

that happens to be, and simply rebates it back to the people paying Social Security taxes, not to go out and fix up the car or buy a refrigerator with it but instead to go into their own personal Social Security savings account that would be held by a fiduciary like the local bank.

Mr. Speaker, the individual could not get their hands on the money until they turn 65, but they would get a monthly statement and for the first time, because of the private property rights that come with an account like that, for the first time have a firewall created between political forces in D.C. and their Social Security surplus.

DEFENSE OF NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our National Missile Defense System. Last Saturday, the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization conducted a flight test over the Pacific. Unfortunately, a missile anomaly occurred which had nothing to do with the concept being tested. The booster simply did not separate from the kill vehicle and, therefore, the kill vehicle was not freed so that it could function.

Opponents of a National Missile Defense System thus have no basis for saying we should abandon our efforts. This was only the third of 19 planned tests. Successes and failures are to be expected as we perfect any defense system. This was not a concept failure.

Mr. Speaker, developing a missile defense system is one of the most civilized things we can do. When deployed, and God forbid, we need to use it, it only protects. It protects the people we love and does not destroy our enemy. This is the ultimate in defense.

Mr. Speaker, the so-called rogue nations are developing their capabilities to attack our people. As outlined by the Constitution, we, in Congress, have the obligation to provide for the defense of this country. We must go forward. We should not yield to political pressures. We must develop the National Missile Defense System.

U.S. ATTACKED BY KOFI ANNAN AT NOTRE DAME COMMENCEMENT

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, in this year's commencement speech at Notre Dame, Kofi Annan, the head of the United Nations, bitterly attacked the United States.

He said the U.S. was one of the "least generous" Nations in helping the world's poor. Actually, the exact opposite is true. No nation on the face of this Earth has even come close to the

U.S. in what it has given to poor people around the world.

Mr. Annan called the U.S. "shameful." Actually, U.S. taxpayers pay one-fourth of all U.N. costs and most of the costs of the so-called U.N. peace-keeping missions.

Mr. Speaker, most of our tax money for the U.N. is wasted to pay high salaries to U.N. bureaucrats who pay no Federal income taxes.

Interestingly, Mr. Annan has refused to release a copy of his financial disclosure as required by law or a copy of his own personal charitable giving for the past 5 years as requested by the Freedom Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Annan is the one who should be ashamed, not U.S. taxpayers.

SKYROCKETING GASOLINE PRICES

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great time of year to vacation in beautiful Colorado, but gas prices are still high. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson is on record saying that the Clinton-Gore administration was "caught napping" on the issue of skyrocketing gasoline prices.

Because of the administration's failed energy policies and inattention, Americans are being forced to pay outrageous prices at the gas pump, some cases \$2.35 a gallon.

We all know how dangerous it can be when a driver falls asleep at the wheel, and now we can see how dangerous it is when an entire administration falls asleep at the wheel.

While this administration was napping, domestic oil production decreased to 17 percent, and this increased dependence on foreign oil has helped put us to this current predicament.

Perhaps, Congress should start a caffeine IV for Secretary Richardson and the other Rip Van Winkles over at the White House who are responsible for this policy disaster.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the Clinton-Gore administration to wake up. The slumber party is over. Americans are tired of getting gored at the pump.

ACCUSATIONS OF A "DO NOTHING CONGRESS"

(Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, many of our friends in the Democrat party have been spending a lot of time lately accusing this of being a do nothing Congress, and I guess coming from a Democrat that is a tremendous compliment.

Do you know what it means when they accuse us of doing nothing? It means we are not raising taxes, that means we are not spending enough of the surplus. We have not raided the So-

cial Security surplus. We are not making government regulations burdensome enough.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my friends I consider the definition of "doing nothing" as a badge of honor. And do you know why? Because my Democrat friends and the Vice President have a funny definition of accomplishments.

They do not consider it an accomplishment to end the unfair penalty on married couples. They do not consider it an accomplishment to end the earnings limit for working seniors. They do not consider it an accomplishment to say that the Federal Government or the IRS should not take half your farm when you die, half of your business when you die.

They do not consider it an accomplishment to make prescription drugs available and affordable to our senior citizens in the country. This is what we have done over the last several months.

Democrats may not consider these things to be accomplishments, but millions of Americans who work every day, get up, they pay their taxes.

DEATH TAX

(Ms. PRYCE of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the House passed a repeal of the death tax last month. We will continue to work to see that this unfair tax is repealed.

The American dream is about the opportunity of every citizen to build a better future for themselves and their children through hard work and personal initiative. It means building your own business, pouring your own sweat into a small farm to turn a profit, saving each day so you can leave something to your family.

Yet it is these Americans who are working so hard, playing the rules and paying taxes who, upon their death, become the victims of a tax that discounts their dedication, punishes their entrepreneurship, and denies their dying wishes.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of this death tax, only one-third of all small businesses and family farms are passed on after the first generation. This is not right. Where is the logic?

Why does the government have to grab someone's life savings out of their hands once they die? It is time we eliminate the death tax and reinvest in America, so the dreams and values of these folks can be carried on to future generations. We need to make sure that death tax gets buried.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 354, nays 50, answered “present” 1, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 386]

YEAS—354

Abercrombie	DeGette	Hutchinson
Allen	Delahunt	Hyde
Andrews	DeLauro	Insee
Armey	DeLay	Isakson
Baca	DeMint	Istook
Bachus	Diaz-Balart	Jackson (IL)
Baldacci	Dickey	Jackson-Lee
Baldwin	Dicks	(TX)
Ballenger	Dingell	Jefferson
Barcia	Dixon	Jenkins
Barr	Doggett	Johr
Barrett (NE)	Dooley	Johnson (CT)
Barrett (WI)	Doolittle	Johnson, E. B.
Bartlett	Doyle	Jones (NC)
Bass	Dreier	Jones (OH)
Becerra	Duncan	Kanjorski
Bentsen	Dunn	Kaptur
Bereuter	Edwards	Kasich
Berkley	Ehlers	Kelly
Berman	Ehrlich	Kennedy
Berry	Emerson	Kildee
Biggart	Engel	Kilpatrick
Bilirakis	Eshoo	Kind (WI)
Bishop	Etheridge	King (NY)
Blagojevich	Evans	Kingston
Bliley	Everett	Kleczka
Blumenauer	Ewing	Klink
Blunt	Farr	Kolbe
Boehlert	Fletcher	Kuykendall
Boehner	Foley	LaFalce
Bonilla	Fossella	LaHood
Bono	Fowler	Lampson
Boswell	Frank (MA)	Lantos
Boucher	Franks (NJ)	Largent
Boyd	Frelinghuysen	Larson
Brady (TX)	Galleghy	Latham
Brown (FL)	Ganske	LaTourette
Brown (OH)	Gejdenson	Lazio
Bryant	Gekas	Lee
Burr	Gephardt	Levin
Burton	Gibbons	Lewis (CA)
Buyer	Gilchrest	Lewis (GA)
Callahan	Gillmor	Lewis (KY)
Calvert	Gilman	Linder
Camp	Gonzalez	Lipinski
Canady	Goode	Lofgren
Cannon	Goodlatte	Lowey
Capps	Goodling	Lucas (KY)
Cardin	Gordon	Lucas (OK)
Castle	Goss	Luther
Chabot	Graham	Maloney (CT)
Chambliss	Granger	Maloney (NY)
Clayton	Green (TX)	Manzullo
Clement	Green (WI)	Markey
Clyburn	Greenwood	Martinez
Coble	Gutknecht	Mascara
Coburn	Hall (TX)	Matsui
Collins	Hansen	McCarthy (MO)
Combest	Hastings (WA)	McCarthy (NY)
Condit	Hayes	McCollum
Conyers	Hayworth	McCreery
Cook	Herger	McGovern
Cooksey	Hill (IN)	McHugh
Cox	Hinchee	McInnis
Coyne	Hinojosa	McIntosh
Cramer	Hobson	McIntyre
Crowley	Hoeffel	McKeon
Cubin	Hoekstra	McKinney
Cummings	Holden	Meehan
Cunningham	Hooley	Meek (FL)
Danner	Horn	Meeks (NY)
Davis (FL)	Hostettler	Menendez
Davis (IL)	Houghton	Metcalf
Davis (VA)	Hoyer	Mica
Deal	Hunter	

Millender-McDonald	Rangel
Miller (FL)	Regula
Miller, Gary	Reyes
Miller, George	Reynolds
Minge	Riley
Mink	Rivers
Moakley	Rodriguez
Mollohan	Roemer
Moran (KS)	Rogers
Moran (VA)	Rohrabacher
Morella	Ros-Lehtinen
Murtha	Rothman
Myrick	Roukema
Nadler	Roybal-Allard
Napolitano	Royce
Neal	Rush
Nethercutt	Ryan (WI)
Ney	Ryun (KS)
Northup	Salmon
Norwood	Sanchez
Nussle	Sanders
Olver	Sandlin
Ortiz	Sanford
Ose	Sawyer
Packard	Saxton
Pallone	Scarborough
Pascrell	Scott
Pastor	Sensenbrenner
Payne	Serrano
Pease	Shadegg
Pelosi	Shaw
Peterson (PA)	Shays
Petri	Sherman
Phelps	Sherwood
Pickering	Shimkus
Pitts	Shows
Porter	Shuster
Portman	Simpson
Price (NC)	Skeen
Pryce (OH)	Skelton
Quinn	Smith (MI)
Radanovich	Smith (NJ)
Rahall	Smith (TX)
	Snyder

NAYS—50

Aderholt	Hastings (FL)	Rogan
Baird	Hefley	Sabo
Bilbray	Hill (MT)	Schaffer
Bonior	Hillery	Schakowsky
Borski	Hilliard	Stark
Brady (PA)	Holt	Strickland
Capuano	Hulshof	Stupak
Clay	Kucinich	Taylor (MS)
Crane	LoBiondo	Thompson (CA)
DeFazio	McDermott	Thompson (MS)
Deutsch	Moore	Velazquez
English	Oberstar	Visclosky
Fattah	Peterson (MN)	Waters
Filner	Pickett	Weller
Ford	Pombo	Wexler
Gutierrez	Pomeroy	Wu
Hall (OH)	Ramstad	

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Tancredo
NOT VOTING—29

Ackerman	Frost	Sisisky
Archer	Johnson, Sam	Slaughter
Baker	Knollenberg	Smith (WA)
Barton	Leach	Souder
Bateman	McNulty	Vento
Campbell	Obey	Whitfield
Carson	Owens	Wise
Chenoweth-Hage	Oxley	Wynn
Costello	Paul	Young (AK)
Forbes	Sessions	

□ 1052

Mr. HILLIARD changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ISRAEL CANCELS SALE OF AWAC SYSTEM TO CHINA

(Mr. CALLAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, there has been quite a bit of interest in the last couple of months about the Israeli

sale of an AWAC system to China. It was going to be a major discussion on the floor of the House today. I know many Members were concerned about that issue.

I wanted to tell them that I just received a call from the ambassador telling me that Mr. Barak has canceled the AWAC sale to China.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4810, MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2000

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 545 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 545

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4810) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 103(a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2001. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; (2) the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by Representative Rangel or his designee, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 545 is a modified closed rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 4810, the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Reconciliation Act of 2000. For those Members who think they are experiencing *deja vu*, let me clear up any confusion. It is true that the House has already voted to provide relief from the marriage tax penalty. In fact, on February 10 of this very year, the House passed legislation that is identical to H.R. 4810 by a bipartisan vote of 268-158. Prior to that, the House twice passed marriage tax relief as part of a larger tax bill which the President unfortunately vetoed. So this is actually the fourth time that the 106th Congress will debate and vote to provide tax fairness to married couples.

It probably baffles the American people that it takes this much effort to