

of age in the international arena. The combination of a relatively stagnant economy and an increasingly competitive global economic environment will force China to rely more heavily on the illegal acquisition of high technology modernization—Arms production and sales are increasingly being used to gain hard currency and expand global political influence. The MSS will be required to produce intelligence to support this assertive role in the global, commercial and political environments—Western democracies such as the U.S. must adjust the focus of their clandestine intelligence and counter-intelligence operations if they are to meet the MSS's forward posture effectively.

The annual report would document significant developments involving China's Ministry of State Security, the Military Intelligence Department of the People's Liberation Army, and other Chinese intelligence entities operating against the United States. The report is specifically intended to cover trends in the following areas: first, political, military, and economic espionage by Chinese intelligence services; second, intelligence activities designed to gain political influence, including activities undertaken or coordinated by the United Front Works Department of the Chinese Communist Party; third, efforts to gain direct or indirect influence through commercial or noncommercial intermediaries subject to control by the People's Republic of China, including enterprises controlled by the People's Liberation Army; and fourth, disinformation and press manipulation by the Government of the People's Republic of China against the United States.

Various agencies from the intelligence and law enforcement communities will be tasked to provide input on Chinese intelligence activities within the United States and elsewhere. Some of the agencies being asked to contribute to the annual report will include the following: Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense, Department of Justice, National Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of State, and the Department of the Treasury.

The classified version of the annual report will be provided to both the House and Senate. An unclassified version will be prepared so that the American public can be provided with a general summary of the nature of the Chinese intelligence threat to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is very crucial yet very simple. It is not one that requires anything more than a gathering of information for us, but I think it is critical information for us. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent during rollcall vote 267. If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 267.

APPOINTMENT OF DAVID STRAUSS TO BE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the appointment of David Strauss, a fellow Valley City, ND, native and close friend, as Executive Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation [PBGC].

I couldn't be more pleased to see such a good friend named to such an important Government post. Throughout his career, David has been an outstanding public servant deeply devoted to advancing the interests of working families. In this exciting new position, David will continue that work as the Government's top official responsible for protecting the pension security of 42 million American workers and retirees participating in about 50,000 private-sector pension plans.

David comes to the PBGC with extensive management and policy experience as deputy chief of staff to Vice President AL GORE since 1994. In that position, he played a major management role, developed policy options and advised the Vice President on a broad range of economic and domestic policy issues including wage and workplace protection, retirement security, health care, welfare, and trade.

Ensuring that Americans can look forward to a financially secure retirement has emerged as one of the most important public policy issues of the day. As head of the PBGC, David will be a leader in crafting our Nation's response to this retirement security challenge. And with his unique background as a top-notch manager and policymaker, it's hard to imagine someone better suited to this role.

Prior to his position with the Vice President, David served as chief of staff for the late Senator Quentin Burdick of North Dakota and then as staff director of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which Senator Burdick chaired.

Previously, as North Dakota State Executive Director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Stabilization and Conservation Service—now the Farm Service Agency—he directed an agency with 53 county offices and 1,200 employees, which administered \$1.3 billion in loans and direct payments to the farmers of North Dakota. During this period, he was recognized with a Special Achievement Award from the Secretary of Agriculture for his managerial skill and for reducing administrative costs despite a workload increase.

David Strauss is a superb choice to head the PBGC and I look forward to working with him on a broad range of retirement security issues. Mr. Speaker, I also submit for the RECORD an article from the Fargo Forum on David's appointment.

[From the Fargo Forum, July 3, 1997]

STRAUSS IN LINE FOR PENSION POSITION

(By Mikkel Pates)

David Strauss, a North Dakota native and deputy chief of staff to Vice President Al Gore, has been picked to be executive director of the government's Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.

Pensions & Investments, the Washington trade paper which broke the story, said the announcement will come any day.

Strauss, 47, was a chief of staff for the late Sen. Quentin Burdick, D-N.D., through most of the 1980's and later for the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works for which Burdick was chairman.

He also served briefly as chief of staff for Sens. Jocelyn Burdick, D-N.D., and John Breaux, D-La., before going to his current job in 1994.

Through an aide, Strauss declined to be interviewed about the new post because no official announcement has been made. Sources say the announcement could come later this week or next week.

The PBGC is a non-profit corporation wholly owned by the federal government. The corporation regulates and monitors pension plan insurance programs.

Among other things, it steps in if a pension plan fails and can't pay benefits. It makes up the difference in assets, administers the fund, and distributes the basic benefits.

The agency covers all single-employer and private defined pension plans and some plans between unions and employers. It is administered by a board, of which the Secretary of Labor is chairman, and includes the secretaries of commerce and treasury.

Sources at Pensions & Investments called Strauss a good choice for the job, despite his lack of hands-on experiences in pensions. The post does not require Senate confirmation.

The story quoted Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D., also from Valley City, who said the appointment of a top political aide showed the Clinton administration's commitment to retirement income security.

Officials from the Teamsters, the AFL-CIO, and business lobbyists all sang his praises.

"David Strauss' appointment will provide the PBGC with the kind of political leadership it has never had," said Mark J. Ugoretz, president of the ERISA Industry Committee, a Washington trade group representing the nation's biggest companies.

ERISA is the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

As Gore's aide, Strauss helped develop White House policy options on a range of economic and domestic policies.

He was involved in working on the Retirement Protection Act, signed by Clinton in December 1994.

In a 1994 interview with The Forum Strauss said that his career hinged to some degree on Gore's future.

"If Al Gore is re-elected vice president and then runs for president in the year 2000, I very much would want to be a part of all of that," he said at the time.

Strauss grew up in Harvey and Valley City, and in the 1970's became one of the state's most successful political strategists.

Among other things, he was executive director of the Democratic-NPL party from 1975 to 1977.

In 1977, he was named North Dakota executive director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (now the Farm Service Agency).

At the time he was criticized for a lack of farming background for the job.

He later took great pride in winning achievement awards in the agency.

NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS CENTER, CASPER, WY

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, over a century and a half has now passed since the historic

overland migrations of people across America's Western frontier began. Their stories of hardship, perseverance, and courage are legendary, and they figure prominently in the history of the West. The trails they traveled, especially in Wyoming, still remain a visible testimony to the great struggles of these early American pioneers.

During the mid-1800's, Casper, WY, was the only geographic location in the Western United States where the Oregon, Mormon, California, and Pony Express trails, as well as many Indian trails converged. A fork of the Bozeman Trail and the beginnings of the Bridger Trail also originated in Casper. These trails are a distinctive part of our Nation's past and they possess important historical and cultural values representing themes of migration, settlement, transportation, and commerce that shaped the landscape of the West.

Congress has recognized the historical significance of these trails. The National Trails Systems Act, as amended in 1978 and 1992, designates the Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, and Pony Express Trails as "National Historic Trails." The act also directs the Secretary of the Interior to protect, interpret, and manage the remnants of these trails on Federal lands.

While large segments of these trails, and their associated historic sites lie on Bureau of Land Management [BLM] lands in Wyoming, no interpretive center is available in Wyoming, or any adjacent State, to educate the public on the role of these trails in our Nation's history.

In an effort to preserve and interpret this important history, today I am introducing legislation to establish the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center [NHTIC] in Casper, WY. The bill encompasses a unique partnership of Federal and non-Federal interests to jointly construct and operate this Center. These interests include the BLM, the city of Casper, and the nonprofit National Historic Trails Foundation. These entities came together in 1992 to build a center to memorialize and interpret the national historic trails in the West.

The interpretive and educational programs that will be associated with the Trails Center in Casper will enable visitors to discover and appreciate the miles of untouched trails that lie on public lands in the West. The Center will identify and help protect sensitive historic trail remnants to prevent degradation. The National Historic Trails Centers will also provide an opportunity for the BLM to showcase public lands emphasizing the Bureau's commitment to preserve lands of historical value.

Under the cooperative agreement, there is a clear commitment of non-Federal partners to share costs to construct, maintain, and operate the Trails Center. City, State, foundation, and private interests will bear approximately half of the total costs of the project. The city of Casper provided funds to initiate work on the Center. The city has also donated more than 10 acres of prime land overlooking the site of the North Platte River crossings of the historic trails for the Center. Furthermore, the citizens of Casper increased local sales taxes and have raised the required 1.5 million of construction dollars to meet their financial commitment under the cooperative agreement. The State of Wyoming has joined the partnership by giving \$700,000 for the Center. The cooperative agreement also requires non-Federal entities to establish a \$1 million endow-

ment, the interest thereof to maintain exhibits for the life of the Center. The overwhelming amount of non-Federal support for the Center is precisely the kind of cooperation Congress intended in managing and interpreting the historic trails of the Nation.

Under the cooperative agreement, the BLM has an important but limited role in establishing and operating the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center. The BLM has already completed a striking design as well as the engineering blueprints of the Center. With this work completed, the land available, and most of the non-Federal funds in hand, the Center is now ready to construction. This legislation provides congressional authorization of funds for the BLM to do so. Once the Center is completed, the BLM will own and operate the facility. However, with the endowment, the authorization to charge visitors a modest entrance fee, and commitments for volunteer staffing, the facility will be largely self-sustaining from a financial perspective. This is important in view of the present and anticipated future funding restrictions of the Federal Government.

In Wyoming, we are experiencing great interest in the historic trails that cross the State. In 1992, a year when visitation to Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park was down, the Wyoming Department of Tourism reported an increase in tourism along the Oregon Trail route during the sesquicentennial of that trail. This year is the sesquicentennial of the Mormon Pioneer Trail. BLM officials have estimated that between 200,000 and 1 million visitors participated in trials events in Wyoming this year. We expect similar interest in trails during the sesquicentennials of the California and Pony Express historic trails. In truth, an increasing number of Americans are discovering, enjoying, and learning the history of these treks and are seeking to experience natural settings, landmarks, and physical remains of the trails.

I am pleased with the broad level of support the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center enjoys. As noted earlier, the city of Casper and the State of Wyoming have provided tremendous assistance to this effort—for that I thank them. The Governor of Wyoming, Jim Geringer, as well as Wyoming's former Governor, Mike Sullivan, have endorsed the Center from the beginning. Wyoming's U.S. Senators, MIKE ENZI and CRAIG THOMAS, support the project. Especially gratifying has been the support and encouragement from interests outside of Wyoming, such as the Oregon-California Trails Association. I deeply appreciate the support of my respected colleague from Utah, Representative JIM HANSEN, who is co-sponsoring this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the establishment of the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center is in the public interest. The project contains the best elements of private and public cooperation. The construction and operation of this Trails Center is altogether consistent with the BLM's criteria for projects of this kind. I urge my colleagues to help advance our efforts to preserve and interpret a significant chapter of American history by lending their support for this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ANDERSON
MONARCHS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of young athletes from south Philadelphia who have just returned from a barnstorming baseball tour in tribute to the late, great Jackie Robinson. The Anderson Monarchs are a team of 15 boys between the ages 8 and 12 who play in the RBI, Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities, League of Philadelphia. The team is named for Jackie Robinson's Negro League team, the Kansas City Monarchs, and plays its home games at the Marian Anderson Recreation Center in the heart of south Philadelphia.

Leaving Philadelphia last week in a restored 1947 bus, the team drove west to participate in the Kansas City Royal's celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entry into the Major Leagues. The team, sponsored by the Philadelphia Phillies, Mellon PSFS and Acme Markets, embarked on a 13-day journey that began with a game in Brooklyn, NY, the former home of Jackie Robinson's Dodgers. From Brooklyn, the Monarchs traveled to Cleveland, where they participated in All-Star game festivities, then played a game against a local team. From there it was off to Detroit, Chicago, and Iowa, where they visited the site of the Field of Dreams, made famous by the movie of that name. Many of these youngsters have never been far from the urban landscape of Philadelphia, so traveling through the rural Midwest was quite an experience for them.

In Kansas City, the Monarchs visited the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, where they were introduced to Hall-of-Famer, Buck O'Neill, a former Monarchs teammate of Jackie Robinson. Meeting this living legend and hearing his bittersweet tales of the Negro Leagues was the high point of the trip for many of the young ballplayers.

From Kansas City the team bus wound its way back, with stops for games in St. Louis, Louisville, and Pittsburgh, before returning to Philadelphia. Mr. Speaker, these youngsters are more than just ballplayers, they are ambassadors for Philadelphia, and I have received reports that they have represented our city with great honor throughout their travels. They have learned about the legacy of segregation in baseball, and they have taught others of these lessons along the way. In honoring the anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entry into the Major Leagues, the Monarchs have been a major success. They have demonstrated admirably the sentiment engraved on Jackie Robinson's gravestone that, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." In recognition of their successful tour, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Philadelphia's Anderson Monarchs.

IN MEMORY OF DAVID L. CINI

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to pay tribute to David L.