group to Phoenix, Arizona. We have followed them to New Mexico, although I do not remember which town in New Mexico; to California, San Diego and Los Angeles. They have an operation in each one of those towns, to the possible tune of \$30 million a month Nationwide. I was shocked.

And he said, we also have evidence that this is being used to fund terrorism.

Now when you want to talk about waste, fraud, and abuse, how much more fraudulent could it be than stealing from the mouths of our children and the poorest of our Nation, taking away a program that was designed to help poor mothers feed their babies, stealing from them, and letting a government agency be a fence for that purpose?

I asked him, I said, have you talked to the people in the WIC program? He said, yes, I have explained to them that they should not be buying this stuff off the street, that buying it off the street was fencing for criminal activity.

□ 2000

And he said, "Well, they do not see the seriousness in it."

Mr. Speaker, those of us who have been in criminal justice in this country have sent people to the penitentiary for a whole lot less than stealing a million dollars a month. I, for one, have done that on several different occasions.

It shocked me so that I am proud to let my colleagues know that in H.R. 3873 I got an amendment which now requires that the WIC program have certified vendors that they buy this product from. But when our government has risen to the size that it has risen, that it misses that kind of waste, fraud, and abuse; we have got a serious problem. And yet the other side of the aisle, the Democrats, want to raise our taxes to grow a bigger government, a bigger government that in many instances the right hand does not know what the left hand is doing.

For that reason, I honor the members of Waste Watchers for the hard work they are doing trying to be watch dogs.

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

(Mr. HINCHEY 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 Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PENCE 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 (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

WHAT IS THE OCEAN'S ROLE IN CLIMATE?

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, what I would like to do to the Members assembled here tonight is to give a perspective on whether or not to some degree the climate on the planet is changing based on observational techniques by U.S. scientists.

What I would like to do as far as this perspective is concerned is to say about 500 years ago people thought the world was flat until there was observations and exploration. And through those techniques, Columbus, for example, it was discovered that the Earth was round. Galileo, the scientist, said that the Earth revolved around the Sun. As a result of that, he was put in prison and his life was threatened because at the time the religious doctrine was that the Sun revolved around the Earth because it was not mentioned in the Bible that it was the other way around. But then through certain techniques and observation, scientific discoveries, more information being disseminated, we realized that the Earth revolves around the Sun.

The other interesting perspective about 100 years after Galileo was a man named James Usher, a bishop in Ireland, said that the Earth was formed in 4004 B.C. but that was before we had the science of geology, geologic techniques. And through a series of information-gathering, it was discovered that the Earth was several billion years old. In fact, we did not realize how old it was in the extent of the universe until the Hubbell spacecraft.

Now we have this thing called climate change. And there is a great deal of discussion on that, whether or not there is climate change or whether there is not climate change, can humans impact the Earth so that the actual climate will change.

What I would like to go through very briefly are some observational discoveries about planet Earth. For example, the oceans cover 70 percent of the surface. The oceans store 1,000 times more heat than the atmosphere. The ocean transports about 50 percent of the energy it receives from the Sun. It transports that. That means if you look at