

And if we go into a ground war, they estimate that is going to be \$10 or \$15 billion and that before it is all over, if this thing drags out, we could spend \$40 or \$50 billion that would have to be taken from other programs or from the Social Security fund.

All of this that I am saying today was said much more eloquently in a column written by A.M. Rosenthal of the New York Times which ran in the Knoxville News Sentinel this morning. Mr. Rosenthal wrote this. He said, "The way adults of any intelligence can find out how well they are dealing with a crisis, personal or national, is to ask themselves two questions: Would we do the same things again if we had a chance? If not, what do we now do to get out of this mess?"

Then Mr. Rosenthal asked these questions: "Would the United States again decide that to help Kosovo's Albanians we would give Slobodan Milosevic what he wanted most, the cover to drive a million of them into foreign exile or become displaced persons at home, wandering their roads in terror? Would we spray bombs at a dictator without it occurring to our leaders he would immediately drive out or slaughter the people we were supposed to save? Were our leaders fools?" "Yes" Mr. Rosenthal says.

Would the U.S. President again decide that before going to war he would guarantee not to send ground troops so Milosevic need not get all worried?

"Would we again bomb-bomb-bomb the capital of the Serbs, who thought of themselves as far more our friends than his? So far this has produced three major results: humiliating Serbs forever, turning friendship into enmity, and persuading many to rally around a man they detest and fear.

"Would we be roaming around again with a diplomatic begging cup asking Russia, the same addled country that we pity, or any other country that will answer the phone, to find a way out for us?"

"Would we again allow Washington to weaken the world's human rights movements by arousing fears that they will one day mean more bombing assignments for America?"

Mr. Speaker, just to sum up what we really have done, we have turned friends into enemies at great cost to this country. And I think that, unfortunately, we have gotten into one of the biggest messes we have ever gotten into in this country, and we need to negotiate and get out of this mess as soon as we possibly can.

WAGER ON DUKE UNIVERSITY- MICHIGAN STATE GAME

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am here to acknowledge defeat in

a wager that I encountered with the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE). We bet, as unsuitable as some might feel about wagering, but we bet on the Duke-Michigan State game, and the loser was to furnish each member of the Committee on Agriculture with an agricultural product from their State.

As great a team as Michigan State is and was, they ended up slightly being defeated by Duke University. And I just wanted to announce publicly that I am furnishing each member of the Committee on Agriculture with tokens that represent Michigan, navy beans from the State of Michigan, the world's top producer of navy beans; and also from Battle Creek, Michigan, a new cereal by Kellogg.

□ 1745

GOLD MEDAL FOR ROSA PARKS IN RECOGNITION OF HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARY MILLER of California). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I stand today in support of H.R. 573, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON), for introducing this important piece of legislation to honor a true American heroine and, indeed, a great American.

Forty years ago, Rosa Parks risked everything when she refused to abide by the Jim Crow laws of segregation. In 1955, blacks were considered secondary human beings. Everything was segregated, Mr. Speaker, in 1955, schools, parks, restaurants, rest rooms and neighborhoods. I lived through that time, Mr. Speaker. This was just to name a few of the areas where segregation reigned.

In Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks became a pioneer of black people, being the catalyst that changed the course of history. Rosa Parks spoke out for every black person throughout the Nation who was being denied equality and freedom. Mrs. Parks refused to move and relinquish her seat to a white man because she was tired. She was tired of the foolishness, she was tired of the selfishness, of the rudeness, and she was tired of the disrespect, and the day that Mrs. Parks refused to move was a turning point, was a turning stone in America that changed the unfair, indiscriminate laws that were made for blacks in the United States.

In one simple act of defiance, Mr. Speaker, Rosa Parks, on December 1,

1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, history was made. I am a part of that history, Mr. Speaker, and so is every other African American that we see in the Congress. Because of the courageous act of Rosa Parks, I stand before my colleagues today as the first African American from Florida elected to the Congress since Reconstruction. It was Rosa Parks who made this happen, Mr. Speaker, and we want America to understand this. This will help America understand, to see the fight that Rosa Parks put up so that the rest of us could have a better chance.

This award perhaps should have been bestowed on Rosa Parks several years ago because her deeds have paved the way for generations of African Americans today. My daughters and my son, Mr. Speaker, will have a better chance now of coming to Congress or even being President of these great United States because of Rosa Parks.

I ask my colleagues to join me and urge our President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the Nation. She gave to the world the best she had, and now the best will come back to her.

A DRUM MAJOR FOR JUSTICE— MRS. ROSA PARKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I stand tonight as a very proud black woman, a woman who came from Alabama, one who was there during the time of the Rosa Parks venture. Before I go on to talk about this woman who should, by all stature, receive this congressional medal, let me congratulate my colleague and friend, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON), who had to come to the 105th Congress to sensitize us of the importance of recognizing this heroine that we call Rosa Parks.

She is the mother of civil rights because it was in December of 1955, Mr. Speaker, that Rosa Parks refused to get up after having spent all day as a seamstress to give her seat to a man who was nonblack, who thought that he was to sit at the front of the bus and she was to sit in the back where there were no more seats.

Mr. Speaker, Rosa Parks showed courage, dedication and commitment to the cause of saying that everyone should be equal when they paid their fare to ride a bus. That ignited the civil rights movement.

We know that the mother of civil rights, Rosa Parks, was the catalyst in bringing about the civil rights laws that we now know because when Rosa Parks refused to get up from her seat,