

WE'RE HARASSED OVERTAXED AMERICANS

March 10, 1994

Mr. Brian Lamb
C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St. N.W.#650
Washington DC 20001

Dear Brian:

In February, 1993, my husband and I with two other couples decided we could no longer afford to remain silent after we heard our President present his stimulus package to the American people. We decided to attempt a nationwide tax protest for April 15, 1993.

The four of us and all of the people you see in the newspaper articles had the same reluctance about protesting. We, as Republicans, have always used as much diplomacy and finesse as possible in disagreeing with our Democrat counterparts. If you direct your attention to the article from the Whittier, California Newspaper, there were "ladies in the eighties" who mustered the courage to join us. It was an orderly protest and I am very pleased with the coverage and attention we attracted.

I mailed a copy of our announcement to two people in each state. Because it was a grass roots activity not driven with money, follow up work was prohibitive. I do know that my friend in Chicago marched with us. A phone call from Mesa, Arizona assured me that they were on board. Angry taxpayers from Cincinnati, Ohio wrote a very long letter praising our efforts and indicating that they were preparing to protest.

Since you are in the business of showcasing political profiles and discussing issues, I thought you might be interested in our activity and would advise your listeners of what we are doing.

Because we are very slighted by the media, I am very surprised at the newspaper coverage we did receive. Most media people were preoccupied with the Rodney King trial on April 15, 1993 and we were very fortunate that some reporters did take notice. My press release went to CBS, ABC, NBC, Los Angeles Times, USA Today and many other newspapers.

If this is the kind of issue that you can use for discussion, we would be grateful to have any assistance we can get.

Should you need additional information, please call me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CA 91792 [REDACTED]

Taxpayers deliver their message to Washington-WHOA

BY LEWIS CLEVELER
Staff Writer

Some folks are sending a message to the Hill—WHOA. To deliver their initial "no more taxes" message to Washington, the "We're Harassed, Overtaxed Americans" group picketed post offices across the country on April 15, the deadline for mailing income tax returns. Locally, protesters marched at postal centers in City of Industry, Whittier, Claremont and Montebello, according to founding member Martha House of Hacienda Heights.

We decided to do something as citizens, at the grassroots level, not part of an organized, money-driven group.

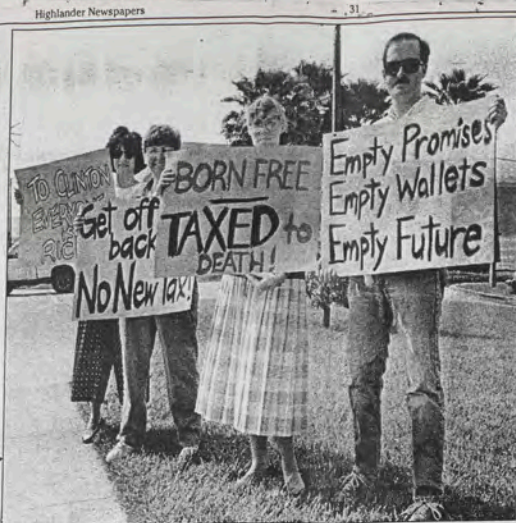
Martha House

ed and we're tired of this nonsense." The latest tax revolt actually began as a two-way conversation between House and a friend who recently moved to Chicago. Immediately after Clinton's State of the Union address to Congress in January, her friend called to ask what could be done.

"We decided to do something as citizens, at the grassroots level, not part of an organized, money-driven group," House recalled. "During the course of our conversation, we said 'Let's do this nationwide,' and that was that."

The first demonstration actually took place in 20-degree weather in Chicago earlier this year, with seven protesters braving the elements to show their disdain for Clinton's proposals. Once the decision to go nationwide was made, House assembled a packet outlining the April 15 protest and using contacts obtained through

Turn to WHOA / A13



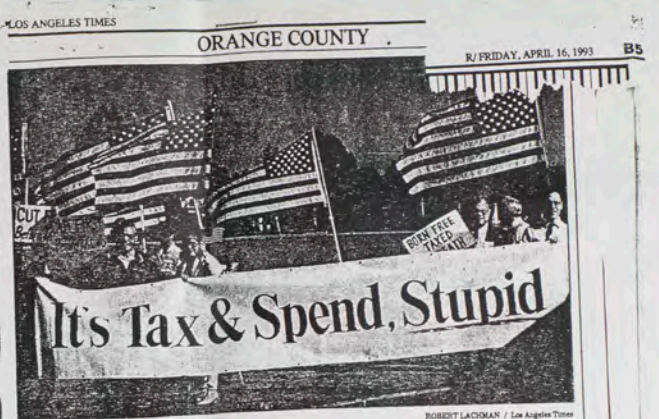
MEMBERS OF THE NEWEST anti-tax group WHOA express their feelings regarding President Clinton's economic stimulus proposal in front of the main postal facility in City of Industry. The organization picked Tax Day, April 15. Manning the picket line are, from left, Suzanne Fratton, and her mother Dorothy Fratton, both of Hacienda Heights, Jonia Rudnick of La Habra, and Thomas Rice, Hacienda Heights. Staff photo by LEWIS CLEVELER



GOP women hit taxes

Between 15 and 20 members of local Republican Women's Clubs took part in a picketing action on Thursday, April 15 in front of the Claremont Post Office.

Organized across the nation by Republican Women's Clubs, the local contingent handed out reprints of a criticism of the Clinton economic program from the Wall Street Journal of April 5, 1993 and held



Group uses Tax Day to demonstrate in Santa Ana against President Clinton's proposed tax increases.

Last Minute Tax Filers Cram Post Offices

By PHUONG LE
TIMES STAFF WRITER

While last-minute tax filers crammed local post offices on Tax Day, hundreds of others vented their frustrations at a protest and sought an alternative tax system at a conference.

More than 200 people Thursday attended a one-day "flat tax" conference in Irvine, headlined by conservative Bruce Herschensohn, who lost to Democrat Barbara Boxer in their recent U.S. Senate race.

Another 50 protesters, including elected officials, took to the streets in front of the Santa Ana main post office later in the afternoon to oppose President Clinton's proposed tax increases.

While music blared in the background, the protesters waved dozens of U.S. flags and picket signs to attract the attention of people who were rushing to the post office to meet the midnight tax deadline.

Dorothy Weinberg of Tustin, who participated in the demonstration organized by the Republican Party of Orange County, said many people were worried and angry about proposed tax increases.

concerned," Weinberg said. At the conference, Herschensohn and other speakers called for a flat tax as an alternative to the current system, which they called unjust and too complex.

"A democracy doesn't work unless people understand the tax codes or budget process," Herschensohn said. "My primary concern more than anything else is the simplicity. Everyone from the homeless to the billionaire can understand the flat tax."

Herschensohn said the flat tax would levy a uniform 19% rate on all taxpayers and would phase out deductions including mortgage interest, it also would end taxes on capital gains, interest income, dividends and inheritances.

But opponents such as Boxer have assailed that proposal and claimed that it would sharply increase taxes on middle-income Americans.

While some came to vent their anger over current taxes, many came just to get information about the flat tax.

"I'm been interested in a flat tax for the past 25 years," said Buddy Brannan, a Mission Viejo resident. "I would like to have seen it move along a lot quicker than it has."

LOCAL

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



LYLE SOYARS of Whittier carries a picket sign against more taxes proposed by President Bill Clinton during protest at the Whittier main post office yesterday. Staff photo by KEITH DURLINGER

Protest at P.O.



Virginia Seltz, left, and Silvia McDaniel of the Republican Women's Club look on as they take part in a picketing action at the Yucca Valley post office to protest the tax and spend policies of the Democrats. (Star photo by Tim Bulone)

HI-Desert STAR
Yucca Valley, Ca. Apr. 16, 1993

Proposed tax hikes raise dander of GOP protesters

BY MIKE SPRAGUE
WHITTIER

THROUGH 82 years, Fran Muir never had protested anything. But on "tax day" yesterday afternoon, she marched in front of Whittier's Michigan Avenue post office with a small group of mostly women — carrying signs opposing increasing taxes.

"I've never done anything like this before. I never thought I would," said Muir, noting she's "pretty conservative."

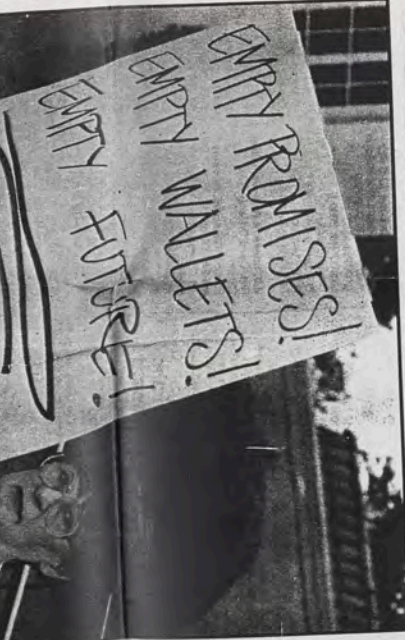
"I'm not usually a demonstrative person, but I'm fed up with the tax-and-spend attitude the government has," the Whittier resident said. "We're getting our dander up. . . I'm tired of pork barrels and politicians not doing anything."

Nearly 20 people were expected to be present in two-hour shifts for the six-hour protest organized by the Whittier Republican Women's Club, Federated. Lyle Soyars of Whittier said "tax day" was a good day to protest.

"Tax Freedom Day" B5

Traffic was heavy at the post office with many residents coming to turn in their tax returns at the last minute.

"People are paying taxes and it's a good time to remind them their taxes are growing," Soyars said. "This is a movement under way for this day because we feel there is so much publicity about how we should love to pay these taxes," said Cathy Vintieri, who organized the protest of President Clinton's plan to raise taxes.



GOP unit protests tax hikes
Greets last-minute filers in Claremont
By Kathleen Kennedy
Daily Bulletin

CLAREMONT — Last-minute tax filers were greeted by a group of protesters who held up signs that said "Empty Promises! Empty Wallets! Empty Future!"

Republican women show tax anger

HOLTVILLE - For two hours today, local members of the Republican Women's Club gathered outside the post office with signs protesting what they said are new taxes proposed by the Clinton administration.

Striding back and forth, the five women and two children waved their signs at passers-by and encouraged them to write and encourage their congressmen to complain.

Some of the signs included: "Born Free, Taxed to Death," "Don't Inhale, It's Intoxicating,"

"Cut Spending First" and "Bill is Investing Us Into The Poor House."

"The Democrats will use this money for new programs to buy more jets," said Sharp of Holtville.

Normally known as a shy person, Sharp said the protest march was a first for her and her family couldn't believe she was getting involved.

"Someone has to do it," she said.

Donna Grizzle of Holtville said the group is part of a grassroots movement called "We're Harassed Overtaxed Americans," that seeks to organize against "innovative" taxes. They claim similar protests are occurring nationwide today.

Gloria Anderholt, also of Holtville, was accompanied by two of her children who were also carrying signs.

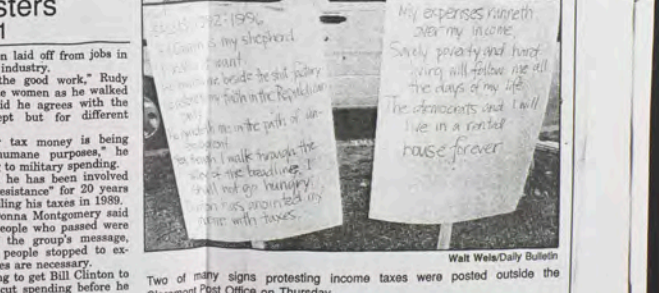
"I suggest everybody who feels the same way we do should write to their congressmen and let them know," Anderholt said.

Mary Margaret Mena, of Holtville, said she felt sorry for the younger generation.

"At my stage of life I have made most of my major purchases and the taxes are tolerable, but I am very concerned for the coming generation who are really being taxed to death. Clinton's idea of wealthy is really the working middle class who are keeping their heads above water," she complained.

April 16, 1993
Holtville - Imperial County

No More Taxes?



PROTEST - Tax day, April 15th, brought out people to pay their taxes to the Holtville Post Office. It also brought out tax protesters. Led by Donna Grizzle (foreground) they expressed their displeasure with President Clinton's economic plans. Steve Larson photo.

Daily Bulletin
INLAND VALLEY
Inland Valley
Section B
April 16, 1993

Protesters /from B1

who have been laid off from jobs in the aerospace industry.

"Keep up the good work," Rudy Pastor told the women as he walked by. Pastor said he agrees with the group's concept but for different reasons.

"I feel our tax money is being spent on inhumane purposes," he said, referring to military spending. Pastor said he has been involved in "war tax resistance" for 20 years and stopped filing his taxes in 1989.

Protestor Donna Montgomery said most of the people who passed were supportive of the group's message, though some people stopped to explain why taxes are necessary.

"We're trying to get Bill Clinton to member to cut spending before he raises taxes," she said.