

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEBBIE MCGOLDRICK AND NIALL O'DOWD UPON THE BIRTH OF THEIR DAUGHTER ALANA KATHLEEN

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform the House that on Sunday, July 25, 1999, at 1:34 a.m., Debbie McGoldrick and Niall O'Dowd because the proud parents of a baby daughter, Alana Kathleen. Alana Kathleen weighed in at 8 pounds, 5½ ounces and is 21 inches long. The best news is that Alana Kathleen and her mother Debbie are in perfect health.

I am proud to be able to call Debbie and Niall my good friends. Niall is the Founding Publisher of the Irish Voice newspaper and Irish America magazine. Debbie, who is clearly the brains and the beauty of the operation, is the Senior Editor of the Irish Voice. Niall and Debbie are leaders in the Irish-American community and have been in the very forefront of the Irish peace process.

As happy as Niall and Debbie are over the birth of their beautiful daughter, I know that Alana Kathleen will soon realize how fortunate she is to have such outstanding parents. On behalf of myself and my family I wish them the very best of health and happiness.

VAN ARSDALES HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues, two distinguished community leaders, Tom and Suzette van Arsdale. My good friends Tom and Suzette will be honored this month by the Luzerne Foundation for their community service and leadership. I am pleased and proud to have been asked to participate in this tribute.

Born in New York City in 1937, Tom van Arsdale grew up in New England. Tom joined the U.S. Army after high school and served in the Signal Corps as a top secret cryptographer for two years before receiving an honorable discharge. Tom began his business career as a teller in a New Jersey bank in 1959. Within two years, Tom was a bank officer and within four years, he was a senior executive. While pursuing his career, Tom was also earning degrees from Routhon Valley Community College and Edison State College.

Tom's business acumen gained the attention in the banking world when he assumed the position of President of a troubled New Jersey bank, guided it out of its financial crisis, converted it to a public bank and subsequently sold it to the Dime Bank of New York. Tom continued to serve as the bank's President and CEO and was named to a directorship of the Dime Bank of New York.

Tom moved to northeastern Pennsylvania in 1990 after being named President and CEO of Franklin First Financial Corporation and Franklin First Savings Bank. After Franklin First was sold to Onbancorp in 1993, Tom continued to serve as its President and was elected to the parent bank's board until his recent retirement.

Suzette van Arsdale also spent her early years in banking. Born in New Jersey, Suzette rose in the ranks rapidly shortly after beginning her banking career, becoming a corporate officer of one of the Nation's largest commercial banks. While working full time, Suzette earned a degree in management from Kean University. Tom and Suzette were married in 1986 and now have two children: Thomas Robert, age 12, and Matthew Ernest, age 20 months.

Mr. Speaker, both van Arsdals have been active members of the community. Tom serves on several local boards, including the Luzerne County Community College Foundation, the Committee for Economic Growth, the Wyoming Valley United Way, Wyoming Seminary, College Misericordia, the Central Division of Pennsylvania Economy League, WVIA public radio and television, and the Northeast Philharmonic Orchestra, to name just a few. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Bankers Association and America's Community Bankers and a former chair of the Community Bankers Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.

Suzette has an equally impressive resume of community activity and involvement, currently serving or having served as President of the Junior League, member of the Presidents Council of King's College, second chair the Wyoming Valley Red Cross, member of the Wyoming Seminary Board of Directors, and as an active member of United Way of Wyoming Valley, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, Family Services Association and the Luzerne Foundation. Suzette has helped raise funds for the Osterhout Library, the Back Mountain Library, the Northeast Philharmonic, the American Cancer Society, the St. Vincent's South Kitchen, the Catherine McCauley House, the Meals on Wheels program, the Fine Arts Fiesta, and the Theater on the Green at College Misericordia.

In 1998, both Tom and Suzette were honored by Her Majesty, the Queen of England. Tom was invested to the Order of St. John as an Associate Commander while Suzette was given a similar honor by the Queen and also invested to the Cathedral of the Church of St. John by Lord Prior.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to call Tom and Suzette van Arsdale my friends. In just 10 years, they have both had an enormous impact on northeastern Pennsylvania. I have called on them numerous times to help support community efforts and they have always provided their leadership. More importantly, they have been wonderful friends to me, my wife, Nancy, and to many people throughout the area. I am proud to join with the community in thanking them for their years of service and wishing them the best for the future.

TRIBUTE TO TOM TIPPY, SR.

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an important constituent, a fine community and business leader, and a close personal friend, Mr. Tom Tippy, Sr.

Tom, who passed away back on March 12th following a long illness, will be sorely missed

by his family and many friends, as well as numerous associates throughout the First District of Alabama.

Tom Tippy's relationship with the people of South Alabama began over twenty-five years ago when, as an executive with Parsons & Whittemore, he came to the area as part of the delegation sent by the Landegger family to locate a site for the construction of a new pulp and paper facility.

This mill, which became known as Alabama River Pulp, grew to employ hundreds of men and women from Monroe County and the surrounding area, and it is a testament to the hard work of the entire Parsons & Whittemore corporate family, as well as the tremendous dedication and perseverance displayed by Tom Tippy and his staff.

Prior to entering the world of business, Tom was a distinguished veteran of the United States Army Air Corps and saw a great deal of service in the Pacific Theater of operations. While serving as a gunner with the crew of a B-24 Liberator in the 5th Army Air Corps, and later as a top turret gunner and flight engineer on a crew assigned to the 90th Bomber Group, Tom exhibited the same qualities of leadership, professionalism and dedication to his crew mates and his nation that he displayed repeatedly throughout his life. I was saddened, but nonetheless honored, to have an American flag flown over this very building, a shrine to democracy throughout the world, which was draped over Tom's casket and presented to his family at his burial.

Perhaps one of the finest comments on Tom's life was offered by his dear friend and mine, Monroe County Probate Judge Otha Lee Biggs, when he said, "He wasn't happy unless he was present with the employees of that company. They were a part of his family. If they needed him, he wanted to be there for him. And, for the leadership he gave to them, they gave him their support in return. For he was a people's man and he was a working man's executive."

Indeed he was.

Mr. Speaker, I offer this memorial tribute to Tom Tippy with the belief that his legacy of goodness, of sound decisions and of always being a man of his word, will continue in perpetuity. Truly, he lived his life with an enthusiasm toward helping others and in so doing, I believe he inspired the rest of us to try to do a little better ourselves as we approach our fellow man.

Tom is survived by his lovely wife, Rita; three sons, Tommy Tippy, Jr., Bill Tippy and Richard Tippy; one stepdaughter, Melanie Lee Ford; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. My condolences go out to each of them.

DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT TO PRODUCTS OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my opposition to House Joint Resolution 57 disapproving the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (or normal trade relations) to

the People's Republic of China. The continued extension of normal trade relations (NTR) to China will do much to benefit the United States domestically, while engagement with China remains the most powerful means of advancing our interests abroad.

I share the concerns of many of my colleagues over China's record on human rights. In particular, the plight of the people of Tibet is one that we must not ignore. As we engage China economically, we should work to engage China in a policy that allows Tibetan peoples, cultures, and beliefs to flourish. As President Clinton has repeatedly emphasized, engagement with China is one path by which to encourage reform. The Clinton administration and Congress will continue to press China for human rights' reform and democratization of its political process.

Approximately 400,000 American jobs depend on trade with China. Nearly all of China's other major trading partners, including Japan and Europe, currently grant normal trade status to the People's Republic of China. Were China to retaliate with trade restrictions against the United States, these nations would gain a competitive trade edge against the United States that would jeopardize vast numbers of American jobs.

Additionally, the revocation of China's NTR status would likely simply replace Chinese imports with goods imported from its neighboring nations, harming only the American consumer. Let us also remember that over the past decade, American exports to China have quadrupled to \$14.3 billion, a large portion of which is made up by high-technology imports produced in locations such as my district in Silicon Valley.

It is also possible that China might soon gain entrance into the World Trade Organization (WTO), an action that might result in the critical and historic acceptance by Chinese markets of American agricultural and industrial products. The chances of opening these Chinese markets would be severely diminished if the United States were to revoke NTR status at this point.

China also plays an extremely important role in guaranteeing regional security and stability from the Korean Peninsular to the Indian Subcontinent. China's constructive efforts for peace between North and South Korea, and its push for restraint by India and Pakistan in the wake of their nuclear tests, highlight the positive role China is capable of playing in the international arena. And our policy of engagement has exhibited some meaningful success; as a result of our policy China has signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and joined the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention.

China clearly must take substantial steps to improve its record on human rights and democratize its government if it wishes to be fully accepted by the international community. Yet only further engagement with China will allow the United States the opportunity to advocate on behalf of its own interests and those of the Chinese people. I urge you vote against House Joint Resolution 57.

SUPPORT FOR BULGARIA, H. CON.
RES. 170

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 170 outlines our United States foreign policy towards Bulgaria, notes the objectives of our new, post-Cold War relationship with Bulgaria, and points out some of the positive changes now underway in Bulgaria.

Since elections held in April 1997, the government of Bulgaria has committed itself to making progress on badly-needed economic reforms, fair treatment of all of Bulgaria's citizens, including those from its large ethnic Turkish minority, and Bulgaria's eventual integration into the pan-European and trans-Atlantic community.

However, despite Bulgaria's economic reforms, democratization, and progressive foreign policy, the breakup of the Soviet-dominated "COMECON" economic organization, the failure of the previous Bulgarian government to adequately address corrupt activities, and the imposition of international sanctions on neighboring Serbia and nearby Iraq during most of this decade have placed serious burdens on the Bulgarian economy.

I believe it is important that the United States recognize and commend Bulgaria's efforts to make progress in the midst of its current economic difficulties. House Concurrent Resolution 170 does that and makes it clear that the United States also supports Bulgaria's eventual integration into pan-European and trans-Atlantic economic and security institutions.

Bulgaria is working hard to overcome the legacy of four decades of communist rule and to assume its proper place in the trans-Atlantic community of states. Accordingly, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 170, which I believe to be a recognition of our new relationship with this important country. I submit the text of H. Con. Res. 170 to be inserted at this point in the RECORD.

H. CON. RES. 170

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring).

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Elections held in April 1997 in the Republic of Bulgaria brought to office a government committed to full economic reforms, discipline in government budgetary and currency policies, increased foreign, direct investment in Bulgaria, and energetic efforts to combat corrupt and criminal activities that had undermined previous economic reforms.

(2) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has worked to ensure the proper treatment of its citizens, regardless of ethnic background, including those of ethnic Turkish background, many of whom were subjected to forced assimilation campaigns and deportation under the former communist regime in Bulgaria.

(3) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has made Bulgaria's integration into pan-European and trans-Atlantic institutions, including the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the highest priority of its foreign policy, and has undertaken efforts to promote stability

in southeastern Europe and the Black Sea region.

(4) The economy of the Republic of Bulgaria has suffered considerable decline due to the disruption of important markets caused by the break-up of the former, Soviet-dominated "COMECON" economic and trade organization, the application of international sanctions on Iraq, and the failure of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria to confront widespread corrupt activities prior to the elections of April 1997 that resulted in the theft of large sums from both government and industry and that bankrupted many Bulgarian banks.

(5) The economy of the Republic of Bulgaria has suffered as well from the imposition of international sanctions on neighboring Serbia and continues to suffer from the conflict in that country, which has disrupted commerce throughout the region of southeastern Europe.

(6) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has recently taken steps to finalize bilateral agreements with the neighboring Republic of Macedonia, recognized by the United States as the "Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", overcoming longstanding dispute over the language to be used in those agreements.

(7) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has undertaken to reform Bulgaria's armed forces, adopting a military doctrine to that effect in March 1999.

(8) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has stated its continuing support for the mission of NATO in supporting democratization and stability across Europe.

(9) As a result of the conflict in Serbia with regard to the region of Kosovo, the Republic of Bulgaria has accepted several thousand refugees from the conflict.

SEC. 2. POLICY TOWARD THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to promote the development in the Republic of Bulgaria of a market-based economy and a democratic government that respects the rights of all of its citizens, regardless of ethnic background;

(2) to support the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bulgaria;

(3) to insist that the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bulgaria be respected by neighboring countries and by all political movements within and outside Bulgaria; and

(4) to support the integration of the Republic of Bulgaria into pan-European and trans-Atlantic economic and security institutions.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria is to be commended for its efforts to ensure proper treatment of all of its citizens, regardless of ethnic background, particularly those of ethnic Turkish background;

(2) the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria is to be commended—

(A) for its efforts to accelerate the privatization of state-owned enterprises in a fair and transparent process;

(B) for its establishment of a currency board to ensure the value of the Bulgarian currency; and

(C) for its efforts to combat corrupt and criminal activities that undermine reforms and the viability of Bulgaria's government and industry;

(3) the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria should continue to implement programs that may qualify Bulgaria for entrance into the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and is to be commended for its continuing support of the NATO effort to ensure stability and democratization across Europe;

(4) the Republic of Bulgaria is suffering the adverse economic impact of the disruption of