

do the things that we did last week, because it did not factor in the things that we are doing this week.

1200

Who in this House, who in this House thinks that the \$1.6 billion, or whatever it is we are providing for Colombia, is a nonrecurring item that we will wipe the problem out with this one-time allotment?

Who thinks that these adjustments in military pay to get around the food stamps problem and base housing will not recur again or that we will not have the O&M requirements again in the future?

My colleagues have understated discretionary spending in their resolution; and based upon that understatement, they projected a tax cut that is simply not sustainable. If my colleagues do that, let me repeat it again, if my colleagues who voted for the Republican budget resolution last week, and if my colleagues vote today for this supplemental, according to our calculation and their numbers, they will be back in deficit in a year's time, back into Social Security.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, in addition to that, the fact is that, for this fiscal year, rather than the next fiscal year about which the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) has just been speaking, for this fiscal year, if my colleagues vote for this bill, they are going to be voting for a bill which is \$17 billion in spending over the amount the President asked for for this existing fiscal year. I will be interested to see how many so-called fiscal conservatives are going to do that.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. KAPTUR

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. KAPTUR:

Page 80, after line 11, insert the following new section:

SEC. 5109. The Secretary of Energy shall annually acquire and store as part of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve 300,000,000 gallons of ethanol and 100,000,000 gallons of biodiesel fuel. Such fuels shall be obtained in exchange for, or purchased with funds realized from the sale of, crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the amendment of the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Florida reserves a point of order.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday March 29, 2000, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, the amendment I am proposing is very straightforward. Essentially what it does is it allows the Secretary of Energy at this time of very high gas

prices to take a portion of our Strategic Petroleum Reserve, draw it down, and use the proceeds to purchase ethanol and biodiesel, adding those to the reserves that we have across this country. There is no budget impact to this proposal.

Essentially what we are doing here is recognizing that rising gas prices, in fact, harm and create havoc within our economy. This is a great economic vulnerability and a great military vulnerability.

We also recognize that we want to encourage domestic production of all fuels to the best extent possible. My colleagues should know that 92 percent of the fuels, the crude in the Petroleum Reserve, in the SPRO, has been imported. So it is not domestic. In fact, what fueled America this past year, over two-thirds of it is all imported. This is not a position that we should permit for our great country.

This amendment promotes alternative fuels focused on biofuels, specifically ethanol and biodiesel. It is a very reasonable proposal. Even after being implemented, this would represent less than 2 percent of all fuel that is in the reserve.

In addition, it is very competitive in the sense that, if one looks at the prices of ethanol now at about a dollar a gallon, when one purchases the amount we are talking about here, 300 million gallons, and biodiesel at \$1.50, we are at the point now where it makes sense to do this.

In addition, let me say, if one looks at the SPRO today, there are about 750 million barrels in it or allowed to be in it. But only 575 million are actually in it, which means we have a shortfall of 175 million barrels. So there is room in terms of the authority that exists within the law.

So I would just ask for favorable consideration of this. In particular, at a time when prices in rural America are so very low, let us use the cellulose, let us use the power of the fields and force of our country and help put us on a course of renewables and not such dependence on imported fuel inside this great economy. I ask for favorable consideration of the membership of what I believe is a very worthy amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) wish to make his point of order at this point?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I do.

Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation on the appropriations bill and therefore violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states in pertinent part: "An amendment to a general appropriation bill shall not be in order if exchanging existing law."

The amendment directly amends existing law.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentlewoman from Ohio wish to be heard briefly on the point of order?

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I wish to say I have the greatest respect in the world for the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), chairman of the full committee, and also the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies.

I would hope that, as we move toward conference, we might find some language that would achieve some of what we wish to have happen here, giving direction to the administration at a time in our country where the American people expect us to do more than dither here in the Nation's chief legislative body. I really think we have a reasonable direction here.

I thank the gentleman from Florida for permitting me to talk on this amendment. I will withdraw the amendment in hopes that, as we move toward conference, we might be able to find some reasonable course here to help America find a better way in this new century.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, we will work with the gentlewoman and try to do that.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. PAUL

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 5 printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD offered by Mr. PAUL:

At the end of the bill, insert after the last section (preceding the short title) the following new section:

SEC. . (a) The amounts otherwise provided in title I for the following accounts are hereby reduced by the following amounts:

(1) "DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE—Drug Enforcement Administration—Salaries and Expenses", \$293,048,000.

(2) "DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY—OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS—Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense", \$185,800,000.

(3) "BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE—Funds Appropriated to the President—Department of State—Assistance for Plan Colombia and for Andean Regional Counternarcotics Activities", \$1,099,000,000.

(b) None of the funds made available in title I for "Military Construction, Defense-Wide" may be used for construction outside of the United States or any of its territories or possessions.

(c) None of the funds made available in title II may be used for operations in Kosovo or East Timor, other than the return of United States personnel and property to the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday,

March 29, 2000, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL).

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. PAUL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I would first like to assure the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) that I am not dealing with a fly, a gnat, or a flea with my amendment. I would rather not categorize this as dealing with an elephant for obvious reasons.

But I would like to say that my amendment deals with what I consider a monster, and that monster to me is careless foreign military interventionism in which we engage way too often and something we are getting ready to further engage ourselves now in Colombia.

I am quite convinced that, when most of the Members go back to their districts, they never brag and they never say that, "I go to Washington, and I always vote for the United States to be the policemen of the world. I enjoy deferring to the United Nations and NATO forces for us to pursue some of our policies overseas." Quite frankly, I believe most of us go home and say that we do not believe that the United States should be the policemen of the world.

Earlier on, we debated the issue of whether or not our allies are paying their fair share, and it is obvious they are not. So not only do we defer to them for policy and we extend ourselves throughout the world, we actually end up paying the bill, as most American citizens know.

Last year, when we were dealing with Kosovo and our initial involvement in there, we had several votes on the floor dealing with the sentiment of the Congress. For the most part, the sentiment was strongly opposed to our military troops being placed in Kosovo.

But, unfortunately, when it came time to deal with the funding, we were all too anxious to permit and authorize and appropriate the money to go into Kosovo. Today we are continuing to fund our activities in Kosovo as well as Bosnia, East Timor, and now with plans to go into South America, principally Colombia.

My amendment deals with this. It would strike these funds, and it would permit funds to be used in Kosovo to bring troops home. Some people argue that if we strike funds for areas like Kosovo, that we are deserting our troops and it will be detrimental to their morale. Quite the opposite. I think it would absolutely be helpful, because the morale of our servicemen cannot get much lower. The morale is low because they do not know what their real function is in areas where we're involved. They have become policemen dealing with local laws as well as Peace Corps type operators.

The morale would be tremendously helped by bringing these troops home. This is what this amendment deals with. And it strikes the funding for the expansion of our efforts in Central America.

In Colombia, there are a lot of weapons already, and we are responsible for 80 percent of them. There is one irony about this bill that strikes me. The administration and many here on the floor who vote for these weapons are the same individuals who are anxious to prohibit the right of an American citizen to own a cheap weapon in self-defense. At the same time, they are quite willing to tax these individuals and take their money to spend it on the weapons of war around the world and become involved in no-win situations.

I cannot think of a worse situation where there is a four-way faction in Colombia for us to get further involved. Buying 63 helicopters is bound to cause trouble and some will be shot down thus requiring more involvement by American troops.

It is time to reassess this policy; to come home. We should not be the policemen of the world. The American people are not anxious for us to do this. They have spoken out. A recent poll has shown that 70 percent of the American people are very anxious for us not to be involved in policing the world. They certainly are not interested in us placing United States troops under the command of U.N. and NATO forces.

This is a good time for the Members of the Congress to decide whether or not they would like to vote clearly and say to the American people, "I do not endorse the concept that we should have an open-ended commitment to the world, to be the policemen of the world." This is what this amendment says. Quite frankly, the large majority of the American people are strongly supportive of this position.

This is a clear amendment. This is not dealing with a gnat or a flea. This is dealing with a principle. Some say this amendment deals with a principle of foreign policy, and we should defer to the President.

That is not correct. Under the Constitution, the words "foreign policy" do not exist. All the obligations fall on the Congress, especially with the power of the purse. The President is the Commander in Chief. But he should never send troops around the world without permission, which all Presidents continuously have done in the last 50 years. This amendment addresses that subject.

I would have preferred an amendment that would have struck some of these funds from overseas and placed them into beefing up the military, increasing the pay of our military personnel, giving them better housing and better medical care, as well as having some of those funds spent here at home. That amendment was not permissible under the rule.

But this point, if my colleagues are anxious to make it, can be made by

voting for this amendment. If you are sick and tired of America being the patsy, sick and tired of us picking up the bill, sick and tired of our troops being exposed around the world, this is the amendment to support.

I think this is a very important amendment, and I the American people support it.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I want to agree with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) that this is not an insignificant amendment. This is a major amendment. But here is what it does. It waves the white flag of surrender in the war against the drug lords in Colombia, which provide most of the drugs, illegal drugs that come into the United States. Now we want to wage the effort to eliminate those drugs at their source. This waves the flag of surrender.

I have already talked many times during the various amendments today about the money for Kosovo. This bill is not sending any money to Kosovo. The money spent in Kosovo was already spent. The President made that deployment without getting the approval of the Congress, but the money has been spent. The money was taken from the fourth quarter operations and maintenance accounts of the military services, which means, if we do not replace that money, they have to stand down their training activities for the last quarter.

This amendment is also very significant. It deals with military construction. It says that none of the funds can be used for construction outside of the United States or its territories or possessions.

I wonder if the gentleman from Texas is not familiar with the fact that we have 37,000 American troops in Korea, in and around Korea, in that region, 37,000 American troops. They need some medical facilities. They need some housing, some new housing. The facilities are very old in Korea.

The CINC who just retired from Korea has given us a substantial argument as to why there are military construction requirements in Korea. The new CINC, who has just assumed the job in Korea, has also told us that there are needs in military construction.

This amendment would prohibit us doing for our troops who are in Korea, whether they like it or not, and that is not one of the most favored deployed areas, those needed construction jobs. That to me is significant.

If we cannot take care of our own troops, and we have been there ever since the end of the Korean War, and it is at least a year-long deployment for most of the troops that are there, we cannot even consider supporting this amendment if we believe that we have a responsibility to the Americans who serve in uniform.

1215

And I urge a strong rejection of the Paul amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have remaining?

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The gentleman from Texas has 3½ minutes remaining.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I do not believe for one minute this is a surrender to the drug war. This is an acknowledgment that the \$250 billion we have spent over the last 25 years has not worked; that the strategy against drugs is wrong.

Why continue a war that does not work? This is money down a rat hole. This is totally wasted money and, as far as I am concerned, only an excuse to sell helicopters and go in to Colombia and protect oil interests. That is the real reason why we are down there.

We say this is only replacement of money for Kosovo. Well, what makes us think if we put the money in and replace it the President will not do the same thing over again? Of course he will. The fact that we are not watching the purse strings tightly enough is the problem.

The gentleman suggests that this would mean that there would be no more building and no support for our troops in Korea. My amendment only deals with the money in this supplemental. What about the current year's budget? Those funds can still be spent. But it also suggests that we shall question how long are we going to be in Korea. It is time to start thinking about these matters. It is time to bring these troops home.

If we want to spend the money, spend it here at home. Spend the money here. Build up our national defense. If we wish to continually expand our interventionism and aggravation overseas, then I guess we have to vote against this amendment and for the bill. But this is a policy statement. Should we continue current policy of forever spending money and being involved overseas? I say it is time to start thinking about what is good for our people, what is good for our taxpayers, what is good for national defense, and what is good for our constitutional republic. Should we be doing this? I do not think so. Are we authorized to do it? No, we are not authorized to police the world.

This is the furthest stretch of the imagination to believe that what we are spending here on this budget, especially what we are going to do in Colombia, has anything to do with national security. What are we worried about? Are the Colombians going to attack us? This is not national security. This is special interest spending. This is conservative welfarism; that is what it is.

We condemn all the welfare from the left, but we always have our own wel-

fare on the right, and it is not for national defense. We should do less of this military adventurism overseas and put it into national defense, take better care of our troops, which would boost morale, and increase our ability to defend our country. But, instead, what do we do? We subsidize our enemies to the tune of many billions of dollars for a country like China at the same time, when they are aggravated and annoyed with Taiwan, we send more weapons to Taiwan and then promise to send American servicemen to stand in between the two of them.

Some day we should ask the question of whether is this policy in good for us. I am frightened to think that this will only change either when we are in such a mess, a lot worse than Vietnam, or we totally go broke or both. But we should not wait. We should speak out and do what is best for our country. We have a good guideline as to what we should do in foreign policy, and it comes from the constitution, certainly we should note the tradition of the last 50 years. The Constitution gives us the guidance to pursue a proper foreign policy.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining?

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, let me take this opportunity to associate myself with the comments of the chairman, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG). He is right on on this.

What this amendment does is absolutely ignores the history and the role the United States has played since the days of Harry Truman, and I think that opposition to this amendment is proper and just and it must be defeated.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and let me begin by congratulating the gentleman in the manner in which he has conducted this debate. I think he has done a wonderful job, both yesterday and today.

I do rise in opposition to this amendment, because I believe it goes too far, it covers too many things, and withdraws from too many places and too many important operations. However, I do want to speak more favorably at least on one aspect of the amendment. This appropriation package has, as its linchpin, aid to Colombia. That is both its greatest strength and, I am afraid, its greatest risk. It is risky because its success in the long run is dependent upon cooperation and commitment, a commitment to justice on the part of the Colombian government, and this is, I am afraid, where I have some doubts.

Just over a year ago three innocent Americans were discovered, their bodies. They had been brutally slaughtered in northeast Colombia, slaughtered while they were educating the people of northeast Colombia, slaughtered by thugs from FARC narcoterrorists. One of these Americans was a constituent of mine, Ingrid Washinawatok of Menominee County, Wisconsin. If we are not careful, I am afraid these three Americans may become victimized yet once again. And here is why.

Last October, this body unanimously, unanimously, passed a Sense of the Congress Resolution which decried these murders, condemned FARC, but also, and this is the most important part, called upon the government of Colombia to arrest and to extradite to the United States for criminal trial these awful people. Some weeks ago, at a subcommittee hearing before the Committee on International Relations, I had the chance to ask our drug czar, the esteemed General Barry McCaffrey, for help in pushing for extradition. He assured me he would, and he assured me that he would keep me and my constituents posted. Unfortunately, I have to report today that we have heard nothing from him.

And now, just recently, we have heard from the president of Colombia that he will not extradite at least one of these murderers, German Briceno. So it looks as though the family of Ingrid Washinawatok may be let down once again. For this initiative, for this initiative aiding Colombia, to work, there must be trust, there must be understanding, and there must be a commitment to justice; and I am afraid that commitment may be slipping away.

I see my friend and colleague, the esteemed chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), and I would ask him and ask the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), the drug czar, and the President all to help us push for extradition.

I do speak in opposition. I believe this amendment goes too far, but some of the sentiments are valid.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, because I want to assure him that we will try to work with him in conference, and wherever we can, to assist in his desire in getting this criminal extradited.

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman. That means a great deal to us. And I thank the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations as well, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, I want to repeat that this is a serious amendment and should