

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.

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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