

and it is designed from the keel up to meet the Army's lift requirements. I am excited about this part of our strategic shipbuilding program.

We owe a great deal of thanks to Representative Jack Murtha and his colleagues—some of whom are here today—for having the vision and courage to lead the charge to build the required sealift for our Soldiers and Marines. The young men and women we send to fight and win our Nation's wars deserve every ounce of support we can give.

The other side of the sealift coin is that United States must maintain a strong Navy—forward deployed—to keep the Sea Lines of Communication (SLOCs) open.

Protection and maintenance of the SLOCs is a primary role of our Navy. America must ensure that we can move the military equipment whenever and wherever needed. But, we must also guarantee the free flow of commerce through the world's waterways. Peacetime, forward deployed United States Naval forces are the answer.

The forward presence of our Navy ensures unfettered access to global sea lanes. What these forces bring is stability . . . and economic benefits for American industry and labor.

The continuous presence of maritime forces helps maintain fragile regional balances and assure economic stability by guaranteeing freedom of movement upon the world's oceans. In this increasingly interdependent world economy, the United States Navy keeps trade routes open simply by being there. This often overlooked aspect of global maritime presence is of inestimable value to the U.S. and to the entire world economy. For example, note that, excluding that with Canada and Mexico, 90% of America's international trade travels on the high seas. The imperative for protection of the SLOCs is clear.

Our continuous Naval forward presence requires ships and submarines. And, while building the Navy and Marine Corps of the 21st Century remains one of my top priorities, it is the responsibility of all of us gathered today to ensure that America builds the right force. We must maximize our limited resources, yet protect the irreplaceable shipbuilding art which produces the best ships and submarines in the world.

From the Navy perspective, we are on the right course. I am very excited about our shipbuilding plan. It is robust and forward-thinking. Thanks to Congress, we have a solid—and fully funded—budget for shipbuilding to ensure we have the right force to maintain our global presence requirements.

In fact, over the Future Years Defense Plan, we are spending more than 57 billion dollars on 31 new ships, submarines, and major conversions. We have funding for CVN 77; LPD 17 and DDG 51 are on track; and, with Congressional approval, teaming for construction of the New Attack Submarine will solve some difficult funding and industrial base issues we face now and into the future.

We are also conducting research and development for the next generation aircraft carrier—or CVX, the Maritime Fire Support Demonstrator, and a new surface combatant—or SC21. These new programs are exciting because they will use the most advanced technology mankind has to offer, including stealth, advanced materials, and passive damage control to name but a few. They will represent a true revolution in the conduct of maritime operations.

But it is not just the number of ships we are building or planning, but the incredible increase in capability that we are building into each new platform. There simply are no finer, or more advanced, ships and sub-

marines being built anywhere else in the world.

Our shipbuilding plan is an extremely positive and balanced program. But, there is still a long way to go to ensure we have the funding necessary for our ship and aircraft modernization requirements coming in the next decade. That is an issue on which I will be working closely with Secretary of Defense Bill Cohen and Congress in the months ahead. The Quadrennial Defense Review—or QDR—is but the first step in this process.

It is clear that we face a world filled with challenges and uncertainties. The fact is that our Navy and maritime industry must meet the future together—with a single vision. The key is to size the vision correctly—and to build room for plenty of flexibility into our plans and policies to address the upcoming challenges. I like President Harry Truman's idea. He said:

"You can always amend a big plan, but you can never expand a little one. I don't believe in little plans. I believe in plans big enough to meet a situation which we can't possibly foresee now."

I view this period in our history just as an extraordinary opportunity to take stock . . . to build the "big plans" for the future security of the United States. But we must do this together . . . in the halls of Congress, in the Pentagon, and in the shipyards and the seas around the world.

Again, it has been an honor to represent the wonderful men and women of the Department of the Navy here today. Thank you and all members of the National Security Caucus for this very special award. God bless the men and women of the United States Congress entrusted to lead this great Nation . . . God bless those of you that carry on Paul Hall's legacy . . . and God bless America.

NATIONAL CITY'S RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PATROL: AN EFFECTIVE CITIZEN CRIME FIGHTING PROGRAM TO HELP TAKE BACK OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise to honor National City's Retired Senior Volunteer Program and the spirit of community involvement that has brought this and other citizen-run programs into focus as some of the most effective crime fighting tools.

I am particularly impressed by the cooperation in National City, CA, between the chamber of commerce, the crime prevention commission, city leaders, and the police department in making this program a reality.

All across this Nation, citizens are participating in Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP) and the first—and still greatly effective citizen crime-fighting program—Neighborhood Watch. These dedicated citizens deserve to receive credit for their work.

With my Taking Back Our Neighborhoods Crime Fighting Act, citizens who pitch in with their time would be rewarded. The act would give a \$50 tax credit to people actively involved in Neighborhood Watch groups and other organizations—such as RSVP—that are committed to the reduction of local crime.

Officials throughout the Nation agree that Neighborhood Watch and citizen programs

need to be encouraged. My bill is backed by over two hundred police chiefs, sheriffs, district attorneys, community groups, and elected officials—including mayors of cities big and small—from across the country who supported this bill in the last Congress.

I am proposing this tax credit because citizen crime-fighting programs work. They are the most effective crime reduction tools in our communities. Throughout the country, Neighborhood Watch groups have made people feel safer and more secure in their homes, parks, and streets.

Neighborhood Watch and citizen patrols establish relationships among neighbors—and establish partnerships between neighborhoods and their police officers. Citizens are trained how to watch out for their families and monitor their neighborhoods, how to be observant and reliable witnesses, and how to assist their local police.

National City's Retired Senior Patrol officers will provide many of the routine non-life-threatening tasks that police officers perform and free up officers for work that requires sworn police officers. The National City RSVPers will perform vacation house checks, traffic control, conduct safety surveys for residents and businesses and will check on seniors living alone. Because of their presence in the community, residents will get to know them and their link to the police department. When neighbors see something suspicious—they'll know who to call.

Similar efforts have been successful. During the last 3 years, San Diego—with its RSVP, Citizens Patrol and Neighborhood Watch—has seen an overall reduction of 36 percent in the crime rate, and a 44- to 48-percent decrease in robberies, homicides and burglaries. Most importantly, those of us who participated were empowered—we felt stronger, we fostered a sense of community, and we saw that we could make a difference in people's lives.

But we still have a long way to go to feel safe in our homes and our neighborhoods. Encouraging people to participate in citizen crime-fighting programs will help us protect our families. Giving people in citizen crime fighting groups a \$50 tax break will support the RSVP and the many residents already involved in crime prevention programs, while encouraging more community participation.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend National City and all of its residents involved in setting up the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. And I ask my colleagues to back up the citizens in their community—like I have the National City RSVP and others like them—and support this important piece of legislation, H.R. 1529. Working together—and only by working together—can we truly reclaim our streets.

RHODE ISLAND TO HOST NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce an event that will be taking place in Rhode Island in the next millennium. The National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Preservation Conference will be held October

2001 in Providence. It seems quite appropriate that a beautiful city such as Providence, with its rich historical traditions, be the venue of the preservation conference. Providence is not only one of America's oldest cities, but it is also home to 28 national historic landmark districts.

The Providence Preservation Society, Brown University, the Providence-Warwick Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the city of Providence, the nonprofit civic community, and local businesses must be given credit for their contribution and efforts. By pledging to assist with conference planning, tour logistics, meetings and events, and recruitment of volunteers, their enduring commitment and dedication has allowed Providence to shine in the national spotlight as the future site of the national preservation conference. Past achievements and cooperation between various Providence groups, particularly in ethnically diverse neighborhoods, has greatly impressed the National Trust for Historic Preservation and influenced their decision in choosing Providence.

At the forefront of the preservation movement with over 275,000 members, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides education, leadership, and advocacy to save America's historic places and revitalize our aging communities. The 55th annual meeting of the national trust provides a unique opportunity for thousands of neighborhood activists, architects, real estate developers, planners, and historic property owners from across the Nation to participate in educational sessions, discussion groups, workshops, and area tours.

As a former landscape architect by trade, I am fortunate to have been able to collaborate with the many organizations who have strived to make Providence a beautiful place to live and to visit. I look forward to working with the city of Providence in making this event a tremendous success.

WE WILL TRULY MISS LONG
ISLAND DANNY

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, this past Friday on June 6, 1997, Long Island lost a true champion. The loss of this person was a tremendous blow to people from all walks of life he lent a helping hand to. Daniel A. Lehner was an entrepreneur who ran a successful newspaper delivery business and a restaurant. However, he was more than just another successful businessman—he was a person who used his business acumen and prosperity to benefit the community he lived and worked in.

His generosity shined through his efforts to help Long Island while president on the Nassau County Council of Chambers of Commerce, a member of the Association for a Better Long Island, and a member of the Long Island National Guard.

Long Islanders will remember his unceasing efforts to revive Nassau County's mom and pop type retail establishments. Nonviolent offenders will remember their Christmas present of freedom when he posted bail for them. Charity organizations will remember a certain Phantom of the Opera performance whose

proceeds were dedicated to them by Mr. Lehner who bought out the performance. Nassau County's Chambers of Commerce will not soon forget the advocacy work he did by bringing the importance of Long Island's small businesses into the media spotlight and into the minds of politicians and ordinary citizens.

His selfless actions in life were rewarded by the joy he brought into the hearts of so many. The people of Long Island will truly miss the man we all referred to as Long Island Danny.

TAIWAN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have received a copy of a speech by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China, Taiwan, John Chang, which he gave before the European Parliament on May 22, 1997.

Minister Chang's speech outlines the significant progress that Taiwan has made towards economic prosperity, political plurality, and democracy since 1949 and his call for better recognition of the Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan as a full member of the international community. I invite my colleagues to read Minister Chang's compelling arguments.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I ask that Minister Chang's speech be inserted at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

WE, THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN, SHALL RISE UP AGAIN—SPEECH GIVEN TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, MAY 22, 1997, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Mr. Chairman Spencer, distinguished members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you all so much for inviting me to speak to you at this very very prestigious forum today. It is truly a great honor not only for my humble self, but also for my government, the Republic of China which is now located on an island called Taiwan. Allow me first of all to convey to each and every one of you the warmest greeting and gratitude from 21.3 million people living in Taiwan. We deeply appreciated this opportunity that our story can finally be directly told and better understood to our respectable members of the European Parliament.

I was told that over the past years, the Dalai Lama of Tibet, Mr. Arafat of PLO and Mr. Mandela of ANC etc., all had been invited to this forum to exchange views with you over their issues. The situation that the Republic of China on Taiwan faces today is totally different from theirs, but there is one thing in common, it is that we all need the fair attention of the world and we all have to appeal to international justice.

It took me about 20 hours to fly over from Taipei to Brussels, the day before yesterday, yet it has taken my government, the Republic of China, more than twenty-five years to be finally given an important international platform like this today to have our voice heard, to have our humble views shared, and to have our story faithfully told.

It is sad to point out that our freedom of speech as a sovereign state, has long been deprived of from almost all international organizations since 1971, the year when we were forced out of the UN, simply because of mainland China's untrue position that there is but one China on earth, which is the Peo-

ple's Republic of China, and that Republic of China on Taiwan is one of their provinces. The sheer existence of one able, prosperous, vigorous and democratic government called the Republic of China, has been for nearly a quarter-century, veiled in thick political fog of world politics. The truth about my country, the truth about my people have all been flagrantly distorted and badly twisted. And the rights of my government as a sovereign state have subsequently been brutally neglected, ignored and even totally denied in world affairs arena for decades.

The Republic of China was established in 1912 by a successful revolution led by Dr. Sun Yet-sen, which overthrew the Ching Dynasty. Dr. Sun Yet-sen was educated in the United States, and he had widely toured the European continent and did his research at the British Empire Library in London for a number of years before he returned to China to lead the revolution. Europe has evidently very much to do with the birth of a modern China. Actually the link between Europe and China, I mean the ancient China, was forged centuries ago.

When any scholar talks about the early contacts between Europe and Cathay, he can never afford to forget to mention two prominent European figures, one is, of course, Marco Polo, the other, Matteo Ricci. Both of them are Italians, the former a legendary merchant, the latter a Jesuit missionary, and they were 300 years apart. Marco Polo traveled with his father and uncle from Venice to China in 1271, when Mongolians were ruling China. He had spent 24 years in China. Matteo Ricci came to China under Ming Dynasty in 1583, he lived in China for 30 years and died there. The great differences between the two great Italians lie in the fact that the trader Marco Polo succeeded in introducing the old Cathay to Europe, yet the missionary Matteo Ricci did things another way around, he introduced Europe to China, not only her culture, science, but the religion of Christianity. The most important contribution that Marco Polo ever rendered was his bringing back to Europe such Chinese inventions as the compass, paper-making, paper money and printing. Many historians believe that Marco Polo's book entitled "Description of the World" may have influenced many explorers, including Christopher Columbus. By citing this portion of history, I intend simply to stress that how close once we were together in the past, and we certainly would be even closer in the future.

A few minutes ago I pointed out that the Republic of China was established in 1912 after a revolution strongly motivated by a new tide of political thought of Europe. It was the first Republic in entire Asia. The ensuing thirty years for the new Republic were all turbulent and chaotic. Only after the end of World War II, the new Republic got a very short breathing period. But it was already too late, the entire nation became fully exhausted by the eight-year-Sino-Japanese war from 1937 to 1945. The Chinese Communists seized the opportunity to engage a civil war against the nationalist government of KMT led by late Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. The Communists won the war in 1949, consequently, the government of the Republic of China was then moved from the Chinese mainland to the island of Taiwan with her Constitution which was promulgated in 1947.

In 1949 when the government of the Republic of China was relocated on Taiwan, she remained to be the legitimate government of whole China with a majority of nations in the UN supporting this claim diplomatically, the number was 47 out of 59. As the membership of the UN grew up to exactly 100 in 1960, the number of nations which maintained diplomatic ties with the Republic of China on Taiwan was 53, still a majority support in