

1963

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

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Congress fritters away its powers and shirks its duty.

Whatever may have been the situation in previous years I do not know. But now—today—the 88th Congress is a horse of a different color. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, the American people should be thankful that the 88th Congress stands between them and the massive raid upon their pocketbooks that is the present administration's program.

On both sides of the aisle in this House are many men and women who neither fritter away nor shirk their duty. Confronted with reckless fiscal proposals, politically conceived, that would sacrifice the public interest through solicitation of American voters by promises of a share of Federal pork, the salvation of America is going to be the unity of Members of this House from both political parties who refuse to sell America down the river for a political mess of porridge the present President calls progress.

As never before, Congress is besieged with Presidential messages, the cumulative effect of which would be to weaken America's strength and undermine our dollars by spending billions more than we take in. And this is without regard to the existence of the greatest national debt the Nation has ever had, and all in the name of the so-called New Frontier.

Mr. Speaker, the Pied Piper was a piker next to the Kennedys. Unfortunately, it is a trifle difficult now and then to know which Kennedy is playing the flute or calling the tune. But it does not matter as long as the American people realize that the song the Kennedys play is leading America down the road to financial ruin.

THE SITUATION IN CUBA

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, probably the proudest day in the history of this Nation was last October 22d. That day President Kennedy, in the strongest proclamation made by a President in history outside of a declaration of war, squared off his broad shoulders and told the Russians to pull their weapons out of Cuba. We knew at that time that we had a strong man as President; a man who had the guts to tell the biggest military power outside of this country that we would stand for no installation of offensive weapons at our back door.

This buildup had been going on for several years. This administration did not sire Castro, but inherited him. The Communists were allowed to take over Cuba in the last administration. That administration closed its eyes to the threat. But once the present President of the United States had evidence that offensive weapons were being placed in Cuba he made them remove all such weapons. They took them out, and the world knew that the United States was under the leadership of a great, and strong man.

Today we hear partisan bickering by the Republican Party trying to destroy

the image that has been created internationally of the great leadership in this Nation. After 8 years of lackadaisical do-nothing this country had deteriorated internationally to a state lower than it had ever been in its history. Today it is the leader of the world, recognized as such by all nations of the world. We also have a strong national economy; we are going to keep it that way in order to have the respect of the other people throughout the world.

I regret and I deplore the fact that our international policy is now a cause for partisan bickering. Certainly this does not help our relative position in the international scene.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER

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

Mr. HALLECK. Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the gentleman from New York [Mr. BECKER] has touched off something of a controversy that some have tried to label as purely political. He was answered by the acting majority leader. Subsequently the gentleman from New York indicated that what he had to say had not been in the political realm.

I had not anticipated becoming involved in this matter today, but when the gentleman from Tennessee undertakes to say that under the great President Eisenhower, who knows more about war and what to do about it than anybody, and I say so even today—when he undertakes to say our whole position in the world deteriorated in those 8 years under President Eisenhower I cannot keep silent. He knows that is not quite the situation. It does not even approximate the situation. There was talk about the missile gap. Now, on the word of Mr. Kennedy's Secretary of Defense, we know there was no missile gap. There was the charge that we had lost prestige in the world. There was no truth in that either.

As a matter of fact, I am just afraid that wherever we look, whether it be unemployment continuing as high as 5.8 percent after you promised to get rid of it, the cost-price squeeze on farmers worse, FHA mortgage foreclosures greater today than any time in history, the cost of living up for everybody—deficits up—almost every place you look, yes, even abroad, you find increasingly troublesome situations. The gentleman speaks of Cuba.

First, I would point out that when the Bay of Pigs fiasco occurred in 1961, there were many people who thought Republicans should have turned that disaster into political capital.

We thought—and we still think—that to have done so with a new President in office would only have increased the enormous damage to American prestige which was caused by that incident.

Second, I would like to remind the gentleman that it was Republican Members in this body and the other body who took the lead last year in exposing the Soviet missile buildup and demand-

ing action against it. May I remind him that on September 7 the joint Senate-House Republican leadership asked for a Formosan-type resolution in respect to Cuba. It fell on deaf ears here on the part of the majority for days and days, and then finally you woke up to the fact that you had to do something. Then at last a Formosan-type resolution was adopted. It was Republican inspired, not for political advantage but for the protection and security of our country.

Now, the gentleman speaks of the action that was taken at the White House last October in respect to Cuba. May I say to him that I was there at the request of the President when that announcement was made. You will recall that when he undertook the action, he referred to the Formosan-type resolution that had been adopted by the Congress as the basis for his authority to act. And, I just want to say to the gentleman that as that meeting broke up there had been some controversy there about what to do. I said, "Mr. President, I stand with you."

Now, if that is partisanship, I do not know what "partisanship" means.

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HALLECK. I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. BASS. I would like to say to my friend from Indiana that in the 8 years that I have served in the House I have never thought the gentleman from Indiana was partisan in his approach to international affairs. I want to congratulate him for being the leader on his side and giving support to a President, Republican or Democrat, in international affairs, if it became necessary. I always felt that he was that way. I was not referring to him in my remarks. I do not believe that he is a party to that sort of thing. But, I would like to say to him that I think with the press releases that I have read recently emanating from his side of the aisle, the other members of his party are not taking the course that the gentleman from Indiana would like for them to take in international affairs.

Now, in reference to what I said a few minutes ago, I would like to say to my friend from Indiana that I wish he would take the leadership and insist that the members of his party not make inflammatory statements in the international field which may tend to embarrass this country. Surely they cannot have all the necessary facts and may even unwittingly tip the hand of planned action.

Mr. HALLECK. Mr. Speaker, if I might conclude, what the gentleman has said in complimenting me will meet with mixed reaction on my side of the aisle, but in any event, the gentleman has brought it up. But, I want to say again that Republican voices were raised in respect to the buildup in Cuba long before the announcement was made by the President, and they were properly made, and today, if the gentleman asks me, I am tremendously concerned about what I believe is a further buildup of military strength in Cuba. I read in the paper that some statements were made by a

Member on our side in the other body concerning the buildup, and then I think it was a representative of the State Department or the Pentagon who said, "Well, maybe the gentleman is right."

All I ask is that our Government take whatever steps are necessary to protect the security of our country, and when that is done, I will stand with the President as I have before.

U.S. SQUABBLING OVER CUBA MUST CEASE

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

Mr. ROGERS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Washington is rife with contradictions on the amount of Soviet military equipment in Cuba. Each day new charges on the specific number of Cuba-based Communist arms are hurled from the floors of the Congress. Executive agencies are then drawn into bickering over the quantities of Soviet military equipment, the design of this equipment, and whether it is in Cuba for offensive or defensive purposes.

The American people view the situation in simple terms. One Soviet soldier in Cuba is one too many. And when does the mission of that one Soviet soldier, with one pack on his back, and one rifle in his hand, become offensive or defensive? The answer is simple—when the Kremlin orders it so.

Mr. Speaker, we may be losing sight of the basic problem. The amount and type of Soviet military equipment in Cuba is not the problem. Nor does the offensive or defensive nature of such equipment change the problem. In simple and glaring terms, the problem centers on the existence of communism in Cuba, backed up by Soviet military equipment—whatever it may be.

How do we solve this problem? The first step is by isolating Cuba. Cuba should be placed in solitary confinement by the nations of this hemisphere. I would urge that isolation be accomplished by first closing U.S. ports to vessels calling at the island of Cuba. I further urge that the United States propose to the Organization of American States, which now stands ready to act, the following steps:

First. Close the seaports of this hemisphere to vessels calling in Cuba.

Second. Close the airports of the hemisphere to airlines flying into Cuba.

Third. Ban telecommunications relays of messages to and from Cuba.

Fourth. Curb the travel of Castro agents throughout the hemisphere.

Fifth. Freeze Cuban Government funds now on deposit in Latin American financial institutions.

Mr. Speaker, we must not be diverted by the extent of the Soviet strength in Cuba. The United States must concentrate its full strength and power toward ridding the hemisphere of all Soviet influence now present in it. The United States must exert its leadership to rid this hemisphere of communism.

(Mr. WATSON (at the request of Mr. GRABOWSKI) was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and include extraneous matter.)

[Mr. WATSON'S remarks will appear hereafter in the Appendix.]

THE CUBAN CRISIS

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

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, I read from an editorial that was published in the daily paper of my home town. This is apropos of the discussion that has taken on the floor of the House here this morning. Certainly all of us are interested in the situation that has arisen in Cuba and all of us are concerned. Yet during times of this nature it is advisable for men to gage their remarks and to use caution in their language.

Mr. Speaker, I read the last sentence of this editorial:

President Kennedy acted in a role during the Cuban crisis which will be applauded by the overwhelming majority of American people.

Mr. Speaker, I concur in this statement and I concur in the defense of former Presidents as to their loyalty to this country. Yet, Mr. Speaker, the debate on this question has aroused a great interest among the people of America and, therefore, the debate should be waged with caution and discretion.

In times of great stress such as those that have developed with regard to Cuba in the last 5 or 6 months it is particularly important that we maintain our national solidarity. The President and our military leaders are entitled to the support of all of us on issues where they of necessity must bear the burden of decision. This is not to say that any man should not hold or express such personal views as he has. But such views or such information should be transmitted to those who are responsible under our system for acquiring, evaluating, and acting upon information bearing on the security of our country. I believe the vast majority of us, without regard to partisan preference, have faith in the loyalty and integrity of those in whom we vest the lonely responsibility of ultimate decision.

Mr. Speaker, I submit this editorial for the RECORD.

The matter referred to follows:

DICTATORSHIP—UGLY WORD

"Dictatorship" is an ugly word in a democracy where we pride ourselves on freedom for all. Yet there come times even in the land of the free when we must exercise a sort of dictatorship temporarily in order to preserve freedom permanently.

When the Cuban crisis arose, someone had to take the plow handle and act decisively. The only one in America who could do the job then was the President of the United States.

Whatever criticism there might be today over the fact that President Kennedy did act decisively, did assume the role of a sort of temporary dictator, and did act even without

clear-cut constitutional authority at times should not cause extremists to shout "dictator." It should point up the need here in our democracy for certain reforms giving the President temporary power to act decisively in a quick crisis.

Had the President not acted quickly and decisively in the Cuban crisis, then we hesitate to think what the results might have been. Because he assumed authority and exerted definite leadership at that time in no way causes us to feel that he is trying to be a dictator over this Nation.

Yet there are people who are openly critical at what they see as a man assuming such extreme powers at such a time.

If we admit that "dictatorship" is an ugly word, we must also admit that "chaos" or "surrender" is far uglier.

No, to our way of thinking when a man becomes dictator, it takes on a status of being permanent. President Kennedy acted in a role during the Cuban crisis which will be applauded by the overwhelming majority of American people.

UNITED STATES IMPORTATION OF LUMBER FROM CANADA

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

Mr. WHITE. Mr. Speaker, Northwest lumber producers have found themselves caught in an ever-tightening cost-price squeeze. The demand for softwood products has dwindled with the decreases in the homebuilding industry, but this is only a fraction of a very complex problem. Production in the United States has declined faster than consumption, and the difference is importation of lumber from Canada.

In recognition of the devastating effect the loss of lumber markets has on the Idaho economy, the 37th session of the State of Idaho Legislature has passed two memorials relative to the importation of Canadian lumber and the restrictive effects of wilderness legislation.

According to the rules of the House, Mr. Speaker, the memorials have been received and referred to the proper committees.

MENTAL ILLNESS AND MENTAL RETARDATION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 58)

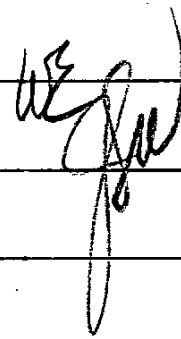
The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read, referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

It is my intention to send shortly to the Congress a message pertaining to this Nation's most urgent needs in the area of health improvement. But two health problems—because they are of such critical size and tragic impact, and because their susceptibility to public action is so much greater than the attention they have received—are deserving of a wholly new national approach and a separate message to the Congress. These

UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP**

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