

That is the agency that builds the levees that keeps low-lying communities from flooding; that dredges channels so that inland commerce can take place; that dredges the channels for oceangoing ships; that agency that helps people with their sewage problems, with their drainage problems. He said that the administration's budget did not have enough money in it for him to do his job.

He went on to say that he felt like the Office of Management and Budget intentionally low-balled that to try to make the President's budget look a little closer to being balanced than it really was, and knowing that Congress would put the money back in the budget. He even went so far as to say that the Constitution of the United States under article I gives Congress the power to decide where the money goes, not the administration. The administration is certainly correct to request a budget, but it is Congress' job to pass a budget.

For telling the truth, my friend Mike Parker was fired. He was actually asked to resign. And what is really interesting about this town of half truths is that it was just 3 years ago on this very floor that a majority of my colleagues and I voted to impeach a sitting President because we felt like he had lied under oath. But when someone just last week tells the truth, he is asked to resign.

Mr. Speaker, I think that is a shame, and I think it is a horrible reflection on our Nation. I think it is a horrible reflection on this administration. Mike Parker did the right thing. This town is awash in debt because we are awash in half truths. Finally, somebody came forward and said this is the way to do it. You gave me a job to do. I have left my farm in Mississippi, I have left my business in Mississippi, my wife has left a successful accounting firm to come here all so we could serve our country. I have told you the truth, and my reward for telling the truth is to fire me.

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Mr. Speaker, it is a shame. So for Mike Parker and all of the folks out there who tell the truth, I want to say I am grateful, the people in Mississippi. I deeply regret that the President of the United States did the wrong thing; but Mike, I know you did the right thing.

Just recently there was a book published called "The Dereliction of Duty." I am told it was written by a historian at West Point who researched the early stages of the Vietnam War, and makes a very compelling case that the Joint Chiefs of Staff at that time knew that President Johnson had no intention of winning that war. And what he cites as a dereliction of duty is those generals and those admirals at the time, knowing that the President had no clear plan for victory, were not willing to risk their careers and step forward and say "This is wrong. I am

not going to let the kids in my command die," in what they knew to be a failed effort.

Mike Parker had the guts to say this is wrong and point out the way that it should be and tell the truth. So, Mike, they may have had a dereliction of duty, but you did not. For the sake of myself and again speaking on behalf of the people of Mississippi, we are proud of you, Mike. God bless you.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of business in the district.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today after 11:30 a.m. on account of personal reasons.

Ms. SOLIS (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. STRICKLAND) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCINTYRE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. BLUNT) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BLUNT, for 5 minutes, today.

#### SENATE ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled joint resolution of the Senate of the following title:

S.J. Res. 32. A joint resolution congratulating the United States Military Academy at West Point on its bicentennial anniversary, and commending its outstanding contributions to the Nation.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.) under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 11, 2002, at 2 p.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5775. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Hydrogen Peroxide; An Amendment to an Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-301217; FRL-6822-7] (RIN: 2070-AB78) February 26, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5776. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision; Interim Final Determination that State has Corrected the Deficiencies [CA 248-0293c; FRL-7149-7] received February 26, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5777. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Iowa [Iowa 0127-1127a; FRL-7151-7] received February 26, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5778. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Operating Permits Program; State of Iowa [IA 0126-1126a; FRL-7151-9] received February 26, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5779. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—North Carolina: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7150-6] received February 26, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5780. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District [CA 169-0323; FRL-7148-8] received February 26, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5781. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, El Dorado Air Pollution Control District [CA248-0293a; FRL-7149-6] received February 26, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5782. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Interim Final Determination that the State of California Has Corrected Deficiencies and Stay of Sanctions, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District [CA 250-0317c; FRL-7146-1] received February 21, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5783. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Interim Final Determination that the State of California Has Corrected Deficiencies and Stay of Sanctions, Kern