

hope. In Uganda, Thailand and Senegal, for example, strong national leadership partnered with community-wide response are reducing new HIV infections and AIDS diagnoses and focusing on treatment measures for their people.

We must continue to support these efforts by increasing U.S. bilateral and multilateral funding for vital AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria programs. I am even more convinced that the United States must put at least, and this is a minimum, just at least \$1 billion into the global trust fund for starters. Dr. Peter Piot, the director of UNAIDS, said that a \$10 billion effort will only begin to make a dent in this crisis. We will never see a favorable result in a crisis of this magnitude if we continue to nickel and dime our efforts.

I agree that we must streamline bureaucracies and facilitate better coordination, but that should happen while we ramp up our response. Together in a bipartisan effort we must now move forward with appropriate significant resources for this life-and-death effort. It is time to put our money where our mouth is.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and his very diligent staff, and the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), and his staff, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and Mary Andrus of his staff, and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD), and Michael Riggs of my staff for making HIV/AIDS a priority of the Committee on International Relations.

THEORY OF THE ORIGIN OF MAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I have always been interested in origins. Even though my training is in the law and in history, it has ever been an avocation of mine to contemplate and to study the origins of man and of life here on Earth.

Many theories of origins have been propounded throughout our Nation's history. In 1859, a sincere biologist returned from the Galapagos Islands and wrote a book entitled "The Origins of Species," in which Charles Darwin offered a theory of the origin of species which we have come to know as evolution. Charles Darwin never thought of evolution as anything other than a theory. He hoped that some day it would be proven by the fossil record but did not live to see that, nor have we.

In 1925 in the famous Scopes Monkey Trial, this theory made its way through litigation into the classrooms of America, and we have all seen the consequences over the last 77 years: evolution not taught as a sincere theory of a biologist, but rather, Mr.

Speaker, taught as fact. Unless anyone listening in would doubt that, we can all see in our mind's eye that grade school classroom that we all grew up in with the linear depiction of evolution just above the chalkboard. There is the monkey crawling on the grass. There is the Neanderthal dragging his knuckles and then there is Mel Gibson standing in all of his glory.

It is what we have been taught, that man proceeded and evolved along linear lines. But now comes a new find by paleontologists. In the newspapers all across America, a new study in "Nature" magazine, 6- to 7-million-year-old skull has been unearthed, the Toumai skull and it suggests that human evolution was actually, according to a new theory, human evolution was taking place, and I am quoting now, "all across Africa and the Earth," and the Earth was once truly, and I quote, "a planet of the apes on which nature was experimenting with many human-like creatures."

Paleontologists are excited about this, Mr. Speaker. But no one is pointing out that the textbooks will need to be changed because the old theory of evolution taught for 77 years in the classrooms of America as fact is suddenly replaced by a new theory, or I hasten to add, I am sure we will be told a new fact.

The truth is it always was a theory, Mr. Speaker. And now that we have recognized evolution as a theory, I would simply and humbly ask, can we teach it as such and can we also consider teaching other theories of the origin of species? Like the theory that was believed in by every signer of the Declaration of Independence. Every signer of the Declaration of Independence believed that men and women were created and were endowed by that same Creator with certain unalienable rights. The Bible tells us that God created man in his own image, male and female. He created them. And I believe that, Mr. Speaker.

I believe that God created the known universe, the Earth and everything in it, including man. And I also believe that someday scientists will come to see that only the theory of intelligent design provides even a remotely rational explanation for the known universe. But until that day comes, and I have no fear of science, I believe that the more we study the science, the more the truth of faith will become apparent. I would just humbly ask as new theories of evolution find their ways into the newspapers and into the textbooks, let us demand that educators around America teach evolution not as fact, but as theory, and an interesting theory to boot. But let us also bring into the minds of all of our children all of the theories about the unknowable that some bright day in the future through science and perhaps through faith we will find the truth from whence we come.

14TH INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I too recently had the privilege of attending the 14th International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain. I want to thank the House leadership for making it possible for me to join the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE). AIDS experts, activists and government representatives from all over the world assembled to share their invaluable knowledge and expertise in fighting the global HIV/AIDS pandemic and issuing a call to action.

This is a critically important conference happening at a very important time. UNAIDS and the World Health Organization recently released an updated report of where we are today. The most important thing to realize is that we are still at the beginning, the beginning of this terrible scourge. Yet there are already over 40 million people estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS around the world today and an estimated 28 million who have died. At this incipient stage of the pandemic, there are already 13.4 million children orphaned by this disease. More than a third of those living with HIV and AIDS are under the age of 25.

There are 5 million new infections each year, 6,000 new every day; and young people ages 15 to 24 account for half of all new infections. Even in developed nations such as the United States, young people continue to represent half of all new infections; and yet this is only the beginning. What lies ahead, the future course of this pandemic is in large measure in the hands of this body and our government.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a critical stage in this pandemic. A major crossroads where our decision to act or not to act, or not to act fully, will determine the course of our own and world history from this time forward.

Several things became increasingly clear even in the few days I was able to attend the conference. First, we have wasted a lot of time arguing over prevention versus treatment, and with that many lives have been lost and others changed forever. We have made dangerous and deadly assumptions that have kept life-saving treatments out of the hands of those who could otherwise have been saved. We have provided but token funding; and because we are falling short, the needed infrastructure is not in place to allow programs that began in homes, churches and community meeting places to expand across the infected countries so that they could save more lives and get on with the work of nation building.

We, the United States, have the power to make the difference, to dramatically change the course of this dreaded disease by meeting our commitment to the global trust fund and

by exerting our influence on the other industrialized nations to meet theirs. Yet the United States, the richest country in the world, despite the fanfare surrounding recent increases in our contributions, ranks last in those who have pledged for the global trust fund.

To continue to fund this epidemic in drips and drabbles would be unconscionable because our delays and the delays of other nations have already caused it to spiral completely out of control on a global scale.

Today, at home, our ADAP program needs an additional \$80 million and the minority AIDS initiative needs \$450 million. Globally, 10 billion dollars is what is needed every year; and we must commit and act to contribute at least our full share, not over a period of time, but now.

It should be exceedingly clear that we cannot continue to fall short of providing the required level of funding. If we continue at the present level, we can anticipate another 45 million new infected persons within the next 20 years. It would also mean that there would be 20 million new children left without a mother or father, alone to grow up as orphans, denied of love and nurturing and probably education since the teachers too are among the dying. This portends a serious and ever-increasing threat to the national security of the most effected countries and, unless we think otherwise, also to ours.

Mr. Speaker, clearly the time for arguing over what must come first must be behind us. We must have treatment and prevention. We must find ways in this dire emergency to put life-saving medication within the reach of all who need it. Neither should research be pitted against prevention and treatment, because the need for vaccine, which may be just a few years ahead and which is where hope truly lies, must be given all the resources it needs to go forward. As we approach its availability, we must begin to work even now to avoid the gaps in access that we are still working to address in the case of medication.

Lastly, we can not tie the hands of health professionals, community organizations, and workers as they work on the front lines of this epidemic. Family planning funding or population funding provides much of the first line of defense. Continuing to impose the values of a minority of Americans on countries where there are people just fighting to live by denying them the basic staff and supplies is not befitting a country that is built on Christian values and principles.

I join my colleagues today to call on the leadership of this body and our President to provide the funding, to lift the gag, release the funding for all international family planning programs and provide the leadership which has always been our hallmark by making the full contribution to the global trust fund and influencing all of our allies to do the same.

□ 1700

WHERE'S THE MONEY?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take my time that I am allotted tonight to talk a little bit about the loss of \$17.3 billion.

On June 6 of this year I wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, and the reason that I wrote this letter is because I had been back in North Carolina during the break and I was listening to a talk show and they were quoting from the New York Post, and I want to read the first two paragraphs of this article.

It says, May 28, 2002, Washington complains about deceptive corporate accounting, but the government last year misplaced an incredible \$17.3 billion because of shoddy bookkeeping or worse. Again, the article says, Let me put that into numbers so that you can fully appreciate the amount. It is \$17.3 billion, the price of a few dozen urban renewal projects, a nice size fleet of warships or about half the tax cut that everyone made such a fuss about last year.

In addition, the London Times also wrote an article on the fact that we in this Nation, that our accounting system for this government, that we have lost or misplaced \$17.3 billion.

I share with my colleagues on both sides of the political aisle my frustration and disgust with what happened with Enron and also with WorldCom, but I do want to make the point, Mr. Speaker, that as sad as that is, and it is terribly sad, that the investors had a choice to make an investment. The taxpayers do not have a choice. They are mandated by law to pay their taxes.

So, therefore, we collect their taxes and yet in the year 2001, we have, and this is the term used, unreconciled transactions in the amount of \$17.3 billion.

So this is about my third or fourth week of coming to the floor, and I actually on June 6, I wrote Secretary O'Neill a letter, and I am just going to read two paragraphs. I said, The report provides minimal data and information regarding these unreconciled transactions. Not only is the Federal Government missing \$17.3 billion but there is no reason given for this loss. While I appreciate the Department of Treasury's statement, the identification and accurate reporting of these unreconciled transactions is a priority. The fact remains, the public nor the Congress has the information on how this loss occurred, what agencies were responsible for this unreconciled transaction; would these transactions eventually be reconciled; if so, what is the time line for this reconciliation; what agency or agencies will be responsible for the reconciliation; will this

reconciliation be available to the public when completed.

Mr. Speaker, the reason I am down here on the floor, I realize the Secretary is a very busy man, but I did write this letter on June 6 of this year, and I have not received a response. I am going to give the Secretary the benefit of the doubt, that like many of us here in the Congress, we have wonderful assistants that sometimes get the mail and they go through the letters before we see them. So I am going to give him the benefit of the doubt. I did write on June 27 a letter to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), and I have asked that the oversight committee hold a hearing on this issue of where we have misplaced the \$17.3 billion.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I will continue to come to the floor. Next week, I will have a chart that I will hold up before me as I speak, reminding the American people that we in Congress, on both sides of the political aisle, want to find out where that \$17.3 billion of the taxpayers' money has gone, and if it has been misspent or misplaced, somebody needs to answer for it.

HONORING ANDREA FOX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrea Fox of San Rafael, California, a talented professional planner, community volunteer, athlete and breast cancer activist, and an inspiration to everyone who knew her.

Andrea Fox lost her life in a battle against breast cancer on July 2 at the age of 35, leaving a legacy of extraordinary courage and compassion. A beautiful young woman with incredible grace and dignity, Annie Fox was dedicated to finding a cure for breast cancer. Diagnosed with a particularly aggressive cancer in 1998, the former triathlete, who ate organically and exercised regularly, had none of the traditional risk factors for cancer.

Undergoing a lumpectomy, she continued her athletic training and stage IV cancer seemed to disappear. But in April 2000, the cancer came back, and pursuing every treatment she could find, including non-Western, nontraditional methods, Annie appeared to have beaten it back again.

Andrea focused her considerable energies on increasing public awareness and getting national attention for this serious epidemic of breast cancer in Marin County, joining the board of Marin Breast Cancer Watch. "Annie was one of our angels," said board president Roni Mentzer.

Whether lobbying in Sacramento for breast cancer research or educating the community about the dangerously high rates of cancer in Marin County, Annie made a difference. She made history.

Never daunted, she participated in athletic events such as the renowned