

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A SMART NATIONAL SECURITY BUDGET

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today this body took an important first step in returning sense and security to our national defense. In the best interest of this country and the American people, we have sent a Defense appropriation bill to the President that restores safety and national security while contributing to a balanced Federal budget.

For several years our Nation's defenses have suffered under dwindling Pentagon budgets that were bogged down with frivolous social programs. Today's conference report, like so much of the legislation we are passing in the 104th Congress, represents a dramatic turning of the tide. We are revitalizing readiness. We are restoring our commitment to our military personnel and their families. And we are making the investments necessary to maintain America's standing as the world's most formidable military power.

This bill includes moderate pay raises for the military men and women who work around the clock to keep us safe. Soldiers and sailors feeding their families with food stamps is an unacceptable reality, and it must stop. We also call for upgrades and renovations of military housing across the country. This appropriation also makes smart investments in the cutting-edge equipment that will keep our troops as safe as possible and help keep this country out of war.

Remarkably, this Congress has done all of this while spending \$400 million less on defense than the Democrats spent last year. Such a feat could only be accomplished with the sense and conviction of conservative ideals. We have placed a priority on smart spending, spending taxpayer dollars only when and where necessary. Nothing more, nothing less.

Last night, we passed further proof that this Congress is committed to a balanced budget in 7 years. No gimmicks. No excuses. The Defense appropriations conference report represents our contribution to the country's physical security as well as its economic security. The best way to ensure this Nation's survival is to balance the budget, and do it now. If the President of the United States and his Democratic colleagues do not have the guts or the gumption to join us in our effort, they should step aside.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Defense Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman YOUNG and full Committee Chairman LIVINGSTON for their outstanding work. I am proud to support the conference report to H.R. 2126. It is one more example of our commitment to spend taxpayer dollars wisely and restore fiscal sanity to the Federal Government.

LAKE GASTON PROTECTION ACT OF 1995

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Lake Gaston Protection Act of 1995. For those members not familiar with this issue, Lake Gaston has been the focal point of a natural resource dispute between the city of Virginia Beach, VA and the State of North Carolina. At issue is whether Virginia Beach should be able to withdraw water from Lake Gaston, which straddles both States, to provide additional drinking water.

This legislation, which was introduced by Senator HELMS and FAIRCLOTH in the other body, stops the withdrawal of water from the lake until the Federal Government slows down and listens to the concerns of thousands of citizens from both North Carolina and Virginia who believes that Virginia Beach's plan threatens the vitality of this resource.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] approved a permit allowing the daily withdrawal of 60 million gallons from Lake Gaston—FERC officials did not examine the potential negative environmental effects of withdrawing this amount of water from the lake each day. In short, they failed to consider either the environmental problems or the adverse impact on striped bass or other fish species. A sharply reduced quantity of water flowing through the lower Roanoke River basin may very well be harmful to the estuaries of the Albemarle Sound in the spawning of many fish species.

Mr. Speaker, besides the environmental impact, the withdrawal could very well pose dire consequences to the commercial and recreational fishing industry that depends so heavily on an adequate exchange of freshwater and saltwater in the estuary.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should have obtained certification from the State of North Carolina that there would be no degradation of water quality or the environment. Instead, FERC ran roughshod over the concerns of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would require FERC to obtain certification from North Carolina that this project will have no and I emphasize, no adverse impact on the environment or the local economy.

Mr. Speaker, for the record, I believe a brief history of this dispute may be helpful.

Virginia Electric Power Co., on behalf of Virginia Beach, applied to the FERC for permission to construct a water intake on Pea Hill Cove of Lake Gaston and a 76-mile pipeline to withdraw up to 60 million gallons per day.

Both the city of Virginia Beach and the State of North Carolina have marched back and forth in the Federal courts over this issue. North Carolina raised many concerns of water quality and the adverse effects on the downstream ecosystems. North Carolina officials

assert that FERC did a far too hasty job on its environmental analysis. FERC allowed only 2 months for the review of the reams of environmental data.

Furthermore North Carolina asserts that FERC staff failed to conduct studies requested by several Federal agencies, including the EPA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries, and independent biologists.

After much litigation, a Federal mediator was appointed by the Federal courts within the past 18 months, to look into the possibility of bringing the State of North Carolina and the city of Virginia Beach to an agreement on the issue.

A final settlement agreement was reached on June 26, and was supported by both Virginia Senators.

Mr. Speaker, the settlement was subject to ratification of an Interstate Compact by both State legislatures and approval by the Congress. According to the officials in North Carolina, this agreement protects the interests of the three North Carolina counties that surround the lake. As of now, neither State has ratified the compact.

The communities that surround the lake in Northampton, Warren, and Halifax Counties in North Carolina are greatly dependent on it to support their economies. According to a November 2, 1993, article in the Lake Gaston Gazette, property owners around the lake paid over \$253 million in 1993 real estate and personal property taxes. Also it is estimated that there has been \$125 million in new home construction each year.

Mr. Speaker, North Carolina and Virginia have a history of cooperation on matters affecting both States. For example the joint North Carolina and Virginia efforts to stem Lake Gaston's having been infested by hydrilla, an aquatic weed similar to kudzu. These five counties and both State governments have worked together to bring this nuisance weed under control.

If Virginia and the city of Virginia Beach object to this legislation, there is a way out; this proposed law will not apply if and when the June 26 settlement is resurrected and there is an interstate compact. So each State can urge its Governor and legislature to ratify the agreement and the compact. This will give everyone a chance to take a second look at North Carolina's Environmental concerns.

TRIBUTE TO THE WEST BRANCH FARMERS COOPERATIVE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the West Branch Farmers Cooperative. The cooperative was recognized on October 28, 1995 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in West Branch, MI.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

In 1917, the cooperative began under the direction and inspiration of a few local farmers who desired to decrease the number of middle men between them and their markets. The farmers progressed and organized themselves to form the Ogemaw County Livestock Shippers Association in 1918. Finally, with intense determination and dedication, these men continued the cooperative by revamping its structure in 1946. Today, the cooperative serves not only farmers but retirees, hunters, and pet lovers.

I want to join the people of West Branch in honoring those who fought to preserve the West Branch Farmers Cooperative's existence, services, and achievements. I also wish to thank them for their diligence and perseverance through difficulty and challenging times. I wish the cooperative the best of luck in the future, and look forward to their continued growth and success.

OPPORTUNITY AND CHALLENGE

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of the Republic of China on Taiwan's recent National Day, I wish to draw my colleagues' attention to a fine book authored by Taiwan's Foreign Minister, Fredrick Chien, and most recently published by the Arizona Historical Society, Arizona State University. Entitled "Opportunity and Challenge," this publication of speeches, statements, and interviews by and about Dr. Fredrick Chien is a chronicle of Republic of China's diplomatic travails and successes from 1989 through 1994. During this period, Fredrick Chien confronted challenges and opportunities nearly every day. Shortly after assuming office as Foreign Minister in the summer of 1990, Chien saw Saudi Arabia break off relations with Taiwan and later, South Korea also broke off its relations with Taiwan. Never despairing, Chien adopted a pragmatic approach to foreign relations, helping his country establish ties with new countries or re-establish ties with old friends. Since 1990, the Republic of China has seen its diplomatic fortunes improve, increasing its number of offices abroad and its participation in international organizations. Taipei's campaigns to win international friends are chronicled in the speeches, interviews given or essays written by Fredrick Chien from 1989 through 1994.

Among the many chapters, Chien's "A View from Taipei," first published in the 1991-92 winter issue of *Foreign Affairs*, is particularly noteworthy. In this article, Chien articulates Republic of China's pragmatic diplomacy which has allowed the Republic of China entry in several important organizations such as the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperations and membership in nearly 800 international organizations. Republic of China's growing international importance is a fact of global life, and exclusion of the Republic of China from official world forums is contrary to contemporary realities, Chien asserts.

What makes this publication different from other similar collections of political speeches and statements is the inclusion of a large number of articles originally written in Chinese

and published in Chinese magazines and journals. Here these articles have been expertly translated. Some of these articles discuss Republic of China's pragmatic diplomacy, some focus on Taipei's international aspirations, including Taipei's campaign to return to the United Nations, while others offer insights into Taipei's views on its eventual reunification with mainland China. They shed a great deal of insight into Fredrick Chien, the man, versus Fredrick Chien, the policy maker and diplomat.

One particularly noteworthy chapter contains interviews with Fredrick Chien's friends and colleagues. The interviewees provide interesting tidbits about Fredrick, the prodigy diplomat. While Chien's casual acquaintances may consider Chien too serious about his work, most people concur that Chien is a diplomat's diplomat who is always giving his utmost to his country. In fact, Chien's own autobiographical piece, "In the Universe There Is Absolutely No Easy Situation," summarizes Chien's own credo of life:

I am a public servant and I try my best in everything I do. If one day I discover that I can't contribute any more to my country I will consider giving my post to someone else. Otherwise, I will steadfastly keep to my post, any time and any where.

"Opportunity and Challenge" is a major publication. The materials by and about Foreign Minister Chien have a significance for practicing government officials and historians and other serious students of diplomacy everywhere. I recommend Dr. Chien's book to anyone seeking informed insights into the past, present, and future of the Republic of China on Taiwan.

Congratulations to Dr. Chien personally and to the Republic of China on its 1995 National Day.

RAIDING THE RETIREMENT FUND

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend all of my colleagues who stand fast on balancing the budget and protecting retirees.

Republicans passed a bill to prevent the Clinton administration from using trust funds to support Government spending. Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle worked overtime to ensure that the Clinton White House would be able to raid the Social Security trust fund and other retirement funds to fund what the Democrats term "useful" priorities. I do not think most Americans consider \$47,000 to investigate journalists or \$1.7 million to hire a public relations firm for AmeriCorps—Mr. Clinton's paid volunteers.

Republicans in Congress are working to pass the first balanced budget in a generation and end Government's addiction to higher spending and more taxes. Democrats not only oppose a balanced budget, they voted to allow the administration to raid Social Security. This administration is willing to stop at nothing.

Mr. Speaker, we have to balance the budget honestly, not dip into America's hard-earned savings. I urge my colleagues to continue to stand firm.

HONORING THE 1995 GUM SPRINGS AWARD WINNERS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives my colleague from Virginia, Mr. MORAN, and me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to some outstanding citizens from Virginia. These are the people who have been awarded the Gum Springs Community Service Award. The awards will be presented at the Gum Springs Community Development Corporation 30th anniversary celebration on November 16, 1995.

The Gum Springs Community Development Corporation, formerly the Saunders B. Moon Community Action Association, is a private, nonprofit, antipoverty organization founded in 1965 under the Equal Opportunity Act originated as a component of President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty.

Calvin Ferguson, an idealistic community activist, is being honored posthumously for his dedication to the improvement of his community and the perpetuation of his neighborhood's history. His contributions during his productive life were many. He worked to establish the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, with a swimming pool for use by neighborhood families. Mr. Ferguson played a vital role in preserving both the land and history of Gum Springs, including the establishment of Gum Springs Museum project. In addition, he was instrumental in the creation of the senior citizen and youth programs at Gum Springs Community Center.

Albert J. Triplett, Jr., a native of Gum Springs, has made many contributions to the community. He has played an active role in the Big Brother Mentoring Group in Gum Springs. He is founder of the Literacy for Life program for adults in the Gum Springs Community. He is also the coordinator of the male support group of the Gum Springs Children Center and the only male serving on the eight-member Gum Springs Children-Parent Committee.

Jube B. Shiver was inspired by a voice in his sleep in 1960 to "Get up—go build a subdivision." This dream led to the building of Randall Estates, a unique and successful housing development in Fairfax County which has existed for more than 35 years. Jube has had a long association with Gum Springs. His activities include serving as an area member of the board of directors of the Saunders B. Moon Association and director of the Saunders B. Moon Community Association. During Governor Wilder's term in office, he was appointed to serve as a member of the Virginia Small Business Financial Authority which helped create jobs and guaranteed loans for Virginia residents.

Mr. Speaker, we would also like to recognize Ms. Charlotte H. Branch, executive director of Gum Springs Community Development Corporation. During her 10-year tenure as executive director she has watched the community grow and change, and has the respect of everyone in her community.

Mr. Speaker, we know our colleagues join us in paying tribute to these fine upstanding