

the Western media. And in New York City, the Communist Chinese were allowed to put on a parade which glorified the takeover.

I would like to submit for the RECORD a viewpoint on Hong Kong by a democratic Chinese individual, who happens to be the President of Taiwan. President Lee has eloquently described in USA Today how democratic Taiwan, and not totalitarian Communist China, represents the model for the future of Hong Kong and indeed, China itself.

[From the USA Today, June 30, 1997]

TAIWAN YIELDS MODEL FOR A FREE HONG KONG

(By Lee Teng-hui)

Today, the era of colonial rule will come to an end in Hong Kong. This is a proud event for all Chinese wherever they are, and offers a new opportunity for creating a democratic Chinese nation. We earnestly hope that the Beijing authorities will be able to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, and will ensure that the people of Hong Kong continue to enjoy freedom, democracy and basic human rights. This is the only way to act in accord with the joint values and trends of mankind today, regional peace and development, and the common dignity and interests of all Chinese people.

Taiwan's experience offers reason for optimism.

A little more than one year ago, the Republic of China successfully held a direct presidential election on Taiwan, completing a crucial objective of our political reform. At the time, the concept of constitutional government stressed by Americans over two hundred years ago kept coming to my mind: "... all Men are created equal, ... they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, ... among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness ... to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."

Indeed, with the joint effort of the entire populace and their government, the Republic of China has upheld the principle of popular sovereignty on Taiwan, and has succeeded in lifting martial law, liberalizing the formation of political parties, realizing the practice of free speech, re-electing all national parliamentarians who had been in office for a long time, and carrying out a direct presidential election. Through these endeavors, the Republic of China has undergone profound change, and has become a fullfledged democracy.

However, we cannot overlook the fact that still over 20 percent of the world's population, most of whom live on the Chinese mainland, have no way to enjoy these rights. The Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait share the same cultural and racial heritage. Thus, there is no reason why we cannot jointly build a system of democracy and freedom, and fully exercise our God-given rights.

In 1979, before material law was lifted in Taiwan, a number of protesters demonstrating against government censorship of their magazine were arrested and jailed in what became known as the Kaohsiung Incident. At the same time, the Chinese communists authorities arrested the human rights activist Wei Jingsheng. Today, many of those involved in the Kaohsiung Incident have redeemed themselves through the ballot box and have become important elected political leaders on Taiwan. However, Mr. Wei remains in jail. The marked differences in systems and values between the two sides are the fundamental reason why each of the two parts of the China we all want to see reuni-

fied one day still remain separate political entities.

Democracy has become a world trend, and is without doubt the greatest achievement of mankind this century. One reason civilization continues to progress is that we have the courage to realize our dreams, and we have the heart to care about each other and provide mutual support. We must continue to uphold this spirit and sentiment, so that democracy ultimately becomes the common way of life of all humanity. May people living in every corner of the global village enjoy democracy!

Thus, we cherish the young buds of democracy of the Chinese mainland. Certain forms of election in rural townships and villages have spread on the mainland in recent years. We are happy to see it succeed and call on the Chinese mainland authorities to show the courage and determination to boldly take the grand route to democracy. Join with us and bring democracy to all of Chinese society, seeking everlasting well-being and peace for the Chinese people!

Unquestionably, if Taiwan can achieve democracy, then Hong Kong should be able to maintain democracy, and there is no reason why the Chinese mainland can not do everything possible to head in that direction. This is the true way to solve the China problem.

In the 21st century, Mankind will certainly prove that "All roads lead to Democracy!"

HONORING DR. ALFRED M. BEETON, ACTING CHIEF SCIENTIST OF NOAA, UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and pay tribute to a scientist who has worked tirelessly for over 40 years to learn and teach about the Great Lakes environment. Dr. Alfred M. Beeton earned his post-secondary degrees in zoology at the University of Michigan and continued to conduct and direct research in the Great Lakes region until his appointment as acting chief scientist for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA] in 1996. This brief statement can scarcely touch upon the depth and breadth of Dr. Beeton's career accomplishments, but I shall try to highlight some representative achievements.

Dr. Beeton's work has spanned time beyond that of his personal career, from investigations into the evolution of the Great Lakes to recommendations for the future of policy affecting large lakes. In over 100 publications and speeches addressing scientists and policy makers, Dr. Beeton has touched on the most pressing issues affecting the quality of the Great Lakes. Some of the topics to which he has added his knowledge and insight include human factors affecting water quality, thermal pollution from powerplants, basic ecology of fish and other aquatic organisms, and how policy can begin to address these and other issues.

Dr. Beeton's legacy will live on long after his retirement in August. Throughout his career as a professor at the Universities of Michigan and Wisconsin, Wayne State University, and Oregon State University, he trained hundreds of undergraduates and over 30 graduate stu-

dents in aquatic science. In testimony before the Senate, Dr. Beeton helped to shape policies that initiated the restoration of the Great Lakes. He served for 10 years as director of the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab [GLERL] in Ann Arbor, MI, helping to shape NOAA's mission on the United States' fourth coast.

It was during his tenure as GLERL's director that I came to know Al Beeton personally. My district in Ohio is entirely within the Great Lakes basin, and includes the largest portion of Ohio's Lake Erie shoreline of any Ohio congressional district. Thus, the quality of the Great Lakes environment is inextricably tied to the quality of life for my constituents. Dr. Beeton has served as the embodiment of institutional memory for Great Lakes environmental issues. Al Beeton has been the person my staff could always turn to for an honest assessment of the status of our great natural resource.

During the past several years of fiscal restraint, GLERL has faced a flat Federal contribution to its budget. This has meant a loss of staff and reprioritization of the lab's research programs. At the same time, interest in the restoration of Great Lakes resources has steadily increased. Threats to the Great Lakes from invading species and persistent toxins have been a continuous scourge and are not made less serious by Congress' intent to control the Federal budget. Throughout this period, Dr. Beeton has successfully led GLERL's efforts to study problems as large as the control of zebra mussels and the instantaneous forecasting of weather on the coastlines. As a result, we have a much better handle on how to protect the lakes and live safely on their shores than a decade ago.

In 1996, Dr. Beeton planned to retire from his long and successful career and perhaps to enjoy the fruits of his labor while sailing. The Commerce Department tapped Dr. Beeton to serve as Acting Chief Scientist of NOAA and he began this new chapter in his life on June 21, 1996. In this position, he has coordinated with other NOAA administrators to establish the agency's scientific policy and to provide guidance to NOAA managers on scientific and technology issues. Among other things, the Office of the Chief Scientist is responsible for coordinating NOAA activities to implement the National Environmental Policy Act, managing NOAA's technology transfer program, and administering the National Climate Program.

The appointment of a Great Lakes scientist to the highest scientific office in the Nation's ocean-oriented agency is an indication of the recognition of the fourth coast as an important aquatic resource. Al Beeton has brought prominence to a natural resource which was once treated more like a sewer than the national treasure it is. His efforts have been integral to the restoration of the lakes and we owe him our gratitude. Dr. Beeton will retire from his post as Acting Chief Scientist in August, and with this I bid him a fond farewell.

A TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY DANZIS BIER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mrs. Dorothy

Danzis Bier, a New Jersey resident, who died on July 8, at the age of 91. Throughout most of her life, she was deeply tied to the 13th Congressional District of New Jersey; and those ties continue to enrich this area of New Jersey.

Mrs. Bier was born in Newark, delivered by her uncle, Dr. Max Danzis, a founding physician of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Her youth was spent growing up in Highland Park, Bayonne, and Newark, where she graduated from Newark's South Side High School in 1922. After graduating from the Newark Normal School, which is now Kean College, Mrs. Bier received her teaching certificate and taught in the Newark school system.

In 1929, Mrs. Bier married David Bier and, shortly thereafter, the couple settled in Jersey City. Their only child Marcia was born at Beth Israel Medical Center in 1930.

Mr. and Mrs. Bier owned and operated Mother Bier's Bakery at 121 Madison Street in Hoboken until the mid-1960's when poor health forced Mr. Bier to close the business. At that time, although in her 60's, Mrs. Bier returned to the education field and taught preschool children in Jersey City from 1965 until 1970 under the Head Start Program. She retired in 1970 and moved to Millburn, NJ, to be near her daughter, son-in-law Cyril Greenstein; and her beloved grandchildren, Scott and Randy. She moved once again, to Miami, FL, in 1987 where her daughter and son-in-law had relocated.

Surviving her are her daughter and son-in-law of Aventura, FL; her grandsons, Scott Greenstein, M.D., of Middlebury, CT; and Randy Greenstein of Rockville, MD. She was also the great-grandmother of Max and Jesse Greenstein of Middlebury, CT; and a nephew, Alan Danzis of Berkeley Heights, NJ. Her husband David passed away in 1969; and her only sibling, Leo Danzis of Elizabeth, NJ, and vice president of the Ketchum Pharmaceutical Co., died in 1977.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Bier was a unique woman; witty, intelligent, and politically astute throughout her life. I know that she was adored by her family; and that she adored them. I extend my condolences to her daughter and her grandsons. They lost the matriarch of their family. New Jersey lost a beloved daughter who truly has left my area poorer for her passing.

“THWARTING OUR IMMIGRATION LAWS”

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this administration has proved once again that they are soft on illegal immigration. Two weeks ago, I was outraged when Attorney General Janet Reno had defied the clear will of Congress and halted the deportation of thousands of illegal aliens. Mr. Speaker, the very person appointed to uphold the laws passed by this legislative body is now trying to find ways around them. I find that absolutely unacceptable.

Yesterday, the Clinton administration presented to this Congress a proposal to weaken the immigration reform law the President signed less than a year ago. They claim there

are special circumstances for some that should allow them to stay in this country beyond what the law allows. Mr. Speaker, I believe there may be a heart-wrenching story behind every man, woman or child that wishes to enter this country and tries to do so illegally. But we cannot begin to arbitrarily pick winners and losers. I urge my colleagues to reject this and any other proposal to revisit this issue and weaken our immigration laws.

Last year, we purposely raised the bar on those seeking to enter this country by means of political asylum because we knew the process was being abused. It was not an oversight and it was not done secretly. If the administration had an objection, it should have been addressed at that time. To come back to this argument is not only a mistake, but a breach of the delicate relationship between Congress and the administration. To use the Attorney General of the United States to undermine the laws we pass is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, several of my colleagues and I have sent a letter to the Attorney General urging her not to find ways to break our laws for the political will of the President. I hope my colleagues will stand with us in blocking any attempt to try and weaken our immigration laws by either stopping deportations by an administrative order or by new legislation. It is not just a violation of what this Congress passed less than a year ago, it is an act of defiance against those citizens who have suffered from the effects of illegal immigration. Mr. Speaker, this is just one more way in which this President and his administration have tried to weaken what it means to be a citizen of the United States.

STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON U.S. POLICIES IN SUPPORT OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, our Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, John Shattuck, appeared before a meeting of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus to present to the Members of Congress the State Department Report “United States Policies in Support of Religious Freedom: Focus on Christians.” This report is an indepth summary of the particular measures taken by the administration to address the issue of Christian persecution as an element of U.S. Government policy to fight against religious persecution and discrimination around the world.

This report, Mr. Speaker, was prepared by the Department of State in response to a request by the Congress in the statement that accompanied the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1997. That request is principally the effort of our colleague from Virginia, Congressman FRANK WOLF, who is one of the most active of our Members in leading the fight against religious persecution around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the administration for its efforts in dealing with the problem of religious persecution. The State Department's annual “Country Reports on Human Rights Practices” provides indepth information about

religious freedom issues, and in the most recent editions of this important human rights document, Secretary Shattuck singled out religious persecution as an area of special attention and concern. Last year, then-Secretary of State Warren Christopher established the Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad, with a membership of some 20 prominent Americans representing a wide range of religious groups and nongovernmental organizations. This group has had an auspicious beginning to its work, and I look forward to its recommendations and activities in support of religious liberty around the world. I applaud Secretary Shattuck and our Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, for their commitment to human rights and to dealing with religious liberty.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary Albright was particularly eloquent in her foreword to the report in expressing the commitment and the reasons for the commitment of the United States to the principles of religious freedom. I would like to quote for the benefit of my colleagues her statement in the introduction of the report:

Religious liberty, the freedom to proclaim a religious identity and practice it without fear, is an aspiration and an inalienable right of people everywhere. When practiced with tolerance, it can be one of the keys to a stable, productive society. But generations of hatred may be sown when it is delayed or denied. It is central to the strength of free peoples. Its protection and promotion are important elements of America's support for human rights around the globe.

First, because the right to profess and practice one's religion is basic to the life of every human being and is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Second, people who are free to profess their beliefs without fear and to live by them without impediment will do more to enrich their societies than people held back by prejudice. Where the rights of persons of any faith are not secure, no one's rights are secure. And violent persecution that begins with one group all too often engulfs whole nations in conflict.

And third, freedom of religion is central to American history and identity. Because our country has chosen ever since its creation to stand for universal principles of tolerance and liberty, free people around the world have chosen to stand with us.

That is why our commitment to religious liberty is even more than the expression of American ideals: it is a fundamental source of our strength in the world. We simply could not lead without it. We would be naive to think we could advance our interests without it.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly endorse this statement by our distinguished Secretary of State. Freedom of religion is a fundamental principle of human rights, a fundamental aspect of our foreign policy, and I welcome the support of the administration for this fundamental right.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary John Shattuck made an outstanding presentation regarding the administration's report to the members of the Human Rights Caucus yesterday. Secretary Shattuck, as always, was well prepared, articulate, and concise. The report deals primarily with the restrictions and persecution against Christians, although as I and my colleagues in the Congressional Human Rights Caucus have repeatedly emphasized, human rights are indivisible. A government that abuses ethnic minorities is also likely to restrict religious freedom, and a government that