

President Roosevelt created a program that is not Republican or Democrat. It is not east or west. It is not north or south. He envisioned the Nation strong because it defended the weak, stalwart because it valued its people, mighty because it was humble enough to care for the sick and the aged. No one was left behind by President Roosevelt.

This President will leave tens of millions behind in a risky scheme that rewards the greed of Wall Street while it destroys the values of Main Street.

Americans will not be better off with the President's private insecurity social system. Americans will be as vulnerable again as they were at the darkest economic moment in our history. It will be back in the arms of Wall Street.

The President offers no plan and no choice. The President offers only a stark reality: Slash the benefits right now, and he put it right out there a couple of days ago in his news conference; and also cut your bond with the American people; cut the ties that bind us together; destroy the trust and certainty that senior citizens will not retire into poverty because we will not let them. They cannot, if Mr. Bush has his way.

There is only one course open to the Congress and the American people. If the President will not remove the private insecurity social system from the table, then the American people should remove the table. Throw it away before somebody gets hurt. Remove it from America's house because it does not belong there.

We are a Nation of people who want our children and grandchildren to have an opportunity for more than we had. We will be the first generation to expect our children to have less because we planned it that way.

The President wants to create a Nation of people wanting for the basics of food, clothing and shelter. We lived through that once. We do not need to live through it again.

FDR was right in 1935, and he is right in 2005.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DENT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LATE PETER RODINO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to honor and commemorate the life and the accomplishments of our former colleague Congressman Peter Rodino, elected to the House of Representatives in 1949, who served his

district in New Jersey for 40 years with great integrity, humility, fairness, dignity and honor.

Originally known for making Columbus Day a national holiday, Chairman Peter Rodino spent his whole life fighting for people's rights, and I recall personally his strong commitment to human rights, his unwavering support for the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Voting Rights Extension Act of 1982. He introduced many of these bills and shepherded them through Congress as chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives.

He was also responsible for the enactment of the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act which reviewed determinations of mergers of huge corporations in America, and he was instrumental in reforming immigration laws in both the Simpson-Rodino legislation and the Kennedy-Rodino legislation, both of which improved mechanisms for people in the country illegally to legalize their immigration status.

In 1973, Mr. Rodino replaced the legendary Emanuel Celler as the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary. I was then a member of the committee, and he impressed all of us with his determination to do the right thing and his considerate treatment of all committee members. He displayed this common touch in his ability to relate to citizens of every background and from all walks of life.

Of course, Peter Rodino has earned his record in history for his role as chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, presiding over the Watergate hearings which led to the impeachment of then President Richard Millhouse Nixon. History has recorded the debt all Americans owe him for presiding firmly, responsibly and fairly over these hearings and subsequent proceedings.

Many people were very alarmed at what the impeachment of a President would mean, and they wondered aloud in our public media whether this country could survive an impeachment. He handled this very sensitive matter, and it turned Chairman Peter Rodino into a national hero. It was his calm steering of the committee to a final conclusion that ultimately preserved, without any disruption, the constitutional system of the United States, which has been emulated throughout the world.

After he retired from Congress in 1990, he returned to New Jersey as a professor of law at Seton Hall Law School in Newark, New Jersey, and he was active up until even last year. When I visited him there, he was still going strong.

I would like to close by announcing that his memorial service will be held in Newark on this coming Monday, and we want to invite as many of his friends in and out of the Congress who remember his great work to join us at 11 a.m. at the Catholic church of which he was closely connected for his memorial service.

□ 1500

VOLUNTARY OSHA EFFORTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JINDAL). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it is interesting that today we heard some very important testimony on workplace safety during a hearing we had in the Subcommittee on Workplace Protections. We wanted to hear from safety advocates in the small business community on how well voluntary employer compliance programs are working to improve workplace safety while at the same time protecting jobs and small businesses from unnecessary red tape and lawsuits.

I have heard employers say many times, and know from my own firsthand knowledge, that OSHA regulations are simply too complex and too difficult to understand. It is a red-tape nightmare, Mr. Speaker. That is a good description for the piles of OSHA rules, regulations, guidance documents, and interpretive letters that employers must dig through to try to determine the right thing to do in the business place to come into compliance. Mr. Speaker, I do not think they ought to be spending their time bringing their workplace into compliance with OSHA red tape. They ought to, instead, be spending their time making their workplace safer.

Small businesses want to comply with our Nation's health and safety laws for many reasons, one of which is it simply pays for them to do so. From the testimony we heard today, it is evident that OSHA's past "gotcha" enforcement scheme of fines and lawsuits is actually leading to a less safe workplace, as small business owners are forced to hunker down to protect themselves instead of seeking out help to improving their workplace safety.

Fortunately, OSHA has already recognized the need for compliance assistance, and Secretary Chao is to be commended for her vision and leadership in this regard. Now we are actually starting to see the results of her efforts over the last 5 years, and those results are positive and encouraging.

The Government Accountability Office, fondly known as GAO, has found that the companies involved in voluntary OSHA compliance programs have contributed to the safest workforce in our Nation's modern history. GAO asked for more data from Congress on how well these programs are working, and we need to provide that just as soon as possible.

But one overall fact we already know is that encouraging OSHA to help businesses instead of prosecuting them is having far better results in creating safer workplaces, and this is especially true with small businesses. We can continue this process with some powerful force multipliers with OSHA, through voluntary employer efforts to work

with private consultants and industrial safety specialists to foster a safer workplace.

OSHA will never have the resources to visit every American work site to ensure compliance, but this exciting new compliance tool can ensure that workplaces that would never see a visit from an OSHA inspector will have access to world-class safety specialists. At the same time, our business owners should be encouraged to invite OSHA to their work site and engage the agency in compliance assistance without fear of reprisal from Federal bureaucrats. In the process, we can continue to maintain the safest workplace in the world where our businesses can continue to compete in a global economy.

There are still the last holdouts from the failed ways of the past who would like to see Federal bureaucrats spread out across the country to harass and punish people who are trying to make a living. In order to do that, we would have to have 108,000 new inspectors at OSHA, and even then they could only visit our businesses every 2 years. That will never happen, and it is not going to work.

Mr. Speaker, we are on the verge of winning a great victory for workplace safety by expanding voluntary compliance programs. Let us resolve to defeat the naysayers. If we succeed, we can create a 21st-century OSHA that will be far more effective in creating a safe workplace for every American worker, no matter how small or remote their place of business. We can continue teaching Federal bureaucrats a lesson in manners when dealing with their fellow citizens, and, in fact, their employ-

BOLTON FOR U.N. AMBASSADOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of John Bolton's nomination as our ambassador to the United Nations.

Although I am not able to vote on his nomination, since I am not a Member of the United States Senate, I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to support his nomination. I am pleased that the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has agreed today to put his nomination before the full Senate for an up-or-down vote.

Mr. Speaker, the United Nations is in serious need of reform. From enforcing the resolutions the United Nations and its member countries have adopted over the years, to its misuse of funds for many programs across the world, the U.N. is in serious need of reform. Mr. Speaker, the United Nations is rife with fraud, mismanagement, and abuse in many areas of its operations. From the U.N. Oil-for-Food program, to its lack of action with respect to the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, to the horrendous human rights abuses during the

U.N. mission in the Congo, the U.N. is in serious need of reform.

I think we can all agree that the most urgent threat to international peace and security today is terrorism, yet the U.N. cannot even agree upon a definition for terrorism. Perhaps this is because its membership consists of several terror-sponsoring states. The U.N. counts the world's leading human rights violators and repressive governments among its membership, and even taps many of them to be in leadership positions on its subcommittees. I find this completely outrageous and dangerously ironic.

Last time I checked, the U.N. charter states that it is supposed to "maintain international peace and security; to promote equal rights and self-determination of peoples without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion; to help solve problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character; to encourage social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom."

The U.N. needs reform and Mr. Bolton is the right man to voice our encouragement for these reforms. Mr. Bolton has a proven track record in working with the United Nations in the past. In conjunction with efforts by Secretary James Baker to resolve conflict in the Western Sahara, he actually worked for the U.N. pro bono between 1997 and 2000. While serving as Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations from 1989 to 1993, he worked on other key diplomatic initiatives and U.N. reforms, including the repayment of arrearages in U.N. assessments that had been created during the 1980s. He has worked tirelessly in various capacities to help combat the spread of dangerous weapons of mass destruction through his lengthy and distinguished career.

Mr. Bolton has served this Nation well. There is no doubt in my mind that he will serve our great Nation with distinction and will be a strong voice for reform at a time when the United Nations desperately needs it. I applaud his nomination and encourage his approval by the Senate to serve our great Nation. Let Mr. Bolton be our voice to the U.N. that these reforms must be made.

THE VOICE OF GEORGIA'S FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IS BACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, it has been a long time since I have taken the well of the House of Representatives. Today, the people of Georgia's 4th Congressional District are happy that I am back. I have received notes, calls, letters and visits from people all over America who are glad to see me back

in Congress. They are glad to have a voice.

That voice. The voice. The voice back. The voice who spoke out and asked the questions about waste and abuse at the Pentagon. The fact that our Secretary of Defense would come to the House Committee on Armed Services, on which I served, and admit the loss of \$2.3 trillion and say in the same breath that our country can afford it; and the massive amounts of money that we send to the Pentagon today without even questioning how it has been spent; that we can afford it; or that we are getting the appropriate bang for our taxpayer bucks.

I questioned the no-bid sweetheart deals with favored insider corporations, like the Carlisle Group and Halliburton. I did not understand how our sitting Vice President could still be drawing a paycheck from the Halliburton Company and, at the same time, serve the interests of the American people.

I asked why weapon systems, unwanted by the Pentagon, still found their way into the President's defense request. I wondered why our soldiers were being required to take anthrax and smallpox vaccines that had not even been cleared by the FDA. I was amazed to learn that the administrator of the vaccines program was DynePort, a subsidiary of a company whose employees had been found guilty of trafficking in young women, raping young girls, and holding women of all ages as sex slaves.

I asked questions about how the United States could entirely change its military doctrine to one of preemption and there not be a discussion about the ramifications of that with the American people.

All that happened was that the Secretary of Defense came before the Committee on Armed Services and said that the new U.S. posture was going to be to seize foreign capitals and occupy them. Of course, this was long before anyone in the public was aware that we would soon be sending our young men and women off to a war to do just that. I was appalled at the acceptance without question of what was clearly a deviation from then current policy, but what was seemingly also more than just a theoretical forward projection of our military might. What Rumsfeld enunciated back then was exactly what we are doing now.

□ 1515

I publicly questioned how such a fundamental shift could be sanctioned without the least bit of controversy. I questioned why private militaries, some would say mercenary outfits while others would say U.S. intelligence front companies, like DynCorp were being given contracts that seems to me to allow escape of congressional oversight. DynCorp was spraying chemicals on plants and people in Colombia and had a presence in Peru, Qatar, Haiti, Afghanistan and now