

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### REPUBLICAN FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one central item has been underplayed in the important debate about how to bring the annual budget deficit down to zero—the need to reduce our military spending after the collapse of the Soviet empire. The implications of the military budget are crucial for any effort to deal with deficit reduction in a socially responsible way. The actions taken by the Republican dominated Congress this year and last year demonstrate a determination by them to increase military spending to the point where we will be able to bring the deficit to zero only by devastating reductions in important programs, in education, environment, and medical care.

Even more daunting than the \$18 billion the Republican Congress has added to military spending over the Pentagon's objection in the last 2 years is the prospect that we face in the future should Republican efforts succeed. Next November will decide whether or not the military budget will continue to swell, at the expense of virtually every other important national Government function.

Doug Bandow, a fellow at the Cato Institute, discussed the staggering fiscal implications of the Republican military budget proposals in a recent article on the op-ed page of the New York Times. As Mr. Bandow notes, the United States now spends almost 40 percent of all the military spending in the world. The reason for this, as he notes, is not our national security but our inexplicable willingness—even insistence—on heavily subsidizing our wealthiest allies by providing them with a defense courtesy of the American taxpayer. One of Mr. Bandow's most important points is his noting that we now spend on the military "twice as much as Britain, France, Germany, and Japan combined."

Mr. Speaker, because drastic reductions in military spending over the next decade are essential if we are to be able to balance our budget without causing severe social harm in the United States, I ask that Doug Bandow's thoughtful discussion of military spending be printed here.

[From the New York Times]

DOLE'S MILITARY CARD

(By Doug Bandow)

So far, the Presidential campaign is being waged largely over domestic issues. Yet the difference between the parties is much wider when it comes to military matters.

If leading Republican strategists have their way, the United States will commit American lives and wealth to enforcing a new form of imperial order.

As he campaigns, Bob Dole has said little more than that America must spend more on the military. The Clinton Administration has "eroded American power and purpose," he said recently. "Our defense budget has been cut too far and too fast."

So military outlays must rise above the current \$260 billion per year. How far, he doesn't say. But the conservative Heritage Foundation has started the bidding at \$20 billion more annually. Baker Spring, a Heritage defense analyst, wrote in a recent policy paper that "the time is rapidly approaching when the U.S. will have to decide between remaining a global power capable of preventing wars, or becoming a mere regional military power, condemned to fight and possibly lose them."

He writes this at a time when America is a military colossus. The United States accounts for almost 40 percent of all military spending on earth. It spends at least three times as much as Russia—and twice as much as Britain, France, Germany and Japan combined.

America's allies can stand up to every conceivable security threat on their own. Western Europe's gross domestic product and population are greater than our own. South Korea has about 18 times the gross domestic product and twice the population of North Korea. In such a world we risk losing a war? To whom?

Some Republican analysts want to increase military outlays by far more than \$20 billion. In the latest issue of Foreign Affairs, William Kristol, editor of the Weekly Standard, and Robert Kagan, a former policy analyst for the Bush Administration, called for an extra \$60 billion to \$80 billion. This would come on top of defense spending that is already, in real terms, higher than in 1980, when America still faced the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Pact nations and the threat of global Communism.

Mr. Kristol and Mr. Kagan, however, may be pikers compared to Haley Barbour, the Republican National Party chairman. In this new book, "Agenda for America," Mr. Barbour argues that we must "rejuvenate our military capability." He advocates improving military readiness, expanding procurement and strengthening the private military supply sector. Like Mr. Dole, he supplies no price tag, but Jonathan Clarke, a Cato Institute associate, figures the Barbour program could add up to an astounding annual increase of \$140 billion.

What is the United States to do with all this additional military might? It faces no serious security threat far greater than necessary to defend the country or backstop our prosperous allies in an emergency.

Such an enormous military buildup to meddle in civil wars in distant continents, to restore order in chaotic societies and to extend American security guarantees through NATO, right up to Russia's borders. The idea, in the words of Mr. Kristol and Mr. Kagan, is to establish a "benevolent hegemony" and to "preserve that hegemony as far into the future as possible."

They argue that this "is not a radical proposal," but it is. In effect it would mean, as the historian Francis Fukuyama wrote approvingly in a letter to Commentary, that "Americans should be prepared, when the time comes, to have their people die for Poland."

Similarly, Edward Luttwak, a former Reagan policy adviser, waxed nostalgic in Foreign Affairs about large families. When they predominated, he wrote; "a death in combat was not the extraordinary and fundamentally unacceptable event that it is now."

So what is Bob Dole's proposed military policy? The American people should not accept vague proposals about spending more on defense. And if he becomes President, Mr. Dole should create a foreign policy and military fit for the Republic America purports to be, not the empire some wish it to become.

### TRIBUTE TO VALENCIA BOROUGH

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Valencia Borough on its 100th anniversary.

Valencia Borough plays a critical role in the care of my district's senior citizens. St. Barnabas Health System recently bought an existing nursing home and is in the process of a \$7.2 million expansion. This expansion will not only double the nursing center's bed capacity, but will also create 90 new jobs for Valencia Borough.

As I travel through the 4th district, I am always amazed by the friendliness and the good feelings shown to me by the residents of Valencia. These attributes should be lauded by this House and followed by all of America's communities.

The area which is now Valencia was originally settled as Brookside. It was renamed Valencia in 1884, in hopes of coaxing a post office to the area. To do this the community had to select a name unique to the area. Why the specific name of Valencia was chosen is unknown. My theory is that it has to do with the sunny disposition of its residents.

The residents of Valencia plan to celebrate the borough's 100th anniversary on August 18, 1996 with a community festival. I am positive that the festival will be a success due to the diligence of its residents.

So today, Mr. Speaker, I join with all my colleagues in the House in congratulating Valencia Borough on the momentous occasion of its 100th anniversary.

### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL GENETTE HILL

HON. DOUGLAS "PETE" PETERSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lt. Col. Genette Hill for her exceptionally distinguished and patriotic service to the U.S. Air Force, this House and this great Nation.

As Deputy Branch Chief in the Congressional Inquiries Division, she quickly established a reputation for credibility, professionalism, and excellence by working and closing over 1,100 written and telephonic inquiries across the spectrum of Air Force activities in

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