

too want to congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART), who really has shown an incredible amount of leadership and ability on this issue. We really have been a team effort and this really has been a bipartisan effort by a number of Members in this Congress to really explain to our colleagues the importance of this issue, that this is really clearly in America's national interest and our financial interest and in our moral interest to support and make sure this bill occurs.

I actually look forward to the day when our roles are reversed and I am in the majority helping on these types of issues and my good friend and colleague from Florida is in the minority helping us on these issues and each of us will have a chance to replay some of these thoughts. But really in closing, I guess I would just reiterate what my colleagues have said over the last hour or so, but I will mention one specific thing.

As has been mentioned, I had the opportunity to view some of the devastation. Words truly cannot describe the level of devastation. I mentioned some things in my opening statement, statistics, facts, historical analogies of what has occurred, and they are significant. It is hard to comprehend the pictures on television of the devastation that really did not match in any way in numbers of thousands killed or millions displaced. They do not, I think, give us that sense. We attempt to use those numbers to try to explain to us, but witnessing mud slides that literally wiped out entire villages, there is not a trace, not a building, not a street at all, where literally thousands of people are buried under 40 feet of mud is an incredible sight, the devastation that has occurred. That is really the component, the sort of humanitarian component to show what the United States must do to lend a hand, that we need to, that we did not choose to be in this situation but we are in that situation. If we do not help, the reality is no one will. These economies are not in a position to rebuild on their own in any short period of time.

□ 1800

The number has been mentioned, 25 years. That is not an unfair or unlikely scenario.

Finally in closing, as I mentioned, this really is in our interest. This has been a success story in terms of American foreign policy. As my colleague from Florida has mentioned, we have, unfortunately, only one country in our hemisphere that has not taken the road to democracy and open economies, and hopefully relatively soon that will change as well. But to continue that record we are going to need to pass this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the support of the motion to instruct.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTSCH).

The motion to instruct was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR CONTINUED OPERATIONS OF U.S. FORCES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and the Committee on Armed Services, and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 1203 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 1999, Public Law 105-261 (the Act), requires submission of a report to the Congress whenever the President submits a request for funds for continued operations of U.S. forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In connection with my Administration's request for funds for FY 2000, the attached report fulfills the requirements of section 1203 of the Act.

I want to emphasize again my continued commitment to close consultation with the Congress on political and military matters concerning Bosnia and Herzegovina. I look forward to continuing to work with the Congress in the months ahead as we work to establish a lasting peace in the Balkans.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 12, 1999.

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.

MCCAFFREY COVERS UP CASTRO'S PARTICIPATION IN DRUG TRAFFICKING

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise for two reasons this evening.

First, I want to say, I would like to say, how embarrassed I was for the drug czar, Mr. McCaffrey, recently when I read wire reports that he continues to cover up the well-known, established, reiterated, longstanding participation by the Castro dictatorship in drug trafficking. This is an extremely serious reality, but the drug czar and other officials of this administration continue to cover it up. And so I make reference once again to the letter that, along with the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN), I sent General McCaffrey in November of 1996 in detail relating the evidence that has been made public; it is not classified, it is well known; of the longstanding and reiterated participation of the Cuban dictatorship in facilitating the importation of tons of Columbian cartel cocaine into the United States. And I asked that he answer, the drug czar, Mr. McCaffrey, our letters, that letter and subsequent letters, with the seriousness that this issue deserves.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION REFUSES TO RETURN "THE HUMAN RIGHTS"

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. I also rise, Mr. Speaker, because a very distinguished friend of mine in South Florida at this point is on a hunger strike. He is the leader of a movement known as the Democracy Movement. It is a peaceful movement that advocates change, democratic change, in Cuba.

And they have two vessels, and on December 10 they were heading south, and, pursuant to an executive order issued by the President, the Coast Guard boarded the vessel. It is known, it is called, The Human Rights, and it was the day that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was being commemorated, the anniversary of it, the 50th anniversary, in fact, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. And the Coast Guard boarded it and found some documents that referred to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and since that day dissidents within Cuba had announced that they were going to attempt to demonstrate peacefully in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights.

This vessel, The Human Rights, was boarded by the Coast Guard and confiscated, and to this date the Clinton administration refuses to give it back.

Mr. Speaker, it is really unconscionable. More than even unfortunate, it is unconscionable.

So I asked the administration to note the hunger strike by Ramon Saul Sanchez to return The Human Rights vessel that was confiscated, as I say, for the crime, in quotes, of being found on the high seas with documents in support of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and here is the official communication of the Department of Treasury.

The Coast Guard received information; this is to Mr. Sanchez; that you planned to disembark in Cuba, received information, by the way, from the Castro government, and that you planned to join a demonstration in support of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. During the boarding it was determined that there was sufficient evidence indicating that the vessel was intending to enter Cuban waters, and a decision was made to seize the vessel.

By the way, the evidence that the Clinton administration says existed with regard to intent to enter Cuban waters was finding documents that contained the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. That is happening in this country at this time because of this administration. It is shameful, and it is time to release the vessel The Human Rights.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF REVEREND CLARENCE E. STOWERS, SR.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, leadership can be defined in many ways: the position or office of a leader, capacity or ability to lead, giving guidance and/or direction. The definition which I like best is that leadership is the ability to get others to do what you want them to do but because they want to do it.

Such has been the life and such is the legacy left by the Reverend Clarence E. Stowers, Sr., former pastor of the Mars Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago who recently passed away.

Reverend Stowers grew up in Mason, Tennessee, married his childhood sweetheart, Miss Margaret Malone Stowers, and they were blessed to produce five children, one of whom has succeeded him, the Reverend Clarence E. Stowers, Jr., who is now pastor of Mars Hill.

In 1963, Reverend Stowers and 17 members of his family, friends and associates founded the Mars Hill Church and located it at 3311 West Roosevelt Road. However, within 2 years, the church outgrew that facility and relocated to a larger one at 2809 West Harrison Street. Twelve years later, the church acquired its current facility at 5916-22 West Lake Street, a massive structure which seats over 2,000 parishioners, houses their own elementary school and space for other programs and activities.

As Reverend Stowers' congregation grew, so did he. He earned both his Bachelors and Master of Arts degrees in religion and theology from the Chicago Baptist Institute and Trinity Evangelical Seminary.

Reverend Stowers recognized that being involved beyond the sanctuary of

his church was vitally important to his ministry. Therefore, he helped to organize and served as President of the Illinois Baptist State Convention for 8 years. He also served as Recording Secretary of the National Missionary Baptist State Convention of America, President of the West Side Ministers' Conference and the Religious Council on Urban Affairs.

Reverend Stowers had a powerful preaching style and delivered messages not only throughout America but also preached in Israel, Jordan, Egypt and in Rome, Italy. He was actively involved in his local community and hosted many of the large rallies during the Harold Washington political era in Chicago history.

He led Mars Hill in the development of its own school, the Musical Acres Resort in Adams, Wisconsin, a housing development of new homes near the church, and the establishment of a health ministry where people learn how to care for themselves and to make the most effective use of health resources within their community.

Mrs. Margaret Stowers, Reverend Clarence Stowers, Jr., Sharron Lynn, Robin Denise, Shawinette Michelle and Marcie, as well as the entire Mars Hill family can take pride in the leadership and accomplishments of their pastor, husband, father, friend, mentor and leader, the Reverend Clarence Edward Stowers, Sr. His work stands as a living testament, and his legacy shall continue through the life and works of those whom he has left behind.

BILLION DOLLAR BLACK HOLE

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, it is amazing to me that many in the environmental movement believe that we as a society do not spend enough money on implementation of the Endangered Species Act. They constantly blame the problem with the ESA on lack of funding. While a convenient excuse, it is simply is not true.

When measured by how many species are recovered under its draconian rules and regulations, the ESA is a total failure. The rate of recovery has been minimal, and some listed species continue to go extinct. However, we continue to throw money at the ESA in the hope that somehow funding might recover species. This approach will not work.

Let us look at the numbers and how the ESA forces the Federal Government, the State and local governments and countless private citizens to waste money on a system that is broken. It is almost impossible to figure out how much money is being spent under the auspices of endangered species protection, but the figure is nearing a billion dollars a year by many estimates.

In 1998, Congress, concerned about rising ESA costs and seeking better information on how we were spending, required the Secretary of the Interior to report to Congress how much the Federal Government is spending directly on endangered species.

□ 1815

Any Federal agency that undertakes activity on behalf of a listed species is required to document expenses and create an annual report to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is then required to compile that information into an annual accounting to Congress. The Service stays several years behind, but we now have accounting records for the years of 1989 through 1995; annual direct expenditures from \$43 million in 1989 to over \$330 million in 1995. However, these figures do not tell the whole story. It does not get into administrative costs and overhead. For example, over 400 units of our National Wildlife Refuge System have at least one threatened or endangered species during some part of the year. A total of 58 refuges have been established specifically to protect threatened and endangered species, and 36 contain areas defined as critical habitat.

The cost of acquiring refuges and other public lands for protection of endangered species is absolutely staggering. We recently completed the acquisition of the Headwaters Forest at a cost of \$250 million to the Federal taxpayer, and another \$130 million to the California taxpayer, all to protect spotted owls and marbled murrelets.

The administration's budget request includes funds for the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge, which will cost \$105 million; the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge which will cost \$25 million; the Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge which will cost \$71 million; the Oahu Forest National Wildlife Refuge at \$23 million, and the list goes on and on, millions and millions of dollars.

In addition, every State in the Union has been forced to pay. California just paid \$38 million. Even more troubling is that most of the costs of endangered species protection is passed on to private citizens, businesses, local communities and then we get into mitigation, which costs millions and millions of dollars. To get permission to use private or public land or to allow important local projects to continue, the landowner or local government must agree to buy and mitigate lands. It is an awesome amount of money.

In California, they had to plant 5 trees for the beetle, the longhorn beetle, at a cost of millions of dollars. In addition, changes in projects required by the Fish and Wildlife Service can add millions to the project. We have examples of that for a fly that cost \$3.5