

TAPE FOR WEEK OF APRIL 1

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

LAST WEEK, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JOINED THE SENATE IN APPROVING FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL MX MISSILES. THE RAZOR-THIN MARGIN IN THE HOUSE COUPLED WITH THE COMFORTABLE MARGIN IN THE SENATE, GAVE THE PRESIDENT A MAJOR VICTORY FOR HIS DEFENSE AND WEAPONS POLICY.

I DID NOT SUPPORT THE FUNDING FOR THE MX. I FELT THAT THE PRICE IS FAR TOO HIGH TO PAY FOR SOMETHING THAT WILL BE USED AS A BARGAINING CHIP. THE MX MISSILES SCHEDULED TO BE PRODUCED IN 1986 WOULD PROBABLY BECOME THE NEXT BARGAINING CHIP, THEN SOME OTHER AWESOME NUCLEAR ARSENAL WOULD BE PLACED ON THE BARGAINING TABLE. I FEAR THAT THIS WOULD WEAKEN RATHER THAN STRENGTHEN OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE AND THIS IS WHY I VOTED AGAINST THE MX.

HOWEVER, I DO STRONGLY SUPPORT OUR ~~EFFORTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS~~ <sup>NEGOTIATORS</sup> WITH THE SOVIETS IN GENEVA AND I WOULD DO NOTHING TO WEAKEN THEIR BARGAINING POSITION. I ASK YOU TO JOIN ME IN SUPPORT OF THEIR EFFORTS.

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