

to mark the progress of the liberation struggles in Africa.

For my constituents and I, this year's celebration is especially significant because it occurs as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of emancipation from slavery.

For Africans on the continent and in the Diaspora, this year has special significance as we await the enactment of the African trade bill and look forward to the passage of a similar proposal for the Caribbean.

It is my hope that as we come together, not only in the Virgin Islands but around the world, to reaffirm our oneness, we can move closer to our full economic liberation with the creation of a new and unique trade area which will link all of Africa's children, those on the continent as well as those in the United States and the Caribbean.

#### REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT TO PLEASE EXPLAIN TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO COMMUNIST CHINA

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I would like the President to explain to the American people why authority for approving technology transfers to Communist China was transferred from the State Department to the Commerce Department in this administration.

I would like to know why national security concerns would be overruled by commercial considerations, thus endangering the security of all Americans.

The idea that it is official U.S. policy to improve Communist China's rockets defies explanation. Instead of developing a missile defense system of our own, this administration is helping to develop Communist China's strategic nuclear missile program, a program with missiles even now aimed at the United States.

This policy is madness, utter madness, and I am still awaiting an explanation from this administration why they determined that assisting Communist China in the development of its "Long March" missile is in the national interest of the United States.

Refusing to build a national missile defense because perfecting China's missiles is a higher priority is not only nutty and bizarre, it clearly puts our country at increased risk.

#### SUPPORT H. CON. RES. 203 TO FUND VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS STAMP

(Mr. MASCARA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge my colleagues to support my resolution, H.Con.Res. 203, the resolution

requesting the United States Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. It honors those men and women who fought, bled and died in every war in which the United States has engaged during this century.

The U.S. Postal Service is issuing many stamps to celebrate this century. Some of these are very worthy events and deserve to be recognized. However, the VFW should be given as much consideration as cartoon characters, Elvis Presley and Marilyn Monroe.

As we leave this century, I believe the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee should do the right thing; issue a stamp honoring the 100th anniversary of one of the Nation's oldest veterans organizations.

At the present time, I have over 125 cosponsors, a bipartisan effort. I ask other Members to join me in do sponsoring H.Con.Res. 203 to honor the Veterans of Foreign Wars with the issuance of a 100th anniversary commemorative stamp.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROSCOE ALLEN, JR., OF OCILLA, GEORGIA

(Mr. CHAMBLISS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Roscoe Allen, Jr., of Ocilla, Georgia. Mr. Allen has been selected by the Small Business Administration as Small Businessperson of the Year for the State of Georgia, and he will represent Georgia in the selection process for the National Small Businessperson of the Year.

In just 2 years, Mr. Allen has made his mark in the competitive snack food industry. He broke into the peanut processing business by putting in long hours, traveling many miles and practicing his straightforward sales pitch to his wife and long-time friend. His company, known as the Roscoe Allen Company, is the first southern, African-American-owned peanuts and mixed nuts processor. His products are sold in grocery stores all across the southeast as well as in Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Allen's commitment to providing quality products and outstanding service at an economical price and for achieving success in a competitive market in such a short period of time. I congratulate Mr. Allen and wish him all the best at the Small Businessperson award ceremony and commend him for being an outstanding example of a small businessman and to let him know that all of Georgia is very proud of him.

#### PARENTS, WITH GOD'S HELP, RAISE OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, another tragedy in our schools: more expert analysis.

One group said America should heed the advice of the First Lady when she said it takes a community to raise a child. I do not mean to be disrespectful, but I disagree.

Communities do not raise a child; PTAs do not raise a child; schools do not raise a child; day care centers and summer camps do not raise a child. My colleagues, the awesome responsibility of raising a child is still the parents. Parents raise our children.

Maybe if America got back to basics and placed more emphasis on parents instead of communities, our kids would be much better off. If the community wants to help, they might allow God back into our schools. Parents, with the help of God, will be much more effective raising our kids.

#### RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN BELGIUM

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express concern over an increase in religious intolerance in the country of Belgium.

In 1997, the Belgian parliament published a Sect Report which branded Evangelical Christians, Pentecostals, Amish, Charismatics, and other Evangelical mission groups as potentially dangerous sects. In addition, the Belgian parliamentary report also targeted Catholic Charismatics.

Former King of Belgium, Baldwyn I, who was known to be close to the Charismatic movement inside the Catholic church, was even attacked on the front page of a daily newspaper.

The Belgian Sect Report was followed by legislation on April 30 this year which established a Sect Observatory.

Mr. Speaker, its highly disturbing that a government which abides by the Helsinki Accords, as well as the European Convention on Human Rights, should violate these agreements by establishing a government network to monitor the religious activity of law-abiding citizens.

Mr. Speaker, the fundamental right of religious liberty must be protected for all people, including those in Western Europe.

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#### BESTEA CONFERENCE REPORT

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, today later on the floor of the House of Representatives, the BESTEA conference report will be up. And Members on both sides are to be commended for the work they have done on this piece of legislation.

But there has been a rumbling on the floor during this last week that somehow Members are being told that they are voting against their veterans in order to get bridges and highways. And that is not the intentions of Members on either side of the House.

To make that clear, I have drafted the full Veterans Benefit Act of 1998. I would like Members to think about cosponsoring this bill. It is not the intentions of Republicans or Democrats to give short shrift to those World War II veterans who fought their way across Europe, who fought their way across the Pacific, or those veterans from Korea who feel they are forgotten or those from Vietnam, Grenada, Panama or Desert Storm.

We stand up for our veterans, and we want to fully fund their benefits. So I ask the Members today to cosponsor the full Veterans Benefit Act of 1998 as we pass this BESTEA bill and send the veterans a message. The U.S. Congress is with them. We think they have earned these benefits. We think they deserve them.

#### NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK ACT

(Mr. SNOWBARGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my wholehearted support for H.R. 59, the National Right to Work Act, and to implore my colleagues to give their support as well.

H.R. 59 simply eliminates those provisions of the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act that empower unions bosses to steal the hard-earned money of American workers.

Over 60 years ago, Congress gave union officials the so-called right to force workers to pay union dues whether they want to or not. Union officials have wielded this power far too long. It is time to reintroduce freedom into the American workplace, the freedom to choose whether or not to pay union dues, freedom from compulsory unionism.

H.R. 59 corrects a terrible injustice. The coercion of America's workers to pay union dues is immoral and against the basic values of our country and even of the founders of the labor unions themselves.

Support restoration of freedom for the American worker. Support the repeal of the power to force people to pay dues to a union against their will. Support H.R. 59.

#### PROPOSITION 226 BALLOT INITIATIVE

(Mr. FAZIO of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer another view on the message from the gentleman who just appeared in the well.

Several weeks ago, Congress overwhelmingly rejected a bid by right-wing foundations and corporate interests that would have tilted the political balance in America. By an overwhelming bipartisan vote, the House defeated a bill that included language similar to the Proposition 226 ballot initiative in California.

Funded by extreme out-of-state interest groups and large corporate donors, this California initiative is part of a national campaign by ultra-conservative groups. Their goal: to weaken the role of working men and women who oppose their right-wing views on issues such as the Patient Protection Act, or HMO reform, increasing the minimum wage, and reforming social security.

This attempt to dilute the political power of union members, sometimes called "paycheck protection" but more aptly named "paycheck deception", failed in Congress; and it should fail in California as well.

Despite the rhetoric we heard on the floor last night, big business already outpends labor by an 11-1 margin. Prop 226 would likely give big business even greater political advantage. Fellow Californians, vote no on Prop 226 on June 2.

#### U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY HARMED

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, according to press accounts, the Pentagon issued a classified report in May of 1997 about the Loral-led review commission's unauthorized release to China of its report on Communist China's latest rocket crash.

The report concluded that the United States national security has been harmed. Let me repeat that. The report concluded that the United States national security has been harmed. The White House claims otherwise but offers no explanation, nothing at all.

In February of this year, despite intense opposition from his own Justice Department, President Clinton gave permission to Loral to transfer highly sensitive missile information, particularly with respect to encryption, to the Communist Chinese government. Reportedly, the Chinese could use this information to perfect their missile and rocket programs. This was allowed despite an ongoing criminal investigation of Loral for earlier transfers of missile technology to Communist China.

This leaves many unanswered questions such as, how deeply was U.S. national security harmed? Did the campaign contributions to Loral and the Chinese government affect the decision? And why does the President insist that this decision was in the best interest of the American people?

#### AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH BILL

(Mr. STENHOLM asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I come and take this 1 minute today to alert my colleagues in the House of Representatives of a rule that we are about to take under consideration concerning the agricultural research bill that is unprecedented.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGRICH), and his leadership, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) are about to do some tremendous damage to production agriculture all over this Nation. Because of the same manner in which they wrote the farm bill in his office, they are now writing a rule that is going, as I said, to do lasting damage to production agriculture.

For the first time in my legislative life, we have the nutrition community and the production agriculture committee agree on additional funding for crop insurance and other agricultural needs and restoring of some food needs and doing it in a budget-responsible way. The rule that we are about to consider undoes it all.

I want to alert my colleagues in the House, immediately after the 1-minute, I will urge a motion to adjourn until we can discuss this. And, hopefully, the leadership will go back upstairs and rewrite the rule in a fair way to let the conference report be considered by the full House.

#### CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM COMMUNIST CHINA TO DNC

(Mr. PAPPAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a few questions that we will never ever hear asked by most of the folks on the other side of the aisle. I would like the American people to think about these questions and then ask themselves why, why are these questions not even being asked by the liberals in Congress?

Why did Communist China apparently contribute nearly \$3 million to the Democratic National Committee during the 1996 election campaign?

Were there any changes in U.S. foreign policy?

What were the results of all this foreign money into the Democrat Party?

Now, consider the last question very carefully. The problem, of course, is that one cannot know whether a change in U.S. foreign policy was made because of these campaign contributions or because a change was made for legitimate policy reasons based on our national interest. These are the concerns that we all should have.

One last question we will never ever hear from the other side. Who in the White House knew about these contributions to the DNC? Maybe the other side does not want to know who knew.