



1995
SCRIPTS

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN,

Content:

PETER JENNINGS

Again to the politics of this remarkable week in Washington. The Republicans took out a full page newspaper ad today proclaiming 'Tomorrow's not just another day. And this is not just another Congress.' We're going to cut Congress down to size, they say. And starting tomorrow, we deliver.

Tonight, a few yardsticks by which to measure them, beginning with ABC's **JOHN MARTIN**, who has spent the last few years reporting on how Congress spends your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) In the Contract with America, Republicans pledged to end waste. There will be two big tests. Will they root it out by investigating suspicious programs? And will they restrain spending for their home states and districts?

Over the years, **JOHN** Dingell's House Education and Commerce Committee was the most active, investigating big corporations involved in government work. But the committee staff is being cut from 141 to 90; the number of Democratic investigators from 11 to 2. For now, the Republicans have four investigators and have not said whether they plan to hire more.

As for spending, it will mean changing old habits. In the House, many of the new Republican chairmen have pushed costly projects for their districts.

In the Senate, Republicans Mark Hatfield of Oregon and Ted Stevens of Alaska, promote multi million dollar home state projects that benefit few outsiders. Can they stop spending?

FRED WERTHEIMER, COMMON CAUSE

This is changing civilization as they've known it. That's what they do - they give out money and they give it out to their districts, to their states. And they enjoy doing that.

JOHN MARTIN

So the biggest question for these new Republican leaders is whether they can change some of their old ways when it comes to spending your money.

Peter?

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: FOREIGN POLICY AND MILITARY SPENDING

Air Date: 1995-01-03

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Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Correspondent: JOHN MCWETHY, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content:

PETER JENNINGS

Thank you, **JOHN**. In two areas where Republicans have been particularly critical of President Clinton - foreign policy and military spending - it may be that there will be more cooperation than confrontation.

Here's our national security correspondent, **JOHN** McWethy. **JOHN?**

JOHN MCWETHY, ABC NEWS

(VO) There will be an immediate push by Republicans to spend more on America's military. Bill Clinton has cut too much, they say, and US forces are no longer as ready to fight as they should be. But a dramatic increase in defense spending is hard to imagine when an even bigger Republican goal is to cut overall spending.

Where and how American troops are used is another major point of contention. Peacekeeping and humanitarian missions will face much tougher scrutiny. In Bosnia, the Clinton administration has promised to send troops to help enforce a peace agreement, if there is one. Republicans are saying not so fast

RICHARD PERLE, AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

The notion of sending 25,000 to 50,000 American troops to police the inherently unpoliceable, even if signatures have been put to a piece of paper, that isn't going to fly with Republicans.

JOHN MCWETHY

(VO) There is also criticism of American aid to Russia, plus unhappiness with terms of a deal the Clinton administration made with

PROF JOHN PALMER

Each year, the amount of money we get to run the educational system goes down. We are having to lay people off now.

ARMEN KETEYIAN

(VO) Chancellor Scott says plans are to fix the entire university over time - after the athletic department has, quote, 'become successful.'

DAVID SCOTT

It's a balance. You can't pick out one component and say, well, if this money weren't going to Calipari, it could be going to fix bathrooms.

ARMEN KETEYIAN

(VO) Over the weekend, Calipari and his Minutemen took two big steps on the road to a national title. Like so many teams they left behind a school willing to pay a price for success.

This is Armen Keteyian for the American Agenda.

PETER JENNINGS

(VO) Further to the south, on Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrials gained 10 points today to close at 4,083. The trading was heavy. On the NASDAQ market, stocks gained 2 points.

Take a look at this. Heavy fog blamed for this massive pile up this morning involving more than 100 vehicles on the outskirts of Mobile, Alabama. One person was killed and more than 50 hurt as cars and trucks plowed into each other on the bridge across Mobile Bay.

(on camera) Back in just a moment.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 7 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - GOVERNMENT COST OF MEDICINE RESEARCH

Air Date: 1995-03-20

Start Time: 00:00:00

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Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

Finally from us this evening, our weekly report on your money. Our focus tonight is on the millions of tax dollars which the government invests in developing new and potentially lifesaving medicines. The trouble is that when private companies finally get some of those drugs out on the market, the original investors - namely, the taxpayers - are not always invited to share the profits.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Frances Walker is being given a drug called Taxol, designed to slow growth of cancer cells in her breast. Each treatment costs \$1,987.44. Medicare pays most of the bill; private insurance, the remainder.

FRANCES WALKER

I say it's wonderful.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) It might surprise Frances Walker that her money created Taxol. The National Institutes of Health spent \$30 million to develop and test the drug. When Taxol showed promise, NIH licensed Bristol Myers Squibb to obtain final FDA approval and to market Taxol. The government projected this would cost the firm \$114 million. The firm says it spent more. Analysts say that since 1992, Taxol sales totaled \$400 million. Bristol Myers Squibb won't say how much it earned, but under the license it does not share any profits with NIH.

DR BRUCE CHABNER, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The financial return for the government or for us was not a major consideration.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Dr Bruce Chabner of NIH negotiated the license and says he had little leverage since NIH holds no patent.

DR BRUCE CHABNER

It was hard to get companies interested in it. We were not in a position-

JOHN MARTIN

Why couldn't a clause have been written that said if you do produce this in quantity and you do make a lot of money off this, you give it

back to the taxpayer?

DR BRUCE CHABNER

The give back to the taxpayer was the provisions in the licensing that would reduce the price to the taxpayer when they bought the drug.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Despite Frances Walker's bill of nearly \$2,000, Bristol Myers insists it prices Taxol fairly.

DR ISADORE PIKE, BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB

I think the taxpayer has gotten a wonderful new medication for the treatment of disease which the taxpayer did not have before.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But the taxpayer pays twice for Taxol - once for research; once for the drug itself, since Medicare pays for many of the treatments.

(on camera) So why not require the company to repay the government for its research? Thirty million dollars - that's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

PETER JENNINGS

And that is our report on World News Tonight. Later on Nightline, urban terrorism - that poison gas attack in Tokyo.

I'm Peter Jennings. We'll see you tomorrow. Good night.

