

March 21, 1995

To Our Elected Officials;
To All Americans;

newer

We The People demand an accounting from Congress! We want to know where billions of our tax dollars are going? We have seen all the pie charts and graphs we care to see. We The People want to know, where did all the money go?

Congress wants to make spending cuts, serious spending cuts, which will do much harm to many American citizens. Congress wants to cut entitlement programs, they want to freeze Social Security at current levels and they wish to cut health care to the bare bones. Why we ask?

Government says, "Too many people looking for handouts. Costs too damn much." They are telling us that it costs too much to ensure for the well being of American citizens and in the next breath they turn around and give 20 billion dollars in loan guarantees to the Mexican government. Since when is a Mexican citizen entitled to help when an American citizen is not? That amount doesn't include the billions in foreign aid we give to other countries. Somehow Congress has gotten the way it thinks a little screwed up. They have forgotten that they are where they are, by the will of the people, the American people. They claim to have come to that realization with the results of this last election. Yet they haven't really. Yes we want change in government expenditures, but not at the expense of American citizens. Where will the money come from to aid Americans?

First of all reduce foreign aid and direct those monies to U.S. aid. Monies to help those people whom provided this revenue, the tax paying American.. From the underpaid coal miner of West Virginia to the midwest farmer in foreclosure and the unemployed auto worker from Detroit that 20 billion dollars could have supported many worthy programs for the poor, the unemployed, the handicapped and for education. These are issues important to us, not whether the value of the Mexican peso drops. Let Mexico handle her own problems or let her tap somebody elses pockets.

The United States spent millions to ease the suffering in Somalia, while tens of thousands of Americas' children may go without one or more meals daily. Tens of thousands of Americas children live without the security of a roof and four walls around them. Were we right in helping Somalia? Of course we were. As Americans we are blessed with the compassion lacking elsewhere in the world. However, that giving, caring nature should never come at the expense of our own peoples. When every man, woman and child in America are taken care of, then we can divide up the rest helping the poorest nations first.

Second the military budget should be further reduced. We can maintain a strong military with a smaller budget. Close more bases by combining service branches in larger facilities. Standardize the enlisted uniform for all services and reduce their numbers. The military has too many different uniforms. Officers uniforms could remain the same to avoid confusion.

Our government, at every level, have proposed cutting employees, privatizing certain services and cutting programs. The government seems to forget that these jobs are filled with taxpaying citizens (civil service employees pay taxes believe it or not) so they are not just an expense, they are also a source of tax revenue.

From the migrant farm worker and the fast food worker to all the laborers of this nation, we want a voice in who our tax dollars help. We want these revenues to help Americans first. So don't tell us spending has gotten out of hand because everyone has their hand out. We, as Americans, are only looking for what is rightfully ours. Haiti has no right to American tax dollars, neither does Mexico or Somalia or any of the other countries we throw money at. They take our money and then laugh at us to our faces. They laugh at us as they murder our military personell, or as they murder our political representatives, or as they murder our civilian population, oft times students travelling abroad. We attempt to buy the friendship of other nations, we want everyone to like us, We want everyone to be like us, only they don't want to be. Our elected leaders can't understand that and this is why a lot of our foreign policy has come up short lately. Domestic policy hasn't fared much better.

We The People are tired of all the bickering in Congress. All we hear is a bunch of petty, party rhetoric from both the Republicans and the Democrats. We hear blame being tossed back and forth, meanwhile issues take a back burner to petty egos. If discussions on any issue is unwanted we are bombarded by the filibustering of our Congressional leaders. We pay them a huge salary to stall legislation by continuously talking about their grandchildren or how they spent their vacation. Imagine the consequences of most Americans if during a crucial point in our job we decided to show pictures of our children to fellow workers instead of paying attention to our jobs?

Yes we want a streamlined Congress, a Congress without the stalling and hedging on important issues. We want a stronger criminal justice system, we want stricter gun control laws (the N.R.A. & I.L.A. do not speak for all Americans). We want to feel safe in our homes and we want to feel protected on the streets of America. We want our children to be safe from violence and weapons in our schools. We want more money spent on education. We are sorely lacking in preparing a significant portion of Americas' children to deal with the realities of a hard world. An ideal educational system would allow a child to proceed at their own pace with children of the same level. More attention then could be given to the students needing it most. Every school in America should be equal in quality of teachers. The necessary equipment and supplies to teach our children, making them the best they can possibly be, should be available for their needs.

We The People want to know that if we get sick or injured medical treatment will be available, regardless of insurance. We need to know treatment will be there in our twilight years. We want to know that Social Security will be solvent when we reach the age of retirement. We want to know everything we have worked hard to accumulate will be there for us later on. Many elderly Americans have lost homes, life savings, pensions and insurance monies because they were old and became ill. Possessions worked for and collected over a lifetime gone in a matter of a few months because of serious illness. There are a plethora of humanitarian organizations sponsered by Americans, paid for by Americans doing good work in other countries.

Where are the organizations, anywhere else, that are doing anything to help America's needy?

We want some security in our jobs. A way for employee, management and the government to work together to keep America competitive. Every unemployed American becomes a burden on the system so it's important to keep Americans working and contributing.

We want a Congress that works well with others, especially other Congressional members. Both Republicans and Democrats represent only a portion of Americans, we are a diverse culture with many opinions. There must be a meeting of the minds and when legislation is passed it must be as fair and equitable as can be. It must benefit a majority of Americans, not just those who can easily afford the "American Dream".

We The People want a return to the principles which became the catalyst for the birth of our nation. We want to live. Live free without a myriad of restrictive laws which serve no one. We wish to pursue a life of happiness and fullness, impossible for many in these times. We want America to be the greatest nation again and we want what our parents wanted and what their parents wanted for them, a better life for our children.

Sincerely,

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Syracuse, N.Y. 13208

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