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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

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Why are our friends, like Germany and Japan, doing so little to help? Where are their troops and money?

Is the Persian Gulf going to be another protracted conflict like Vietnam?

Whose side is Jordan on? Is that what we get after billions of dollars of U.S. aid?

What will it take to convince our Government to establish a sound energy policy, one that reduces our dependence on foreign oil and stimulates alternative energy sources?

These are just some of the questions New Mexicans have been asking—questions that we in the Congress must continue to ask in the coming months and demand appropriate answers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOUSE
MINORITY WHIP

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to applaud my colleague, the House minority whip, NEWT GINGRICH. Congressman GINGRICH has outlined a 4-percent budget strategy for all Americans and especially for those who support a pro-growth budget solution. The 4-percent solution allows Congress to increase total Federal spending by no more than 4 percent of previous years spending levels for the next 6 years thus balancing the budget in fiscal 1997.

Congressman GINGRICH has taken a bold stand in favor of the American people and revealed the truth about the Federal budget. The truth being that the Washington establishment favors the Federal budget over the family budget. That Congress has developed a tax system that is antichild, antifamily, antiwork, antisavings, antiinvestment, and antijobs. Congressman GINGRICH has courageously voiced loud and clear what the Democrats and those so driven by money politics fail to recognize, that the budget system is broken and in desperate need of repair. I applaud the Congressman and support his efforts to avoid a recession.

STATUS OF EL SALVADOR
NEGOTIATIONS

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

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, last month another round in the negotiations between the Government of El Salvador and the opposition FMLN was held in San Jose, Costa Rica. The goal of the negotiations is a peaceful settlement to a long and brutal war that has already claimed over 70,000 lives.

Unfortunately the negotiations last month did not go well. Almost no progress was made on the key issue of military reform. The FMLN's proposal on this subject was particularly extreme and unrealistic and provided no opportunity for the United Nations mediator to bring the two sides closer together.

Another round of negotiations is scheduled to begin next week. I hope that the FMLN position will be more flexible at that time, and that the mediators will be encouraged by both sides, to develop proposals aimed at establishing a middle ground.

I also condemn, in the strongest possible terms, FMLN threats of another military offensive. The Salvadoran people are sick of war, and sick of people, who talk of nothing but war.

In this connection, I think it ironic that last May, this House voted to provide strong incentives for the FMLN to refrain from a new offensive, to refrain from purchasing arms, to refrain from attacks against civilians, and to negotiate in good faith.

The administration opposed that plan and, as a result, those incentives are not now in law. I only hope that the administration's opposition to the proposal, which was offered by Rep. JOHN MURTHA and myself, does not lead inadvertently to further violence in El Salvador.

And I hope that we will, in the weeks ahead, pass legislation that will provide strong incentives for both sides in El Salvador to respect human rights and to end this senseless war.

I would also add that I am encouraged by the administration's willingness to attempt to reach an accommodation on this issue with the Congress, and I am confident in the weeks ahead, this will happen.

FURLOUGHING OF FEDERAL
EMPLOYEES

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

Mr. PARRIS. Mr. Speaker, once again, Federal employees have become the scapegoats of our seriously troubled budget process. Over and over again, this country's civil servants are threatened by the legislature tampering with their retirement funds, not receiving cost of living adjustments, and just plain lack of respect. The most recent slap in the face is the proposal to furlough Federal employees. Does anyone really believe that it is fair to balance the budget on the backs of Government workers?

Furloughing Federal employees for up to 22 days is not simply a blow to morale. Our Nation's 2.4 million civil servants are paying mortgages, feeding children, and working hard to enhance their quality of life. And now we propose cutting them off at the knees by taking chunks of their salaries to meet budget constraints. Even a 2-day fur-

lough can have devastating effect on a struggling worker or family.

I can't imagine anything more unfair to these dedicated people and potentially damaging to the Federal work force, and, in turn, the productivity of this country. At this moment, Federal employees at the Department of Defense are working night and day to sustain our activities in the Persian Gulf crisis, and other Government workers are engaged in vital activities all across the country. There are other ways of solving our budget woes, and we must find them but an extensive furlough of essential employees is not the way. I urge my colleagues to move decisively to reach a responsible budget agreement by October 1.

CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY OF
U.S. AIR FORCE S. SGT. JOHN
CAMPISI

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

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, let me say to my colleagues, ever since I was allowed the privilege and honor of serving with you, I never have had to stand before you for the reason I do now.

It is with profound regret and sadness that I must now inform you of the death of one of our young servicemen while on duty in the Middle East. U.S. Air Force S. Sgt. John Campisi, of West Covina, CA, was hit and killed by a truck on Sunday, August 12, while on duty in Saudi Arabia.

As a member of our Armed Forces, John was one of the first of our personnel to arrive in the Middle East.

A career military man, John, at age 31, was married and had four young children.

His death, one of the first to occur as a result of this current crisis, was both grievous and damaging to those who knew him. He leaves four children.

My sympathies and those of my fellow members, go out to his family and loved ones.

Unfortunately, John's death is also a reminder. A reminder to us in the Congress of the United States, that an important responsibility of our office is to provide for the welfare of American personnel overseas.

Let us remember our duty to bring them home safely, so that their families can be spared an anguish similar to that of John Campisi's family.

Mr. Speaker, I send a message to those families who have loved ones overseas during this tense and emotive period.

By saying that a peaceful and negotiated settlement is the primary goal of this Government, we are letting them know that the lives of their loved ones, for their husbands and sons, wives and daughters, brothers