

beepers or whatever, and prepare yourself for the possibility of additional votes today and additional votes tomorrow.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his information, although it is a little cryptic.

Mr. ARMEY. It is.

Mr. BONIOR. To say the least.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I would give my colleagues the details if I understood them.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, let me try to guess then, okay?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I could name names too, but it would be of no avail. I think the body pretty well knows the circumstances.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Leader, are we talking about today doing the extender bill, the tax extender bill?

Mr. ARMEY. I am sorry?

Mr. BONIOR. Is the gentleman alluding to the tax extender bill in his comments?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, it is possible that the tax extender bill and attendant items could be brought to the floor later today.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, when the gentleman says attendant items, is he talking about perhaps not having it clean and having it come back with some other issues?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman from Michigan will yield, he will have to pull every inch of this out of me.

Mr. BONIOR. That is what I am trying to do, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. ARMEY. I know that.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, let me ask, is it possible that we could see the dairy piece on the extender bill?

Mr. ARMEY. We do not know.

Mr. BONIOR. Well, obviously, Mr. Speaker, it would be helpful if we had some anticipation of what we are going to be seeing so Members can be prepared; and to the extent you can provide that to us, it would be generally I think helpful to Members on both sides of the aisle. I assume that what we are talking about is a tax extender bill, and the question of whether it is going to be clean or not, and we would like to know that, because obviously those who come from dairy States have a great interest in this, and dairy districts; and those who care about the extender bill have an interest in it.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, again, if the gentleman will yield, I do appreciate your concern, but I think the gentleman from Michigan would understand that what we have is problems, problems where we try to devise a plan with respect to which we can get agreements and work out an opportunity to move the legislation. We are all interested, whether it be the work incentives bill or the tax extenders, any number of things.

In the process of working out these possible agreements, it has been proven

in the past to be generally prudent to not make any public revelations about what our expectations, hopes and dreams might be while these Members, who have such heart-felt feelings, have a chance to look at the proposals, consider them, and decide whether or not they can come to agreement.

I can only tell the Members at large, we are making every effort to get by some of the difficult, what should I say, delays that are pending out there and get back to this floor with the legislation the Members are all interested in as quickly as possible; and we will do everything we can to give Members timely notification so that they will have a clear understanding of what it is they are being asked to come back for.

In the meantime, if I may, Mr. Speaker, we will have the floor available to take up special orders; and pursuant to that, we may even, in fact, recess subject to the call of the Chair. I again would encourage all of the Members to understand that they will be noticed later.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, can the gentleman from Texas give us a sense of timing? Are we looking at late afternoon, early evening, midnight? Where are we in terms of people planning for the rest of the day?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield further, I do understand that, and I understand the frustration. The ability of working out agreements, as the gentleman knows, sometimes can be done fairly quickly, sometimes it takes more time. As soon as we know that we have a course of action that can command the attention of the body at large, we will make that information available.

But it is possible, as long as Members want to continue working, that on into the evening we may find ourselves holding the opportunity available to continue the work this evening. As it proceeds, if it ever comes to a point where we can give Members sort of a definitive notion that the votes will be at this time or another, we will make every effort to quickly get the information to the Members.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I would just say in conclusion to my friend from Texas, we obviously would like to cooperate. As well, I think it is in everyone's interest to finish the business of this session of this Congress. To the extent that we can be included in understanding what we will be doing and when we will be doing it, it will expedite that process. The majority will need unanimous consent from this side of the aisle to bring the extender bill up; and I am not going to speak for everybody on our side of the aisle, but we would be inclined to do that if we are part of the process. If we are not, if it is sprung on us without any notice and with provisions that we are not comfortable with,

then we are going to run into difficulty later on.

That is why I am trying to, as the gentleman from Texas aptly described it, pull from him as much information as I can this afternoon.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, throughout this day, last evening, this morning, yesterday, and as we continue to work on this, we will continue to contact the minority leadership as we have been doing, including as many long-distance phone calls as are necessary to California and other places and as many fund-raising events that we may have to interrupt, we will keep our colleagues informed.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I do not think that was necessarily necessary. That is the kind of thing that is going to keep us here longer than any of us would want.

So I would hope that we could refrain from those types of references. I did not get up here this afternoon and make reference to the comments of the gentleman before we left here for Veterans' Day that we would be here that weekend and Members had to change their schedule on both sides of the aisle. I refrained from doing that, and I would hope in the future that the gentleman from Texas would refrain from comments that he just made.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches at this time without prejudice to the Speaker's right to return to legislative business later today.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan will state his point of order.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, do I not have the right to ask unanimous consent for 1 minute prior to proceeding with the 5 minutes speeches?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has already begun recognition from the 5 minute list, and would advise the Member from Michigan at this point to seek unanimous consent to be recognized from the 5-minute Members list and the Chair will be happy to recognize the gentleman. This is purely a

matter of recognition, not a point of order.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. But, Mr. Speaker, I only want 1 minute.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY OF MILITARY INTERVENTIONISM BRINGS DEATH, DESTRUCTION, AND LOSS OF LIFE

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

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, demonstrators are once again condemning America in a foreign city. This time, it is in Kabul, Afghanistan. Shouting "Death to America," burning our flag, and setting off bombings, the demonstrators express their hatred toward America.

The United States has just placed sanctions on yet another country to discipline those who do not obey our commands. The nerve of them. Do they not know we are the most powerful Nation in the world and we have to meet our responsibilities? They should do as we say and obey our CIA directives.

This process is not new. It has been going on for 50 years, and it has brought us grief and multiplied our enemies. Can one only imagine what the expression of hatred might be if we were not the most powerful Nation in the world?

Our foreign policy of military interventionism has brought us death and destruction to many foreign lands and loss of life for many Americans. From Korea and Vietnam to Serbia, Iran, Iraq and now Afghanistan, we have ventured far from our shores in search of wars to fight. Instead of more free trade with our potential adversaries, we are quick to slap on sanctions that hurt American exports and help to solidify the power of the tyrants, while seriously penalizing innocent civilians in fomenting anti-America hatred.

□ 1330

The most current anti-American demonstrations in Kabul were understandable and predictable. Our one-time ally, Osama bin Laden, when he served as a freedom fighter against the Soviets in Afghanistan and when we bombed his Serbian enemies while siding with his friends in Kosovo, has not been fooled and knows that his cause cannot be promoted by our fickle policy.

Sanctions are one thing, but seizures of bank assets of any related business to the Taliban government infuriates and incites the radicals to violence. There is no evidence that this policy serves the interests of world peace. It certainly increases the danger to all Americans as we become the number one target of terrorists. Conventional war against the United States is out of the question, but acts of terrorism, whether it is the shooting down of a ci-

vilian airliner or bombing a New York City building, are almost impossible to prevent in a reasonably open society.

Likewise, the bombings in Islamabad and possibly the U.N. plane crash in Kosovo are directly related to our meddling in the internal affairs of these nations.

General Musharraf's successful coup against Prime Minister Sharif of Pakistan was in retaliation for America's interference with Sharif's handling of the Pakistan-India border war. The recent bombings in Pakistan are a clear warning to Musharraf that he, too, must not submit to U.S.-CIA directives.

I see this as a particularly dangerous time for a U.S. president to be traveling to this troubled region, since so many blame us for the suffering, whether it is the innocent victims in Kosovo, Serbia, Iraq, or Afghanistan. It is hard for the average citizen of these countries to understand why we must be so involved in their affairs, and resort so readily to bombing and boycotts in countries thousands of miles away from our own.

Our foreign policy is deeply flawed and does not serve our national security interest. In the Middle East, it has endangered some of the moderate Arab governments and galvanized Muslim militants.

The recent military takeover of Pakistan and the subsequent anti-American demonstration in Islamabad should not be ignored. It is time we in Congress seriously rethink our role in the region and in the world. We ought to do more to promote peace and trade with our potential enemies, rather than resorting to bombing and sanctions.

SAVING 1 PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET TO SECURE SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity in this 1 hour special order to invite my colleagues in the majority conference to come join in our discussion of our accomplishments, and to also define somewhat the negotiating that is going on right now between the Congress and the President with respect to getting our budget resolution passed and getting the final agreement nailed down.

Before I do that, I want to talk about one of the announcements that is coming out tomorrow from the Department of Education. Over at the Department, a number of us paid a visit to them just a couple of weeks ago when the Secretary of Education had assured the country, certainly the Congress and

the White House, as well, that it was impossible to find this one penny on the dollar savings that we hoped to secure in order to save social security and prevent the President's raid on the social security program.

The Secretary of Education said there is no savings to be found in the administration at the Department of Education, that the agency is run efficiently and is run in the most lean manner possible.

So the three of us Members of Congress who walked down there had a difference of opinion. We physically showed up on the premises and started going office to office to find out if we could not help the Secretary find that penny on the dollar, and lo and behold, we found a number of places where it would be wise to look.

We found an account called a grant back fund, for example, that has about \$725 million in there that is not spent in the way that the statutes have defined. We also found some duplicate payments to the tune of about \$40 million. We have found several other things since then.

The most remarkable thing we found is that going back to 1998, the Department of Education's books are not auditable. In fact, tomorrow the Department of Education will be receiving notification from the auditors, who are charged with auditing the Department of Education, to finding out where this money goes, they will be receiving this notice claiming, showing, certifying that the Department of Education's books are not auditable.

This is a remarkable revelation coming out of the Department, especially at a time when the Secretary ran over here immediately after we started talking about saving money and telling us with certainty that there is no savings to be found in the Department of Education. He has no basis to make such a claim. His books over at the Department of Education are not auditable.

Mr. Speaker, I just had an opportunity to visit some schoolkids in my district on Monday. I visited three schools. Children in America's schools throughout the country are much like those children in my district in Colorado. They understand accountability. They understand completing assignments on time. They understand completing the work according to their requirements and being held accountable.

When a teacher says a report is due on a certain day, the kids understand that if they do not turn it in on that day, they will get an F. The Department, when they are supposed to audit their books and certify to the Congress that their books are clean, that they have balanced, that they are auditable, we should expect them to follow through. The Department of Education has failed to accomplish that objective. They will tell us tomorrow, we cannot