

Accordingly, I ask that the full text of House Resolution — be printed in the RECORD at this point and I invite my colleagues to cosponsor it.

H.R. —

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should support peace and stability in the South China Sea.

Whereas the South China Sea is a critically important waterway through which 25 percent of the world's ocean freight and 70 percent of Japan's energy supplies transit;

Whereas the South China Sea serves as a crucial sea lane for United States Navy ships moving between the Pacific and Indian Oceans, particularly in time of emergency;

Whereas there are a number of competing claims to territory in the South China Sea;

Whereas the 1992 Manila Declaration adhered to by the Association of South East Asian Nations, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the People's Republic of China calls for all claimants to territory in the South China Sea to resolve questions of boundaries through peaceful negotiations;

Whereas the legislature of the People's Republic of China has declared the entire South China Sea to be Chinese territorial waters;

Whereas the armed forces of the People's Republic of China have asserted China's claim to the South China Sea through the kidnapping of citizens of the Republic of the Philippines and the construction of military bases on territory claimed by the Philippines; and

Whereas the acts of aggression committed by the armed forces of the People's Republic of China against citizens of the Philippines are contrary to both international law and to peace and stability in East Asia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) declares the right of free passage through the South China Sea to be in the national security interests of the United States, its friends, and allies;

(2) declares that any attempt by a nondemocratic power to assert, through the use of force of intimidation, its claims to territory in the South China Sea to be a matter of grave concern to the United States;

(3) calls upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to adhere faithfully to its commitment under the Manila Declaration of 1992; and

(4) calls upon the President of the United States to review the defense needs of democratic countries with claims to territory in the South China Sea.

THE NATIONAL FAMILY ENTERPRISE PRESERVATION ACT OF 1995

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 10, 1995

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to help encourage the preservation and growth of family farms and businesses. Our current Tax Code severely discourages owners of family farms and businesses from passing their enterprise on to the next generation. This situation stems from a Tax Code that forces heirs of family businesses to sell their assets in order to pay off hefty Federal estate taxes.

Estate taxes are hurting the very family businesses of America that have played a sig-

nificant role in the foundation of our economy. I believe these businesses deserve some measure of estate tax relief in order to survive when they move from one generation to the next.

The bill I am introducing, the National Family Enterprise Preservation Act of 1995, will provide estate tax relief to more than 95 percent of our Nation's family-owned farms and businesses. It will do so by increasing the current unified estate and gift tax credit of \$192,800 to \$314,600 for family enterprise property. This provision will effectively increase the current \$600,000 estate tax exemption to \$1,000,000 for family enterprises. To ensure that the family farm and business remains in the hands of qualified family members, the heir must continue in the active management of the farm or business for 10 years following the decedent's death, otherwise appropriate recapture provisions would apply.

Two other provisions in the bill are also designed to provide tax relief to family businesses. The first would increase the current annual gift tax exclusion of \$10,000 to \$20,000 in the case of gifts to qualify family members of family enterprise property. The second would increase the maximum reduction allowable for special use valuation from the current level of \$750,000 to \$1 million for family enterprises.

This legislation is greatly needed to help ensure the perpetuation of our country's family businesses. I urge my colleagues to show their support for family businesses by supporting this important measure.

COMMON SENSE LEGAL STANDARDS REFORM ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill H.R. 956, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, and for other purposes.

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Chairman, the House is moving forward with common sense legal reforms. We restored attorney accountability and curbed nuisance securities lawsuits. Now we must work to restore fairness to the legal system by ensuring that real victims are rewarded.

Polls show that 72 percent of American workers and consumers favor legislation that places tighter limits and restrictions on an individual's ability to sue another person or company. Americans are tired of paying the tab for lawsuit abuse and litigation greed. They want a civil justice system that protects their rights and restores fairness, not one that promotes unfair behavior.

Lawsuit abuse has taken on a life of its own. It clogs our courts, dampens job growth, promotes slick lawyer tactics, produces higher prices, inflates insurance premiums and keeps Americans out of the competitive world market. We must stop this trend. American consumers, workers, and producers work too hard to suffer the economic consequences promoted by a greed driven legal system.

Our Republican Common Sense Product Liability and Legal Reform Act, H.R. 956, re-

stores fairness and deters frivolous lawsuits by placing caps on punitive damage awards and reforming product liability laws. H.R. 956 represents a legitimate effort to stem the tide of costly and trivial lawsuits. Reforming our product liability laws will strengthen the economy and the free market by encouraging and promoting manufacturer innovation, in turn creating new jobs and more consumer products.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support passage of the Common Sense Product Liability and Legal Reform Act. It is time to end out of control lawsuit abuse. Americans want a legal system that works for them—a system where legitimate grievances will be addressed and not overshadowed by baseless, costly litigation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 10, 1995

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, due to circumstances beyond my control I was called away from the floor of the House on February 8 and 10, 1995 and missed several votes. Had I been here, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 109—yes.

Rollcall No. 108—yes.

Rollcall No. 107—no.

Rollcall No. 106—yes.

Rollcall No. 105—no.

Rollcall No. 112—no.

TRIBUTE TO OTTO AND JULIE BAYRAM

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 10, 1995

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary couple, Otto and Julie Bayram, who today celebrate 50 years of marriage.

The Bayrams were married during World War II during which Otto Bayram served with distinction in the Armed Forces as a pilot, returning to his community of New Britain, CT, to operate, along with his father and brother, the Arch Street Bakery and Delicatessen and later, the renowned EPICURE of Farmington, CT.

Julie and Otto Bayram have raised four wonderful children—Armen, Deborah, Steven, and Paul and are the very proud grandparents of three.

In every aspect of the life of the community, the Bayrams lead the parade. Whether it is a role in the betterment of their community, a role in support of their church as individuals of great faith, or opportunities to support their cultural heritage, the Bayrams have time and again exhibited their civic pride, their faith-based beliefs, and their unswerving commitment to who and what they come from.

Their home has been shared with thousands and their hospitality and generosity are known from coast to coast. They are an incomparable team, leading a life together

based in the finest values. Julie and Otto Bayram have loved their faith, their family, their community, and their country. There are but a few individuals that actually help to shape each one of us. I have been blessed to have had Julie and Otto influencing and loving me throughout my life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Bayrams on their 50th wedding anniversary and thank them for all they have done together and continue to do.

TIBETAN UPRISING DAY

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 10, 1995

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I have long followed the plight of the Tibetan people and the peaceful activities of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989. Forty six years ago in 1949, Communist China invaded Tibet. By 1959, the Chinese Army had a strong military presence in the Tibetan capital, Lhasa, and it was rumored that the Chinese had a plan to take the Dalai Lama to Beijing to act as a Chinese puppet. On March 10, 1959, in response to indications by the Chinese garrison in Lhasa, Tibetans staged massive demonstrations. Thousands of Tibetans surrounded the Dalai Lama's Palace to prevent him from being taken by the Chinese or voluntarily surrendering to avoid conflict and protect the Tibetan people. The Chinese made their intentions clear and began shelling the palace, causing further Tibetan demonstrations that ultimately resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of Tibetans, many of them monks and nuns. The Dalai Lama narrowly escaped the slaughter by disguising himself and fleeing over the Himalayas to India. In the past 40 years, His Holiness has worked tirelessly to appeal for international help to save his people.

Congress officially recognizes that Tibet is an illegally occupied country whose true representatives are the Tibetan government in exile and His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Currently, the most critical issue for the Tibetan people is the transfer of Chinese population into Tibet, which is reducing the Tibetans to a minority in their own country and undermining the Tibetan culture. We cannot ignore the plight of the Tibetans and their ongoing loss of community and identity. Because today, March 10, marks an important day for Tibetans, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering and paying tribute to the 1.2 million Tibetans who have died under Chinese rule since 1949 and to work with me through the Congressional Human Rights Caucus to continue to focus congressional attention on this issue. I also commend to my colleagues the following A.M. Rosenthal editorial "Criminals for Freedom" regarding this deplorable situation.

[From the New York Times, Dec. 27, 1994]

CRIMINALS FOR FREEDOM

(By A.M. Rosenthal)

From concentration camps come few dispatches, not even when a whole nation is imprisoned. Silence is as real as barbed wire. For the captors, it is at least as effective.

So, when occasionally I write about the captivity of Tibet, readers sometimes ask why I care so much.

They ask why they should involve themselves. Isn't so much else more important to American interest?

And since the invasion and occupation by the Chinese Communists have gone on so long, almost a half century now, with Beijing's grip growing ever tighter, forcing more and more Tibetans out of the country, and the world not even taking note, are not Tibetans and foreigners perpetuating an impossible dream when they insist that Tibet lives?

As the years pass, the questions become ever more important to answer—else the silence will become eternal, and the concentration camp one more national grave.

But before they can be answered, another question must be put: Why is it that Tibet, a nation with a history almost as old as man's memory, a nation with a culture unique in the world, with a religion that not only binds together its own people but embraces men and women all over the world, why is this nation, almost alone among nations, denied the most elemental rights of nationhood and personal freedom?

When I was a young reporter, The Times assigned me to the bureau it had just set up at the brand new United Nations. The total membership then was 56 and new countries were asking to be admitted. One day a British delegate warned that if the U.N. kept growing, the membership would be as high as 70, maybe 80.

Today the membership stands at 184. Among them are countries that are minute in population and size. Their most important industry is the bureaucracy created to run them.

And there are other members whose boundaries and identities were craved out of the map by the colonial powers of Europe for their own administrative and imperial conveniences.

And yet there they all are, flags waving on First Avenue, their ambassadors treated as they should be, with dignity and attention.

But Tibet—Tibet is not only barred from U.N. membership but its representatives are usually not even allowed in its halls and meeting rooms or in the state departments of the world.

Why? The nations know what has been happening—the massacres, tortures, pillage, the deportation of millions of Tibetans and their replacement by Chinese, the stone-by-stone, temple-by-temple destruction of a great culture.

The truth is that almost all the nations of the world made a deliberate decision to abandon Tibet to its captors. Among these nations were many U.N. members ruled by dictators. At least they had some rationale—the brotherhood of tyranny.

But for the others, including the United States and Europe, the reason was money. Beijing constantly warns that trade with China will be cut off for any nation daring to do all that the Tibetans really ask—speak up

for their elemental human and political rights.

Once President Clinton did that. But that was long ago—a year or so. Now Washington talks about sending his wife or the Vice President to visit Beijing, the heart and head office of the Chinese and Tibetan concentration camps.

So, after all, what do we have in common with Tibetans? I can think of only this: shared criminality.

The same political crimes that bound us to the victims in the Nazi camps, to the dissidents in the Soviet Gulag, to the people in the Khmer Rouge death pits and in the torture chambers of the Middle East bind us to the Tibetans.

Every day we commit the crimes for which Tibetans have been made captive, tortured and murdered and for which their nation has been sundered and occupied. We talk, we write, we act, we think, we pray.

Tibet has no ethnic or national constituency in the U.S. But in America, as around the world, are thousands of people who do what they can for Tibet—write, talk, act, pray, help the International Campaign for Tibet (202) 785-1515. Among them are intellectuals, business people, members of Congress, working people, Democrats and Republicans.

This constituency is staunch and slowly growing. That is the best reason I can give for hoping for the future of the imprisoned nation in the Himalayas—the international conspiracy of the criminals for freedom.

FBI CALLED TO SOLVE UNITED STATES MURDER IN PAKISTAN

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 10, 1995

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of my colleagues an article appearing in yesterday's Washington Times regarding the brutal murder of two American Foreign Service officers in Karachi, Pakistan, on Wednesday, March 8, 1995. The article, entitled "FBI Unit To Probe Pakistan Shooting" discusses how the U.S. Government has been forced to send an antiterrorist unit that specializes in forensics to Pakistan in an attempt to identify those responsible for this brutal slaying.

Mr. Speaker, according to press reports, the Karachi police refused a request by American diplomatic employees to pursue the gunmen immediately after the attack. The police allegedly said they feared for their lives. This story, if true, further underscores the pathetic state of affairs in Pakistan, where terrorist violence and religious fundamentalism have become the norm.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to read the Washington Times article. The murder of the United States diplomatic employees traveling in a consular van in downtown Karachi clearly shows that drastic measures must be taken to protect our Foreign Service officers and to reign in the terrorism and violence which is making Pakistan a danger to the region and ultimately to the world.