

And they say, yes, we realize that this trade continues to maintain Fidel Castro in power, and he will continue to degrade the Cuban people, and he has no free election, but if we can make a cheap dollar, then we are willing to do it.

And to see these country leaders, knowing the rich history of the terrible situation for centuries they have endured, and have them not stand in solidarity with us in our struggle to help the Cuban people, that was a real tragedy. And if there was any sad moment, it was hearing those leaders time and time again try to excuse their immoral behavior by using this trade organization as a tool to wash their hands of blood that cannot be washed away.

So I thank the gentleman for his time and his leadership on this issue, and our fight has just begun.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. As the gentleman has stated numerous times, this is a campaign, Mr. Speaker, that just begins today to inform the American people and to reiterate what the Europeans really are out to do, and that is to change U.S. immigration law in a world trade forum, totally inappropriately, totally recklessly, and totally unjustifiably, but, nevertheless, they are trying to do it.

I do not know if they think they can get away with it, but the bottom line is, I know the American people, and the American people will not let themselves be blackmailed. And the American people will tell their Members of Congress and tell the Europeans that if they think they can use the World Trade Organization, this supernatural World Trade Organization, to influence the policy decisions of the American people with regard to immigration law or national security matters, they do not know the American people, Mr. Speaker, but we do.

So I think the Europeans have made a dreadful mistake. They have this trade commissioner, whose name is Sir Leon Britten. He is acting like a zealot on this issue. I do not know why. I will not speculate why he is acting like a zealot on this issue.

But despite the fact that it has been explained to him that under our immigration law the only foreigners who are excluded under that chapter are those who knowingly deal in stolen property from American citizens and have been given the right to divest of their stolen property and refuse to do so, this Sir Leon Britten, trade commissioner for Europe, continues to act irresponsibly on this subject.

I think it is time for the American people to start having their voices heard and they let their Members of Congress know it is time to let the Europeans know the character of the American people once again.

This Nation saved the Europeans twice in this century alone. And when we go to Europe, we see the thousands of graves, the thousands of markers of brave soldiers who gave their lives to save the European continent, and we are so proud of those soldiers.

And for the Europeans to be saying now that they can take this new organization, the World Trade Organization, which is supposed to deal and is explicitly limited to trade issues—for example, if a country unfairly puts tariffs on another country or excludes products of that country from another country, hurting the business of that other country, then that other country that is hurt is supposed to file a complaint and is justified in filing a complaint before the World Trade Organization.

□ 1415

Whose businessmen according to our law are prohibited from making money from Castro's slave economy? The Europeans? No, the Americans. We are the ones telling our own business people, and we have made that bipartisan decision, but we do not want to make money, we do not want blood money from the Castro tyranny and the Castro slave economy. We do not want blood money from the Iranian terrorist state with all the oil in the world they can have. We do not want that blood money.

So if there is anybody who should be concerned about business being lost, it is Americans. And yet we because of ethics are saying we do not want that blood money, and yet if there has ever been proof that what the Europeans are doing is fully based on politics, irresponsible politicalization of the world trade body, they who are going in and making blood money, not only in Iran but in Castro's Cuba, they are the ones bringing this political complaint in front of the World Trade Organization.

This is outrageous as well as extraordinarily irresponsible, extraordinarily irresponsible on the part of the Europeans. We inform them and I am sure the American people will let their Members of Congress know that all of us should be telling the Europeans in the weeks and months ahead that this irresponsible action on their part is not going to succeed. It is going to reinforce the will and it is going to reinforce the commitment of the United States and the representatives of the United States to be able to control our sovereign policies with regard to national security and immigration. The Europeans will not dictate national security and immigration policy for our Congress, Mr. Speaker.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

NEW TELEVISION PROGRAM RATING SYSTEM NOT PROVIDING ENOUGH INFORMATION FOR PARENTS TO MAKE CHOICES FOR THEIR CHILDREN'S TV VIEWING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Oklahoma [Mr. COBURN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Speaker, permit me to take a moment to clarify a statement that I issued yesterday criticizing NBC's broadcast of "Schindler's List" last Sunday evening which was broadcast during prime time viewing hours. I would want my colleagues of this body as well as this country to not have any mistake that I believe that this movie is a landmark movie, a remarkable movie that profoundly affected me as well as my wife and our family as we watched it. Indeed I instructed my daughters to view this movie and I have had many discussions with friends and neighbors alike about the atrocities of the Holocaust that were made aware to us and made apparent to us through this movie. I feel terrible that my criticism of NBC for airing this movie has been misinterpreted as a criticism of "Schindler's List" or the millions of Jewish people who died senselessly during the Holocaust. To all those that I have offended I offer an apology, and I personally apologize for appearing insensitive to the worst atrocities known to human kind.

As many of you know I am a practicing physician dealing with life and death issues almost every day. I have devoted most of my adult life to working with religious groups across the spectrum. Religious tolerance is the hallmark of my professional and personal life. However I continue to be disturbed by the new television program rating system recently implemented by the broadcast and cable television network.

Mr. Speaker, I have been the leader on this issue since I arrived in Congress. As many of you will recall I offered an amendment on the floor of this House to the Telecommunication Reform Act of 1996, an amendment that would encourage parental responsibility for what their children watch on television. My amendment which passed the House would have accelerated new TV program blocking technologies that were coming to the marketplace. I did not support the V chip technologies because it was an abdication for parents responsibility for what their parents watch.

The bottom line is that parents need enough information to make good decisions for their children. Our children in our country are in trouble, and part of it is because of parental failure. We must have parental guidance, but we also must protect those children who have no parental guidance.

TRIBUTE TO TIM DUNCAN OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the Virgin Islands [Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride to recognize and pay tribute to a superb athlete and a wonderful Virgin Islander: Tim Duncan of Wake Forest University.

Timmy, as he is better known by his friends back home, has been a star center for the Wake Forest Demon Deacons since 1993 and is currently one of the 12 players in the running to be named the 1997 College Basketball Player of the Year.

Last night, at the end of the Demon Deacons' last home game and at Tim's last home game as a student at Wake Forest, the university and the Winston-Salem community paid tribute to this outstanding student-athlete by making him only the eighth player to have his jersey, No. 21, retired.

I had the privilege of attending last night's ceremony to personally extend congratulations to Timmy and to his family on behalf of his thousands of friends back home in the Virgin Islands and Virgin Islanders across the country who could not be there to congratulate him in person.

Mr. Speaker, entering this month, Timmy had played in 114 consecutive games at Wake Forest. He holds the distinction of participating in more winning games as a Demon Deacon than any other player in Wake Forest history.

The premier player in America for 1996-97, according to leading college basketball experts, Timmy will complete his career at Wake Forest as the NCAA all-time leader in blocked shots. He has blocked at least one shot in all of his first 114 games at Wake Forest.

Mr. Speaker, it goes without saying how especially proud the people of the Virgin Islands are of their native son, Tim Duncan. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating this wonderful student-athlete as well as his family, who were with him last night as we witnessed him receiving his honor in front of thousands of cheering Wake Forest University fans. Tim's family who were with him last night are his proud father, William Duncan, his older sister Cheryl, and her husband Rick Lowery and their children Sheynne, Kristin and Delysia; his youngest sister Tricia and older brother Scott.

A heartfelt congratulations to Timmy and his family and best of luck to Wake Forest as they prepare for the ACC and NCAA tournaments.

Go Deacons.

Mr. Speaker, that concludes my remarks this afternoon.

MODIFICATION TO RECONSTITUTION OF REVIEW PANEL OF OFFICE OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the order of the House of Tuesday, February 25, 1997, providing for the reconstitution of the review panel of the Office of Fair Employment Practices is modified as follows:

By the Chairman of the Committee on House Oversight, as originally made on May 3, 1995: Mr. EHLERS of Michigan, chairman; vice, Mr. DIAZ-BALART of Florida.

There was no objection.

THE HOLOCAUST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. LAMPSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I noted Mr. COBURN's apology to the public for comments made earlier. While noting the misplaced outrage of other Members of this body, I want to express my admiration and thanks to NBC and to Ford for airing "Schindler's List" this weekend. I would like to thank the film maker Stephen Spielberg not only for his brilliant film but also for his recommendation broadcast before the film began Sunday evening that the film may not be suitable for young people, young children.

I watched "Schindler's List" with my daughter and found it as moving a film as I have ever seen, and any allegation that any aspect of this story is gratuitous or improper would be laughable if it were not so sad. And the comments, the words, of Mr. COBURN, the airing of the film should outrage decent-minded individuals everywhere, should be taken note of.

Our own great Nation is still plagued by hate crimes 221 years after being founded as a nation of freedom and equality. We watch with horror as churches and synagogues are burned and cemeteries are desecrated in our communities, and the best way to fight hatred and intolerance is with the truth about the most egregious crime against humanity in modern history, the Holocaust.

REPORT ON GOVERNMENT CAPABILITIES TO RESPOND TO TERRORIST INCIDENTS INVOLVING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on National Security:

To the Congress of the United States:

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 (Public Law 104-201), title XIV, section 1411 requires the President to transmit a report to the Congress that assesses the capabilities of the Federal Government to prevent and respond to terrorist incidents involving weapons of mass destruction and to support State and local prevention and response efforts. In accordance with this provision, I transmit the attached report on the subject issue.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 26, 1997.

REPORT TO CONGRESS ON RESPONSE TO THREATS OF TERRORIST USE OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, JANUARY 31, 1997

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the result of recent events, significant threats over the past few years, and the increased availability and proliferation of nuclear, biological, or chemical (NBC) materials, there is an increasing concern for the potential of terrorist incidents occurring in the United States involving weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

Under Presidential and Congressional direction, the Federal Government has made a concerted effort to better respond to domestic terrorist incidents involving WMD. These efforts include assessing current capabilities, identifying shortfalls, and taking steps to remedy them. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), as the lead agency for crisis management in response to a domestic terrorist threat or incident, has undertaken several initiatives to prevent, mitigate, and respond to the domestic terrorism threat. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), with the responsibility for consequence management in response to a terrorist incident, has undertaken several initiatives to identify and enhance the Federal capability to respond to the consequences of a terrorist incident. Several departments and agencies, including the Department of Defense (DOD), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are involved in enhancing overall terrorism response capabilities, with others in the Federal response planning community actively supporting this effort.

Local response to a terrorist event is critical to the success of the overall response. Even with a timely Federal response, local first responders have the immediate requirement to deal with the incident and care for victims. FEMA has been working with local and State governments to assess their response capabilities, identify shortfalls and take measures to remedy them. These activities include surveying State terrorism response capabilities, convening a focus group to discuss capabilities and needs of local government for NBC response, sponsoring a conference for fire chiefs from major metropolitan fire departments to discuss lessons learned from recent international terrorism incidents, conducting training activities, and developing exercises featuring terrorism scenarios to test various aspects of crisis and consequence management activities.

In continuation of these efforts, the Federal Government has developed a program of activities in Fiscal Year (FY) 1997 encompassing training, some equipment and capability enhancements, planning, exercises, and other activities involving Federal, State, and local governments to improve the current levels of preparedness and response. The initial focus for training and capability enhancement is to target FY 1997 funding on cities and selected jurisdictions based on population, risk and geographic distribution. The FY 1997 activities will form the basis for further training, planning, and capability building efforts in FY 1998 and beyond for a broader base of jurisdictions, depending on budget constraints and resource availability.

INTRODUCTION

Background

Recent trends indicate growing prospects for terrorist incidents involving weapons of mass destruction (WMD). In 1993, a bomb rocked the World Trade Center in New York City, NY; in 1995, Japanese extremists successfully conducted a chemical attack in the Tokyo subway system and a bomb destroyed