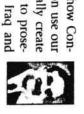
Of America's Tottering Treasury raq War Draining the Coffer

American taxpayers will be asked to pony up as much as \$1 trillion to destroy and then rebuild Iraq

cute our ongoing wars in Iraq and gress and the administration use our some of the funds needed to prosewo weeks ago I discussed how Contiat money system to literally create



ing the troops. willing to provide the money under the guise of supportpassed soon—and both parties in Congress are only too sight, yet another supplemental spending bill must be are not part of the normal appropriations and budget in Iraq, mostly through supplemental spending bills that Atghanistan. We've already spent more than \$500 billion process. But with costs soaring, and no end to the war in

plemental bills. A cynic might even suggest that many vested interests in the defense sector benefit from the supand assert its power over the purse strings, and too many lacks the political will to stand up to the administration for war keeps flowing. satisfaction with the war in the fall elections. Congress benefit them in 2008. But whatever the reason, the money posed opposition, to damage the president politically and Democrats want the war to drag on, despite their sup-Never mind that the American people showed their dis

next supplemental bill in coming weeks. The amount requested is likely to be at least \$140 billion. If we stay in Defense Department officials will ask Congress for the

> could top \$1 trillion in another year or two. clear that we will-the bill to American taxpayers easily Iraq beyond 2007-and the administration has made it

war in Iraq is worth \$1 trillion. Even those who do musi credit is reckless and stupid, but paying for war by depre money abroad or simply printing it. Paying for war with have the money. Congress continues to spend more than face the reality that the federal government simply doesn' ciating our currency is criminal. the Treasury raises in taxes year after year, by borrowing I doubt very seriously that most Americans think the

clear that we will—the bill to American taxpayers easily could top \$1 trillion and the administration has made it "If we stay in Iraq beyond 2007in another year or two."

administration adamantly opposed both ideas. Budget when Iraq's huge oil reserves resume operation. Another argued that reconstruction money should be paid back spending in Iraq have been rejected. Some in Congress never compensate American taxpayers. federal budget for every dollar spent in Iraq. But the idea was to find dollar-for-dollar offsets in the rest of the cuts are unpopular, and the profits from Iraqi oil wil Even the most modest suggestions for controlling

choices at all costs; spend money at will; ignore deficits, inflate the money supply as needed; and trust that the whole mess somehow will be taken care of by unprece-The mentality in Washington is simple: avoid hard



dented economic growth in the future

and food in Iraq. In doing so, we will saddle future generpay to secure Iraq's borders; we will pay for housing top down-all with hundreds of billions of U.S. tax dolto rebuild Iraq's judicial system, financial system, legal sysbuilding experiment in history. We seek nothing less than ations of Americans with billions in government debt. health care, social services, utilities, roads, schools, jails lars. We will pay to provide job training for Iraqis; we will tem, transportation system, and political system from the We have embarked on the most expensive nation-

is one Congress should answer now-by refusing another nickel for supplemental spending bills The question of whether Iraq is worth this much to us

represents the 14th District of Texas. Call his office at 1-888-322-1414 roll free or visit his website at www.ronpaul.org. Ron Paul, a medical doctor, is a Republican member of the U.S. Congress who