

The 20th century will be recorded as the American century. Mr. Speaker, because as a nation, we led the world in trade, in human rights and in international cooperation. If we expect to lay claim to the 21st century, as we did the 20th, we must engage China—a nation which will emerge as one of the most powerful in the world.

There is no doubt that China has serious human rights problems that must be addressed. But there are more effective means to address these concerns without hurting American jobs, such as, implementing targeted sanctions and enforcing existing international trade laws.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, maintaining normal trade relations, which is all MFN does, provides America with a meaningful forum to influence important human rights issues.

Tomorrow's marketplace will be shaped by the forces of technology and globalization. Studies tell us that in the 21st century, 90 percent of today's kindergarten students will be working in jobs that do not exist today. Many of these jobs will be export driven, and many of these exports will go to China. If America disengages from China, our ability to compete in that global marketplace will be undermined. I urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution.

A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF DEPUTY DON LANQUIST

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Deputy Don Lanquist for 30 years of distinguished service to our community and the Ventura County Sheriff's Department. John F. Kennedy measures a man's success in public service according to four criteria—courage, judgment, integrity, and dedication. Chief Deputy Don Lanquist not only possesses these virtues, but serves as an example of what a leaders should be.

When most people think of Don, they think of someone they can always go to in order to get the job done. He is able to follow projects from inception to completion, personally working each and every step along the way.

The Todd Road Jail Facility, a nationally recognized showcase facility, is one example of his exceptional work. Don began with the idea of building a new jail, requisitioned the funding from legislators, aided in project design and development, and planned the inauguration of the new facility. Few people are capable of following projects to completion especially with such success. This is just one of the many reasons the citizens of Thousand Oaks honor him today.

In addition to his contributions to law enforcement and public protection, I would like to recognize Don today for his compassionate treatment of other people. He is an extraordinary leader because he always puts the feelings of others first. His leadership, however, does not end with his job. Don has also served on the State Sheriff's Association and on the California Board of Corrections.

Chief Deputy Lanquist is truly able to accomplish monumental tasks and has indeed led his field of custody operations in to the 21st century. His successes in prisoner man-

agement and rehabilitation have contributed to Ventura County's reputation as one of the Nation's safest counties.

I ask my esteemed colleagues today to join the family, friends, and citizens of Ventura County in recognizing Chief Deputy Don Lanquist for 30 years of exceptional service. His hard work and dedication make him a role model for all in our community.

FLOODING IN MILWAUKEE

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend southeastern Wisconsin experienced serious flooding when more than 7 inches of rain fell within 12 hours, forcing hundreds of my constituents from their homes and causing millions of dollars in damages. Many residents of Milwaukee County were without electricity, trying to rescue their valuable possessions, furniture, major appliances, and other household essentials from flooded and mud-caked basements. Schools, roads, government buildings, and municipal equipment also suffered significant damage. In fact, my family and I spent 2 days getting a foot and a half of water out of our own basement.

Since the flooding began, I have been in contact with local and State disaster officials, as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA] and the Small Business Administration [SBA], to coordinate a response to this disaster. Today, FEMA officials are in Milwaukee to survey the damage and provide a preliminary damage assessment [PDA] to the President as he decides whether to declare the region a Federal disaster area. I am confident that the people of Milwaukee will work together to repair the damage caused by the flooding, and that we will be successful in our efforts to rebuild.

As a result of this disaster, I was not present during rollcall votes 225, 226, and 227 on Monday, June 23. I strongly support these three amendments to the Defense authorization bill, and had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each. I am pleased that the House approved these amendments overwhelmingly, and I look forward to their consideration in the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF GALEN W. BROOKENS

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure today to honor Galen W. Brookens, who is retiring this year as chief of police at the Fremont Police Department in Fremont, MI.

Chief Brookens began his distinguished career with the Fremont Police Department on March 16, 1963, as a patrolman. He served in this capacity until January 1, 1968, when he went to work as an investigator for the twenty-seventh circuit court. In December 1968, he returned to the Fremont Police Department after accepting the position of chief of police.

Throughout his career, Chief Brookens has played an instrumental role in the community he has served. In 1979, he aided in the development and institution of the 911 system in Newaygo County, the second county in Michigan to provide this service, and also worked to establish the Silent Observer Program. He has served as chairman and board member of the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council, the Newaygo County Administrative Officers Association, and the Michigan Chiefs of Police. In 1982, Chief Brookens received the "Service Above Self" award from the Rotary Club for his role in the development of an alcohol rehabilitation program in Newaygo County, his willingness to speak and teach at Fremont High School and various civic organizations, and his service and devotion to the First Reformed Church as a Sunday school teacher, deacon, and choir member. In addition, Chief Brookens has been given numerous awards, certificates, and commendations for exemplary police work and selfless service to the community of Fremont.

For 33 years, Chief Brookens has dedicated his career to serving others. His work in the community has been an invaluable asset that has affected, and will continue to affect, the lives of many. As he retires, I would like to give him my thanks for his years of public service to the citizens of Fremont, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1119) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, the 1997 Department of Defense Authorization Act included several provisions designed to encourage the Department of Energy to implement reforms in the management of environmental cleanup programs.

Unfortunately, Department management continues to struggle with ongoing cleanup programs, as evidenced by the problems facing the Pit 9 project in Idaho, and problems with the transition to new contractors at a number of sites.

Recognizing these programs, a bipartisan group of lawmakers spent several months studying the Department system. Working with our colleagues, with our constituents, and with the Nation's Governors and State attorneys general, we came up with a series of recommendations which were designed to help cut through the redtape and bureaucracy surrounding the DOE cleanup system.

These provisions were included in the House version of the 1997 Defense bill, and are now a part of Public Law 104-260.

Unfortunately, the Department has virtually ignored congressional intent, and has failed to implement almost every single one of these recommendations. For instance:

The Department has taken no action to reappoint site managers at each cleanup site, as required by section 3173 of the bill.

The Department has failed to submit to Congress a report on section 3175, which requires the establishment of a technology deployment program at DOE sites.

To the best of my knowledge, the Department has failed to comply with section 3174 of the law, which requires that the Secretary certify that any new Department paperwork requirements—called orders—are necessary for “the protection of human health and the environment or safety, the fulfillment of legal requirements, or the conduct of critical administrative functions.” This was meant to reduce the absolutely unbelievable amount of paperwork that exists in the DOE system.

The Department has failed to work with State leaders to ensure that the provisions cover sites other than the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in my district, as suggested by section 3172.

And until this past month, the Department had ignored provisions that Congress had included to speed up transfers of funding from one project to another. And although these limited reprogrammings have recently been approved at Hanford and Savannah River, Department budget officials are apparently misinterpreting even these simple procedures.

Mr. Chairman, Congress included these provisions as a subtle reminder to the Department that the time for reform had come. The Department's decision to ignore these provisions demonstrates that they have little interest in taking the steps necessary to assure Congress that the \$6 billion we appropriate for these programs is well spent.

This amendment strengthens the existing provisions by making a number of the changes mandatory, instead of voluntary. It will empower the site manager to take action to enhance environmental restoration at the site. It puts a 2-month limit on the amount of time that DOE headquarters may take to review urgent budget transfer requests. It gives the site manager the responsibility for considering the cost and risk reduction benefits in making decisions in cleanup actions.

Some have argued that this will grant unilateral authority to the site manager. That is simply not true. The Secretary will retain the ultimate decision making authority. And the Secretary is also given the authority to remove a site manager, if he sees fit.

Mr. Chairman, it was my original intention that this amendment should cover all Department of Energy sites. However, we agreed at this point to limit it to the Hanford site, with the expectation that the Department will seek to apply similar provisions across the complex.

This is a simple, but commonsense step towards imposing responsible management on a Department which has clearly demonstrated that it has had problems managing the billions of dollars that we have given them each year. As a result, I would urge my colleagues to support this provision.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HORACE O'BRYANT MIDDLE SCHOOL'S CONCERT CHOIR AND SERENADES

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Horace O'Bryant Middle School's Concert Choir and Serenaders which was commended as the best overall choir among all middle and high school choirs in the Nation. The group from Horace O'Bryant recently won the top award in the finals at the All American Music Festival in Orlando, FL.

About 60 middle schoolers comprise the choir and about half of them also participate in the Serenaders, a dancing jazz show choir. Much of their repertoire consists of popular melodies from movies and television shows.

I am proud to see that music is still so great a part of our children's lives. The Key West Citizen said it well when it declared that “We can share this triumph with the kids and their teachers because we know that their music lights the way to a harmonious future for all of us.”

Mr. Speaker, I applaud these students of their diligence and commitment to music and for their excellent representation of Florida in this prestigious national competition. Also to be commended are the team's choral director, parents, and school principal, who gave their time and support.

HONORING RICHARD SILVER'S 55 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Silver's 55 years of service to our Nation and its veterans.

Mr. Silver is currently the director of the James Haley VA Medical Center in Tampa, FL. Since 1979, he has guided what is, in my opinion, one of the best VA medical facilities in the country. The Center serves veterans from around my home State of Florida and provides them with the quality care they deserve. He has used an active teaching role and close professional relationship with the University of South Florida College of Medicine.

Before coming to Tampa, Richard served in the same position at the Brockton and Northampton VA Medical Centers in Massachusetts. He has also served as the assistant hospital director at East Orange, NJ, and was director of personnel service in the Department of Medicine and Surgery at the VA Central Office. In total, he has over 55 years of service to our country.

In addition to devoting his life to the care of our Nation's veterans, Mr. Silver also served in the U.S. Army as a captain while he was assigned to the Combat Engineers in the South Pacific.

Richard has devoted his life to protecting our Nation and those who answered the call in its time of need. He has an exemplary career of service that is worthy of recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Richard Silver and wish him continued success in his work at the Tampa VA.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE SCHMIEDEL

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to honor Mr. George Schmiedel for his outstanding service to the citizens of Connecticut. On this Friday, June 27, Mr. Schmiedel will retire after 30 years of service as the registrar of voters for my hometown of Danbury, CT.

Mr. Schmiedel is a lifelong resident of Danbury, CT, and a 1948 graduate of Danbury High School. He is a dedicated member and active participant at St. Peter's Church. In addition to his lengthy and distinguished service to the city of Danbury, Mr. Schmiedel also was employed for 19 years by the John Hancock Insurance Co. He and his wife, Sally, are the proud parents of three children: Mark, Steven, and Brenda, and have five grandchildren.

Mr. Schmiedel has a long history of outstanding commitment to the community of Danbury. His membership and service in the Arthritis Association, the American Cancer Society, the Catholic War Veterans, and the Danbury Democratic Club has made a lasting contribution and has made him an invaluable member of our community.

Mr. Schmiedel's extended service is a testimony to his dedication to the citizens of Connecticut and a reflection of his personal concern for the people of Danbury. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. George Schmiedel for his dedicated service and to congratulate him on his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO THE FBI AND CIA

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency for the apprehension of a suspect in the murder of two CIA employees and the wounding of three other individuals near Langley 4 years ago.

According to reports, FBI agents took the confessed killer into custody in a covert operation near the Afghan-Pakistani border with intelligence support from the CIA, ending a 4-year international manhunt. The dawn raid was executed without incident.

This case demonstrates the vital importance of maintaining a strong U.S. intelligence community. It also reminds us of the value of perseverance in the pursuit of justice.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the work done by the FBI and the CIA last week. All America thanks them.