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in 16 different events in less than 20 years, and the home is worth only $114,000.

The question then becomes, should the Federal Government be in the business of providing an incentive for a small number of people to stop and continuously risk not just their property but their lives and those of their families and their neighbors.

Nicholas Sparks in this Sunday's New York Times Magazine suggests that, well, maybe the answer is yes. He plans to rebuild in a hurricane devastated sand dune on the Carolina coast.

I think that the majority of Americans would disagree. If there is a compassionate way to provide an incentive for people to move out of harm's way, that is what we should consider. If there is a way to provide that incentive while also protecting the flood insurance program and the American taxpayer, then that approach should be implemented as soon as possible.

There are ways to protect lives: The flood insurance program and the taxpayer. The Two Floods bill would provide assistance to those who are most in danger to help them move to higher ground or to flood-proof their home. The money spent to move them from harm's way protects the lives of families that live by them and protects the health of the flood insurance program by ending the danger of repeated damage claims.

Putting people, their families, and their neighbors who try to save them at risk does them no favor. Encouraging people we know to suffer repeated loss and threat is a waste of more than taxpayers' money. The loss of property, business, and human life is a tragedy we can help prevent. I urge my colleagues to support reform of the national flood insurance program.

TRIBUTE TO FELIX TRINIDAD, A NATIVE SON OF PUERTO RICO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ), is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Felix "Tito" Trinidad, a native son of Puerto Rico, on his tremendous victory in the world welterweight title fight this past Saturday, September 18. Tito's victory over his talented and worthy opponent, Oscar De La Hoya, has touched off one of the largest and most passionate celebrations in the long and storied history of sports in Puerto Rico.

Both fighters brought impressive credentials to this bout. Each one was undefeated, with Trinidad having won 35 straight matches and De La Hoya 31 straight victories. Public interest for a bout between these two ran high and once the match was set, anticipation reached a fevered pitch; and the fans who watched this clash on Saturday night were treated to a tremendous spectacle.

De La Hoya fought confidently and appeared to have a lead midway through the fight, but Tito showed the heart of a champion by coming back to win the later rounds and, with them, the bout. His perseverance against a great opponent and the tenacity he showed in overcoming the deficit he faced was an inspiration for all of us.

Nowhere is Tito's victory appreciated more than in Puerto Rico. We are intensely proud of our native son who has brought us great honor. Even before his victory on Saturday, Tito was recognized as one of the heroes of the long and storied history of sports in Puerto Rico.

Of course, Puerto Rico's sports history focuses heavily on America's national pastime, baseball, a game that Puerto Ricans have embraced with an unrivaled passion. Our heroes include the legendary Roberto Clemente, known as much for his acts of humanitarian compassion as for his baseball skills, and such current stars as Juan Gonzalez, Ivan Rodriguez, Roberto and Sandy Alomar, Edgar Martinez, and Bernie Williams, to name a few.

Tito's victory on Saturday night adds another significant chapter to the great history of Puerto Ricans distinguishing themselves in the world of sports.

I hope other Members of this body will join me in congratulating Felix Trinidad on his great victory over his outstanding opponent, Oscar De La Hoya, on Saturday night. All of Puerto Rico is proud of you, Tito, and so are your fellow American citizens who saw your outstanding display of courage and tenacity. You show the true mettle of a champion, the stuff heroes are made of. You are an example to our youth in Puerto Rico and to all the youth across the Nation.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Reverend David N. Morrell, St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray. Gracious and eternal God, as these men and women who have been elected by the people of this Nation to represent them gather today, we ask Your blessing upon them. Grant that they be open to Your divine will and the guidance of Your Holy Spirit as they discuss, debate, and decide the issues before them.

On this new day, guide the leadership, the Members, and their staff that their efforts for equality, justice, mercy, and compassion will bear fruit in this Nation and in Your world.

In faith and hope we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CALVERT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 20, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on September 16, 1999 at 3:10 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits to the Congress proposed legislation entitled, the "Cyberspace Electronic Security Act of 1999."

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL.

CYBERSPACE ELECTRONIC SECURITY ACT OF 1999—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-123)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Government Reform and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit for your early consideration and speedy enactment a legislative proposal entitled the "Cyberspace Electronic Security Act of 1999" (CESA). Also transmitted herewith is a section-by-section analysis.

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There is little question that continuing advances in technology are changing forever the way in which people live, the way they communicate with each other, and the manner in which they work and conduct commerce. In just a few years, the Internet has shown the world a glimpse of what is attainable in the information age. As a result, the demand for more and better access to information and electronic commerce continues to grow—among not just individuals and consumers, but also among financial, medical, and educational institutions, manufacturers and merchants, and State and local governments. This increased reliance on information and communications raises important privacy issues because Americans want assurance that their sensitive personal and business information is protected from unauthorized access as it resides on and traverses national and international communications networks. For Americans to trust this new electronic environment, and for the promise of electronic commerce and the global information infrastructure to be fully realized, information systems must provide methods to protect the data and communications of legitimate users. Encryption can address this need because encryption can be used to protect the confidentiality of both stored data and communications. Therefore, my Administration continues to support the development, adoption, and use of robust encryption by legitimate users.

At the same time, however, the same encryption products that help facilitate confidential communications between law-abiding citizens also pose a significant and undeniable public safety risk when used to facilitate and mask illegal and criminal activity. Although cryptography has many legitimate and important uses, it is also increasingly used as a means to promote criminal activity, such as drug trafficking, terrorism, white collar crime, and the distribution of child pornography.

The advent and eventual widespread use of encryption poses significant and heretofore unseen challenges to law enforcement and public safety. Under existing statutory and constitutional law, law enforcement is provided with different means to collect evidence of illegal activity in such forms as communications or stored data on computers. These means are rendered wholly insufficient when encryption is utilized to scramble the information in such a manner that law enforcement, acting pursuant to lawful authority, cannot decipher the evidence in a timely manner, if at all. In the context of law enforcement operations, time is of the essence and may mean the difference between success and catastrophic failure.

A sound and effective public policy must support the development and use of encryption for legitimate purposes but allow access to plain text by law enforcement when encryption is utilized by criminals. This requires an approach that properly balances critical privacy interests with the need to preserve public safety. As is explained more fully in the sectional analysis that accompanies this proposed legislation, the CESA provides such a balance by simultaneously creating significant new privacy protections for lawful users of encryption, while assisting law enforcement's efforts to preserve existing and constitutionally supported means of responding to criminal activity.

The CESA establishes limitations on government use and disclosure of decryption keys obtained by court process and provides special protections for decryption keys stored with third party "recovery agents." CESA authorizes a recovery agent to disclose stored recovery information to the government, or to use stored recovery information on behalf of the government, in a narrow range of circumstances (*e.g.*, pursuant to a search warrant or in accordance with a court order under the Act). In addition, CESA would authorize appropriations for the Technical Support Center in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which will serve as a centralized technical resource for Federal, State, and local law enforcement in responding to the increasing use of encryption by criminals.

I look forward to working with the Congress on this important national issue.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *September 16, 1999.*

SALUTE TO GERARD GAUTHIER, EDWIN KUHLMANN, AND ROBERT STUMPF UPON RECEIPT OF POW MEDALS AT NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of three POWs, and I recall the words of President John F. Kennedy who once said, "In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger. I do not shrink from this responsibility. I welcome it."

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no better words to describe three former World War II POWs from Nevada who were honored with POW Medals at Nellis Air Force Base last Friday.

Gerard Gauthier, Edwin Kuhlmann, and Robert Stumpf did not shrink from their responsibilities, indeed they welcomed them, ultimately enduring the greatest test of fighting men and women, as captives of our enemies.

Just as the Soldiers' Code of Conduct now says, these men never forgot that they were American fighting men, responsible for their actions and dedicated to the principles which made our country free.

I stand here to honor these men, men of one of the greatest generations for providing the fighting men and women that followed in their footsteps the bedrock for returning with honor. As a veteran of two of our Nation's wars, I salute their sacrifices and services. They are our heroes. They are our Nation's heroes. I thank them for their patriotism, their courage, and their inspiration.

SPIES FROM RUSSIA

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, first it was China, and now it is Russia. The FBI said Russia is spying on America. If that is not enough to tax one's vodka.

The FBI says that 50 percent of all Russian diplomats in America are likely to be spies. Unbelievable. The White House gives billions of dollars to Boris. Boris uses our money to spy on us.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I thought we always gave billions of dollars to Russia because they were so poor they could not even afford toilet paper. I say it is time to put Boris on a cash diet. Maybe when he runs out of toilet paper, he will stop spying on us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the Charmin.

REPUBLICAN TAX CUT IS FAIR, PRUDENT AND BALANCED

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, let us set the record straight this afternoon about the Democrat accusations that the Republican tax relief package is huge, massive, gigantic, irresponsible.

It starts very slowly, as a matter of fact, and it only goes forward if we have surpluses.

Here are some figures that my colleagues will not hear from the Democrats: The tax cut for the first year, the fiscal year 2000, it is $5.3 billion. Now, out of an $8 trillion economy, that is not massive.

The next year, 2001, it is $1.1 billion. Now, that is not huge. In the year 2002, it is $34.7 billion. In the year 2003, it is $53.1 billion. In the year 2004, it is $61.7 billion.

So, Mr. Speaker, over the next 5 years, the tax cuts will total about $156 billion. That is not risky. That is not irresponsible. These are the numbers, and these are the facts.

This approach by the Republicans is balanced, fair, prudent, and a great tax cut for the American people.

CALL FOR LIBERALS TO EXPLAIN WHY TAX RELIEF PROPOSAL IS SO OFFENSIVE

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

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