

rethink and reform the Mining Law of 1872. To that end, in the near future I will again introduce comprehensive mining law reform legislation.

MILITARY MYTHS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, one of the most thoughtful analysts of the appropriate level for American military spending is Lawrence Korb, a former high ranking Defense Department official in the administration of President Reagan. Unlike many others who served in the Reagan administration and subsequently, Lawrence Korb does not believe that conservatives ought to suspend their skepticism about public spending simply because the requests come from the Pentagon. He has consistently applied his experience with defense matters, his keen intelligence and his knowledge of government to point out that we could fully defend our legitimate interests with a military budget smaller than the current one. Along with Dr. Korb, I am pleased that President Bush is refusing to be pressured into asking for billions of dollars in increased military spending before he and his staff have a chance to study the important issues that are raised by Dr. Korb and others. But I also agree with Dr. Korb that an accurate analysis of the defense budget requires discarding some of the points which President Bush himself made during the campaign.

In a recent article, Lawrence Korb set forward some of the principles that ought to guide such an investigation of our true defense spending needs. Mr. Speaker, I disagree with Mr. Korb's first point, to some extent substantively, and also in the way in which he has phrased it. The fact that most military people aren't on food stamps does not mean that it is acceptable for even a small number of them to be in that situation. We owe the men and women who volunteer to face danger on our behalf better than this, and I am very supportive of proposals to raise the pay levels. Given the disruption of their lives and the danger they face, I do believe that our military personnel are underpaid.

But while I disagree with Dr. Korb's first point, I am an enthusiastic believer in the rest of his essay. I was particularly pleased when he noted the absurdity of trying to fix the relevant amount to spend on defense simply by looking at the percentage which a defense budget represents of the gross domestic product. According to this, if we have significant economic progress, we are required to increase military spending even if the threats against which we deploy our military have decreased. Mindlessness has never been on more graphic display.

Lawrence Korb's clear thinking is a very welcome antidote to the efforts being made by some to panic us into busting the budget on behalf of unnecessary military spending. I ask that his thoughtful article be reprinted here.

[From the Los Angeles Times, Mar. 11, 2001]  
BUSH'S FIRST BATTLE: HIS OWN MILITARY MYTHS

(By Lawrence J. Korb)

NEW YORK.—His campaign rhetoric notwithstanding, President George W. Bush has taken a good first step by not increasing the defense budget he inherited from President Bill Clinton until he completes a top-down review of strategy. Such a review will come to naught, however, if the new president does not reject the six oversimplifications about the state of our armed forces that he embraced repeatedly during the campaign.

Military people are not overworked and underpaid and, despite campaign rhetoric, most aren't on food stamps. During the 1990s, an average of 40,000 military people were deployed in various "operations other than war." This represents less than 3% of the active force and less than 2% of the total force, counting reserves. A greater percentage of the active force was stationed in the United States than during the 1980s. Certain units like Army civil affairs battalions, which help restore order in foreign countries torn apart by civil wars, or Air Force search and rescue units were over-utilized. But that is a management problem, not a revenue problem. As for pay, most men and women in the armed services make more than 75% of their civilian counterparts. And, if the compensation levels of military people were adjusted to reflect the fair market value of their housing allowances, fewer than 1% would be eligible for food stamps.

The problem is that the military still uses an anachronistic "one size fits all" pay system that rewards longevity rather than performance. Also, the military employs a deferred-benefit retirement system that costs twice as much as a deferred-contribution plan, while providing the wrong incentives for retaining the right people for the appropriate length of time. For example, to justify the training investment, pilots need to be retained for 13 years, but infantrymen only five. Yet, no military person is vested in retirement until he or she serves 20 years.

The military does not need to be rebuilt; it needs to be transformed. In the 1990s, the Pentagon invested more than \$1 trillion in developing and procuring new weapons. But much of it was wasted on Cold War relics—\$200-million fighter planes, \$6-billion aircraft carriers, \$2-billion submarines, \$400-million artillery pieces—that will be of little use in the conflicts of the 21st century.

The military is more than prepared to fight two wars. In fact, it is becoming more prepared each day as the military power of the likely opponents in these two conflicts, Iraq and North Korea, dwindles. Yet, while the capability of these states declines, the Pentagon has been increasing its estimates of the forces necessary to defeat these enemies. Moreover, the necessity of maintaining the capability to fight two wars simultaneously defies logic and history. During the Korea, Vietnam and Persian Gulf conflicts, no other nation took advantage of the situation by threatening U.S. interests elsewhere.

Calculating the size of the defense budget by measuring it against the gross domestic product is nonsensical. Yes, the U.S. spends a smaller portion of GDP on defense than it did during the Cold War, but the U.S. economy has grown substantially since the collapse of the Soviet Union while spending by adversaries has markedly declined. Even counting inflation, the \$325-billion defense budget—which includes the military portion of the Energy Department budget—that Bush inherits from Clinton is about 95% of

what this nation spent on average to win the Cold War. In fact, the last Clinton defense budget is higher than the budget that Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld prepared for the outgoing Ford administration 25 years ago, at the height of the Cold War.

Carrying out peacekeeping missions, like Bosnia and Kosovo, is not undermining readiness. During the 1990s, peacekeeping operations accounted for less than 2% of Pentagon spending, and readiness spending per capita was more than 10% higher in the 1990s than in the 1980s.

In order to meet their recruiting goals, the armed forces have not lowered their quality standards below those of the Reagan years. The force that Bush inherits from Clinton has a higher percentage of quality recruits—that is, high school graduates and individuals scoring average or above on the armed forces' qualification test—than at any time during the Reagan years. Most of the retention problems that the services are having are self-inflicted. For example, 80% of the pilot shortage in the Navy and Air Force is caused by the fact that, in the early 1990s, the military made a serious mistake by reducing the number of pilots it trained. Likewise, the shortage of people on Navy ships is because the people are not in the right place.

If Bush and his national security team abandon these myths, they will have a much better chance of developing a coherent defense program—and may even be able to cut defense spending to an appropriate level.

WE NEED TO KEEP RULES TO PROTECT FOREST ROADLESS AREAS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the new Administration is reviewing a number of new rules and regulations proposed or adopted by the Clinton-Gore Administration last year.

I understand why a new Administration would want to undertake such a review. And there may be some areas where a change of course might be appropriate.

But there is definitely one set of new rules that should be retained as they stand—the new rules to protect the remaining roadless areas of our national forests.

Those rules make good sense as a way to protect natural resources, provide more diverse recreational opportunities, and preserve some of the undisturbed landscapes that make Colorado and other western States such special places to live and visit.

That is why the Mayor of Boulder, Colorado, has written to President Bush urging retention of the roadless-area rules. It is why the Boulder City Council has adopted a resolution supporting those rules. And it is why I have written Secretary of Agriculture Anne M. Veneman, urging that the rules be kept in place.

For the information of our colleagues, I am including in the RECORD at this point my letter to the Secretary, the letter to the President from Mayor R. Toor, and the resolution of the Boulder City Council.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, March 13, 2001.

Hon. ANN M. VENEMAN,  
Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of  
Agriculture, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY VENEMAN: I am enclosing a copy of a letter to the President from William R. Toor, Mayor of the City of Boulder, Colorado, regarding the new rules for management of inventoried roadless areas published in the Federal Register in January, 2000, and a resolution regarding those rules that was recently adopted by the Boulder City Council.

As you can see, Mayor Toor's letter and the City Council's resolution support these rules and urge their full implementation.

I join in that recommendation. I am convinced that these rules make good sense as a way to protect natural resources, provide more diverse recreational opportunities and preserve some of the undisturbed landscapes that are such a special part of Colorado and other Western states.

The new rules were developed through an extensive public process. They were the subject of both draft and final environmental impact statements. They were discussed at more than 600 public meetings and were the subject of more than 1.5 million public comments.

In my opinion, these rules reflect the highest standards of science-based public policy. Biologists tell us the inventoried roadless areas of the national forests are valuable for wildlife, and support ecosystem health and the full range of native species. They also are important sources of clean water for many communities like Boulder, in Colorado and other states, and provide a bulwark against the spread of invasive species, such as the many species of weeds that plague ranchers in our state and throughout the west.

And, above all, these special areas "possess social and ecological values and characteristics that are becoming scarce in an increasingly developed landscape," in the words of the final environmental impact statement.

The areas to be covered by the new rules were identified by detailed, on-the-ground studies that have been regularly updated and supplemented through the regular forest-planning process and additional studies focused on threatened and endangered species or other aspects of forest management.

For example, the Forest Service's latest Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest plan, developed with extensive public involvement, was completed in 1997. It identifies more than 300,000 acres of roadless areas—including some 40,000 acres in Boulder County alone. The new rules will apply to those areas and will simply mean that their roadless characteristics will be maintained. That forest is one of the closest to the Denver-metro area, so it is one of the most heavily used and affected. If we do not begin now to protect the unspoiled lands in that forest—and similar forests throughout Colorado and the West—we will lose forever the natural benefits and special qualities that they provide.

These rules will provide long-overdue protection for some of the most important parts of our federal lands. People in other states may have different reactions, but in view of the importance of the national forests for our state and our country I think they deserve the support of every Coloradan and should be retained by the Bush Administration.

Sincerely,

MARK UDALL.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CITY OF BOULDER,  
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER,  
Boulder, CO, February 26, 2001.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH,  
The White House,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT BUSH, I am writing on behalf of the City of Boulder to voice our strong support for full and prompt implementation of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule published in the Federal Register on January 12, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3244).

On February 6, 2001 the Boulder City Council unanimously approved the attached Resolution asking you to reaffirm the commitment to designate more than 58 million acres of inventoried roadless areas. In particular, the City of Boulder has a great interest in the protection of roadless areas in the Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forests because of their proximity to Boulder and association with other public lands which are vital to protecting high quality native ecosystems and recreational opportunities.

On behalf of the City Council and the people of Boulder Colorado, I respectfully request that you direct the Secretary of Agriculture to initiate the process for protecting the 58 million acres designated in the Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM R. TOOR,  
Mayor.

### RESOLUTION NO. 875

A Resolution of the City Council for the City of Boulder, Colorado, in Support of the Executive Order Designating New Roadless Areas on United States Forest Service Lands.

Whereas, the City of Boulder strongly supports President Clinton's initiative to manage roadless areas on National Forest Land;

Whereas, the City of Boulder has a great interest in the protection of the Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forests because of their proximity to Boulder and association with other public lands which are vital to protecting high quality native ecosystems and recreational opportunities;

Whereas, the City of Boulder supports the proposal to restrict certain activities in unroaded portions of inventoried roadless areas, as identified in RARE II and existing forest plan inventories;

Whereas, it is well known that road construction and use in wildlife habitat areas can contribute significantly to habitat fragmentation and stress on wildlife species;

Whereas, the initiative restricts road construction and establishes protective criteria for managing roadless areas that will have positive impacts for biodiversity and enhanced plant and wildlife protection;

Whereas, over the course of a 13 month period, the U.S. Forest Service received 1.7 million letters, faxes, e-mails and postcards in support of the Clinton Administration's forest initiative, providing the strongest possible protection to National Forest roadless areas;

Whereas, on November 13, 2000, the Forest Service released its Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that supported the roadless area designation;

Whereas, on January 5, 2001 President Clinton signed the Record of Decision designating 58 and half million acres of public land as roadless areas;

Whereas, the Record of Decision has been suspended by President Bush;

Therefore, be it resolved that the City of Boulder reaffirms its commitment to full im-

March 15, 2001

plementation of the Executive Order designating 58 and half million acres of public land as roadless areas in perpetuity; and that the City of Boulder calls upon President Bush to reaffirm the executive order and not delay implementation of the Executive Order; and directs that copies of this Resolution be sent to the elected representatives of the residents of this municipality, including the U.S. Representative(s), U.S. Senators, and the President.

Passed and adopted this 6th day of February, 2001.

WILLIAM R. TOOR,  
Mayor.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET M. CARROLL, MILLVILLE, MA, AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR'S JOHN H. CHAFEE AWARD FOR 2000

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Margaret M. Carroll and the announcement of her being named the recipient of the John H. Chafee Award, which was presented to her by the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission.

Ms. Carroll has given of herself generously over the years for the good of the Blackstone and Millville communities and this award appropriately recognizes her tireless efforts. Ms. Carroll served as a fine educator in the Blackstone-Millville school district for thirty-seven years. The many success stories of the students she taught serves as testament to her teaching ability. The many success stories of the students she taught serves as testament to her teaching ability. Also, Ms. Carroll has familiarized herself with the Blackstone River Valley to a level that is matched by no one. The river valley is forever in Ms. Carroll's debt for the dedicated service she has provided to it over the years. In addition to her efforts related to the river valley, she has volunteered throughout the Blackstone-Millville communities countless times and in various ways.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no one more fit to receive the John H. Chafee award than Ms. Margaret Carroll. I personally congratulate her and thank her for her dedicated service.

THE GENERATOR TARIFF  
SUSPENSION ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation that would suspend the duty on the importation of replacement steam generators used in nuclear power plants.

Steam generators are necessary for the operation of nuclear power facilities. However, because they are no longer produced in the United States, domestic electric utilities must import replacement nuclear steam generators.