

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in a way, the stonewalling done by the hear no evil, see no evil Members on the Committee on House Oversight is a good thing, but only in a political sense.

Hear no evil, see no evil Members refused to grant immunity to four key witnesses in the campaign finance investigations, even though the Justice Department does not oppose the granting of immunity to these four witnesses so that their testimony may be heard.

The behavior of the hear no evil, see no evil Members is an insult to millions of proud Democrats who do believe in the rule of law, who do believe that politicians should be held accountable for their behavior, and who do believe that truth matters more than polls, more than spin, more than political gain.

The truth will eventually come out, the truth about which Members sought the truth, and which Members did everything in their power to prevent the truth from ever seeing the light of day.

□ 1045

GREAT STONEWALL OF CONGRESS BY DEMOCRATS

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

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as a young boy, I learned that the great wall of China was in China. But today, we learn that the Democrats in Congress have extended this great impenetrable stone wall of China right through the White House and down the center aisle of Congress.

Let me rephrase that. These stonewallers of justice have been busy erecting a new world wonder: A total, air-tight, round-the-clock stonewall by refusing to grant immunity to 4 key witnesses so that they might testify about illegal campaign contributions to the Democrat party from Communist China. Those witnesses are Kent La, Irene Wu, Larry Wong and Nancy Lee, witnesses that President Clinton's own Justice Department does not oppose granting immunity to.

Let me repeat that again, Mr. Speaker. The same Democrats who deny they are stonewalling refuse to grant immunity to 4 key witnesses, even though the Justice Department does not oppose granting immunity to these 4 witnesses.

The same Democrats who defend convicted felon Susan McDougal's refusal to tell the truth are the same Democrats who are blocking these 4 key witnesses from coming forward to tell the truth. Mr. Speaker, the great wall of China has nothing over congressional Democrats, for their great stonewall of Congress is an even bigger spectacle.

CELEBRATING THE U.S. CONSTITUTION ON THE ONE DOLLAR BILL

(Mr. BLILEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, last week I introduced legislation to put an abbreviated version of the Constitution on the reverse side of the \$1 bill.

The aim of this legislation is to celebrate the Constitution as a living American symbol and integrate it into our lives on a daily basis. Studies have consistently shown that Americans do not know all the rights and freedoms guaranteed to them by the Constitution.

Placing an abbreviated version of the Constitution on the \$1 bill will serve as a daily reminder and teaching tool of the principles upon which the United States was founded. It will spread the philosophy of representative democracy and freedom around the world. It will allow Americans to take pride in this living document, the values for which it stands, and in their Nation.

It has been my pleasure to work with the students at Liberty Middle School in Hanover County, Virginia and their teacher, Randy Wright, on this bill. I commend them for their active participation in our government and am proud to sponsor this legislation on their behalf.

DESPITE EXCESSIVE SURPLUS, POSTAL SERVICE TO IMPOSE STAMP TAX

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recall a tax imposed on our colonial forefathers by the British monarchy in the days before the birth of our Nation. Like the British monarchy, the United States Postal Service has imposed a Stamp Tax upon the American people. Despite recording a net operating surplus of more than \$4.5 billion over the past 3 years and a surplus of over \$1.3 billion already in 1998, the Postal Rate Commission has approved a 1 cent increase in the price of a stamp.

Mr. Speaker, I do not understand how the Postal Service can justify this tax increase on the working families of America, as the agency itself runs a record billion-dollar profit.

Our colonial forefathers would be ashamed of the Postal Service that is now imposing this unnecessary tax on its people.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LACKING IN ECONOMIC KNOW-HOW

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago at a hearing of the Committee on Resources, the Inspector General of the Interior Department reported some shocking findings. He said that the National Park Service had built 19 employee houses at the Yosemite Na-

tional Park at an average cost of \$584,000. One of the homes cost \$700,000.

Now, I know the Federal bureaucracy can rationalize or justify almost anything, and I know that because the national parks are so popular, the Park Service feels it is above criticism and can do just about anything it wants. However, Federal employees already have pay and pensions and hours that are far better than just about everyone except for movie stars and athletes. To build Park Service employees \$584,000 homes on top of what they are already getting is ridiculous.

The really sad part, though, is that very few are shocked about this. We have just come to expect things like this from an agency that last year spent almost \$400,000 on a fancy two-hole outhouse. Once again, Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government has proved that it cannot do anything in an economical manner.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

NORWEGIANS IN VIOLATION OF MORATORIUM ON COMMERCIAL WHALING

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, this year Norway plans to increase the hunting of whales by 30 percent. Yes, my colleagues heard me correctly. The Norwegians plan to kill 671 whales this year. This action will violate the moratorium imposed on commercial whaling in 1982 by the IWC, the International Whaling Commission.

At the 1997 meeting of the IWC, the U.S. administration supported a step backward toward the killing of whales.

Mr. Speaker, I have recently introduced House Resolution 425 to express opposition of the House toward commercial whaling. Last week the Senate unanimously approved legislation to express their opposition to commercial whaling.

Please contact my office to become a cosponsor and help send a signal to the IWC from this House of Representatives.

INDIA TESTS NUCLEAR DEVICE

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, this Member rises to express his deep regret and disappointment at the series of underground nuclear tests staged May 11 and 13 by India.

While offering assurances of their commitment to world peace, India's actions have quite possibly triggered a chain of events that could set back global efforts of nonproliferation and severely increase tensions throughout the region and the world. In Pakistan, public pressure is mounting on the government to proceed with similar nuclear testing. China also has expressed its concern about the tests, and there are some suggestions that Beijing may consider resuming its nuclear testing program.

This Member would note that the law is quite specific on this matter. If a non-nuclear State tests a nuclear device, sanctions must be imposed by our government. Failure to do so would render U.S. nonproliferation policy impotent.

The United States was required to impose the sanctions mandated by law on India. Mr. Speaker, this member calls upon the government of India to carefully reconsider and attempt to back away from what it has unleashed, and urges the government of Pakistan to exercise restraint in its response.

WITHOUT TRUTH, THERE IS NO JUSTICE

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, without truth, there is no justice.

I would like to address the vicious attacks made by the liberals on the Members of Congress who are tasked with finding out the truth about the allegations of crimes by the Clinton White House. These vicious attacks are remarkably similar to the mean and unfair attacks directed at Judge Starr, who is also charged with finding out the truth about the allegations of crimes by the White House.

We have heard this before directed at Senator THOMPSON, at Senator D'AMATO, also tasked with finding out the truth about the allegations of crimes at the White House. As before, these attacks on the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, are misleading and absurd.

The tapes released by the Chairman were not doctored, not a single bit. All the tapes were available to anyone in the press who would bother to listen to them. Transcripts which were made available to the press were not taken out of context. Indeed, we would be extremely pleased to hear the spin on Webster Hubbell's comment that he "needs to roll over one more time." We would like to know what he really meant by that. But once again, it is a same old story: Attack the accuser and hide the truth.

RIDDING AMERICA OF DRUGS

(Ms. GRANGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Speaker's Task Force For a Drug-Free America, I am proud to support the Drug-Free Borders Week.

Our Nation's drug crisis is real and it is also rising, but I have always believed that what is wrong with America can be cured by what is right with America. That is why I am so pleased to be a member of this task force.

We believe the war on drugs is one that can be won, must be won, and will be won if only we have the courage to dream of a drug-free America.

Where can we begin? We can begin by bringing some order to our borders. Seventy percent of all illegal drugs found in the U.S. originally cross the U.S.-Mexican border. Eradicating drugs meanings interdicting them. Interdicting them means stopping them in Brownsville, El Paso and San Diego.

The Drug-Free Borders Act stiffens the penalties for those convicted of smuggling drugs over the border. The bill says to drug smugglers all over the world: If you bring drugs into this country, we will bring you to justice. This bill acknowledges that only when we close our borders to drugs can we open the doors of opportunity for our children. In short, by working together, we can save America from the scourge of drugs.

DETONATION OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICE IN INDIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 105-250)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAMP) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 102(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, I am hereby reporting that, in accordance with that section, I have determined that India, a non-nuclear-weapon state, detonated a nuclear explosive device on May 11, 1998. I have further directed the relevant agencies and instrumentalities of the United States Government to take the necessary actions to impose the sanctions described in section 102(b)(2) of that Act.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 13, 1998.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3534, MANDATES INFORMATION ACT OF 1998

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 426 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 426

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3534) to improve congressional deliberation on proposed Federal private sector mandates, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment recommended by the Committee on Rules now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment. The bill shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for further amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

□ 1100

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAMP). The gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my good friend, the gentleman from South Boston, Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), and pending that, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, all time yielded will be for purposes of debate only.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and to include extraneous material).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, this rule makes in order H.R. 3534, the Mandates Information Act of 1998, under a completely open rule providing for 1 hour of general debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules. This is an appropriate rule, since the purpose of H.R. 3534 is to improve deliberation on proposed private sector mandates.