

Organization conducted a flight test over the Pacific. Unfortunately, a missile anomaly occurred which had nothing to do with the concept being tested. The booster simply did not separate from the kill vehicle and, therefore, the kill vehicle was not freed so that it could function.

Opponents of a National Missile Defense System thus have no basis for saying we should abandon our efforts. This was only the third of 19 planned tests. Successes and failures are to be expected as we perfect any defense system. This was not a concept failure.

Mr. Speaker, developing a missile defense system is one of the most civilized things we can do. When deployed, and God forbid, we need to use it, it only protects. It protects the people we love and does not destroy our enemy. This is the ultimate in defense.

Mr. Speaker, the so-called rogue nations are developing their capabilities to attack our people. As outlined by the Constitution, we, in Congress, have the obligation to provide for the defense of this country. We must go forward. We should not yield to political pressures. We must develop the National Missile Defense System.

U.S. ATTACKED BY KOFI ANNAN AT NOTRE DAME COMMENCEMENT

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, in this year's commencement speech at Notre Dame, Kofi Annan, the head of the United Nations, bitterly attacked the United States.

He said the U.S. was one of the "least generous" Nations in helping the world's poor. Actually, the exact opposite is true. No nation on the face of this Earth has even come close to the U.S. in what it has given to poor people around the world.

Mr. Annan called the U.S. "shameful." Actually, U.S. taxpayers pay one-fourth of all U.N. costs and most of the costs of the so-called U.N. peace-keeping missions.

Mr. Speaker, most of our tax money for the U.N. is wasted to pay high salaries to U.N. bureaucrats who pay no Federal income taxes.

Interestingly, Mr. Annan has refused to release a copy of his financial disclosure as required by law or a copy of his own personal charitable giving for the past 5 years as requested by the Freedom Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Annan is the one who should be ashamed, not U.S. taxpayers.

SKYROCKETING GASOLINE PRICES

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great time of year to vacation in beautiful Colorado, but gas prices are still high. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson is on record saying that the Clinton-Gore administration was "caught napping" on the issue of skyrocketing gasoline prices.

Because of the administration's failed energy policies and inattention, Americans are being forced to pay outrageous prices at the gas pump, some cases \$2.35 a gallon.

We all know how dangerous it can be when a driver falls asleep at the wheel, and now we can see how dangerous it is when an entire administration falls asleep at the wheel.

While this administration was napping, domestic oil production decreased to 17 percent, and this increased dependence on foreign oil has helped put us to this current predicament.

Perhaps, Congress should start a caffeine IV for Secretary Richardson and the other Rip Van Winkles over at the White House who are responsible for this policy diaster.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the Clinton-Gore administration to wake up. The slumber party is over. Americans are tired of getting gored at the pump.

ACCUSATIONS OF A "DO NOTHING CONGRESS"

(Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, many of our friends in the Democrat party have been spending a lot of time lately accusing this of being a do nothing Congress, and I guess coming from a Democrat that is a tremendous compliment.

Do you know what it means when they accuse us of doing nothing? It means we are not raising taxes, that means we are not spending enough of the surplus. We have not raided the Social Security surplus. We are not making government regulations burdensome enough.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my friends I consider the definition of "doing nothing" as a badge of honor. And do you know why? Because my Democrat friends and the Vice President have a funny definition of accomplishments.

They do not consider it an accomplishment to end the unfair penalty on married couples. They do not consider it an accomplishment to end the earnings limit for working seniors. They do not consider it an accomplishment to say that the Federal Government or the IRS should not take half your farm when you die, half of your business when you die.

They do not consider it an accomplishment to make prescription drugs available and affordable to our senior citizens in the country. This is what we have done over the last several months.

Democrats may not consider these things to be accomplishments, but millions of Americans who work every day, get up, they pay their taxes.

DEATH TAX

(Ms. PRYCE of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the House passed a repeal of the death tax last month. We will continue to work to see that this unfair tax is repealed.

The American dream is about the opportunity of every citizen to build a better future for themselves and their children through hard work and personal initiative. It means building your own business, pouring your own sweat into a small farm to turn a profit, saving each day so you can leave something to your family.

Yet it is these Americans who are working so hard, playing the rules and paying taxes who, upon their death, become the victims of a tax that discounts their dedication, punishes their entrepreneurship, and denies their dying wishes.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of this death tax, only one-third of all small businesses and family farms are passed on after the first generation. This is not right. Where is the logic?

Why does the government have to grab someone's life savings out of their hands once they die? It is time we eliminate the death tax and reinvest in America, so the dreams and values of these folks can be carried on to future generations. We need to make sure that death tax gets buried.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 354, nays 50, answered "present" 1, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 386]

YEAS—354

Abercrombie	Andrews	Baca
Allen	Arney	Bachus

Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Biley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cook
Cooksey
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeGette
DeLahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing

Farr
Fletcher
Foley
Fossella
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hinchee
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoefel
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inlee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Klecza
Klink
Kolbe
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)

Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Packard
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roithman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough

Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow

Stearns
Stenholm
Stump
Sununu
Sweeney
Talent
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner

Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weygand
Wicker
Wilson
Wolf
Woolsey
Young (FL)

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4810, MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2000

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 545 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 545

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4810) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 103(a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2001. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; (2) the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by Representative Rangel or his designee, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 545 is a modified closed rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 4810, the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Reconciliation Act of 2000. For those Members who think they are experiencing *deja vu*, let me clear up any confusion. It is true that the House has already voted to provide relief from the marriage tax penalty. In fact, on February 10 of this very year, the House passed legislation that is identical to H.R. 4810 by a bipartisan vote of 268-158. Prior to that, the House twice passed marriage tax relief as part of a larger tax bill which the President unfortunately vetoed. So this is actually the fourth time that the 106th Congress will debate and vote to provide tax fairness to married couples.

It probably baffles the American people that it takes this much effort to correct such a blatant inequity in the tax code, but rest assured the Republican majority is determined to keep at it and give the President another chance to sign this bill into law. Today, we will consider the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Act under a reconciliation process which we hope will

NAYS—50

Aderholt
Baird
Bilbray
Bonior
Borski
Brady (PA)
Capuano
Clay
Crane
DeFazio
Deutsch
English
Fattah
Filner
Ford
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)

Hastings (FL)
Hefley
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Holt
Hulshof
Kucinich
LoBiondo
McDermott
Moore
Oberstar
Peterson (MN)
Pickett
Pombo
Pomeroy
Ramstad

Rogan
Sabo
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Stark
Strickland
Stupak
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Velázquez
Visclosky
Waters
Weller
Wexler
Wu

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—29

Ackerman
Archer
Baker
Barton
Bateman
Campbell
Carson
Chenoweth-Hage
Costello
Forbes

Frost
Johnson, Sam
Knollenberg
Leach
McNulty
Obey
Owens
Oxley
Paul
Sessions

Sisisky
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Souder
Vento
Whitfield
Wise
Wynn
Young (AK)

□ 1052

Mr. HILLIARD changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ISRAEL CANCELS SALE OF AWAC SYSTEM TO CHINA

(Mr. CALLAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, there has been quite a bit of interest in the last couple of months about the Israeli sale of an AWAC system to China. It was going to be a major discussion on the floor of the House today. I know many Members were concerned about that issue.

I wanted to tell them that I just received a call from the ambassador telling me that Mr. Barak has canceled the AWAC sale to China.