

make any sense that gun shows proliferate themselves around this Nation with the concept of unlicensed gun dealers being able to randomly sell guns to anybody who walks through the door?

Just recently in California, one of the largest gun shows in America was able to be held because the ordinance and law that had been passed by local officials who came together and said we do not want any more gun shows in our community after the tragedy of the Jewish Community Center was thwarted by a court.

I believe in the democratic process, the process of the judiciary, but there they were selling guns, selling guns by unlicensed dealers, and who knows how many criminals and possibly children had access to the guns.

This conference will provide opportunities to close the loopholes for gun shows so that unlicensed dealers could not get up or get where they could sell guns to criminals and children.

It provides for trigger locks. It will eliminate the ammunition clips of fast guns that we really do not need for sports and other recreational Activities.

□ 2330

And I would offer an amendment to ensure that children are accompanied by adults when they go into these gun shows if, because of the laws of this land, these gun shows continue to proliferate.

Do my colleagues know that in many States, unlike movies, where we are looking to curb the violence and we require children to be accompanied by an adult depending on the rating of the movie, they can walk in randomly in many States into these gun shows looking at weapons of war, fast ammunition clips, or guns with automatic clips to them? They are looking at these. They are seeing these weapons of violence with no one attending to them.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think that it is a tragedy that in these waning hours we will watch more children die, maybe the tragedy of more workplace violence, more criminals getting guns illegally; yet we are sitting by as the hours are tick, tick, ticking away doing absolutely nothing. I think this is a shame on this Nation. I think it is a shame on this Congress.

I would ask Members in these waning hours to lift their voices and ask the collective leadership why, why we have not met in conference to talk about gun safety in America. When will we raise up our voices but, at the same time, lift ourselves to act and to ensure that children are protected?

I hope that we will hear from someone in the near future. I hope we will hear from the Speaker of the House, I hope we will hear from the majority leader, I hope we will hear from the majority whip, I hope we will work in a bipartisan manner with the leadership in the Democratic caucus that has

been asking that we move forward. I hope that we will hear from the other body that has been dragging their feet.

The hours are tick, tick, ticking away. Thirteen children are dying, Mr. Speaker, every single day. What a shame on this House. What a shame on America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN SUPPORT OF SENATOR CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN'S AMBASSADORSHIP TO NEW ZEALAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to express strong support for the confirmation of Senator Carol Moseley-Braun to the ambassadorship of New Zealand. I have known Carol Moseley-Braun both personally and professionally for many years and look forward to her service in this position.

Senator Moseley-Braun is an extraordinary woman who has led an extraordinary life, a life of breaking stereotypes, a life of shattering glass ceilings, a life of public service. She earned her law degree from the University of Chicago in 1972 and served as an assistant United States attorney from 1973 to 1977. In 1978, she was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives where she became the first female assistant majority leader. In 1988, Senator Moseley-Braun was elected Cook County Recorder of Deeds, racking up several more firsts. In 1992, she was elected to the United States Senate, becoming the first African American woman to serve in that honorable body.

Sometime ago, President Clinton nominated Senator Moseley-Braun to become our ambassador to New Zealand. As ambassador, Carol Moseley-Braun would be the highest ranking diplomatic official accredited to represent our interests in that Pacific Rim nation. I can testify from personal knowledge that Senator Moseley-Braun is well qualified to undertake those solemn responsibilities.

Throughout her career in public life, Senator Moseley-Braun has displayed tremendous ability, insight, and perceptivity on the great issues of the day. She is a woman of great personal charm who has been blessed with a remarkable talent to interact with people, to engage them in dialogue, and to represent her position to them with logic, clarity, and persuasiveness. In short, she would represent us well to the people of New Zealand.

Mr. Speaker, it is the long-standing tradition of the Senate to welcome

former colleagues who have been nominated to high office by the President of the United States and to extend them the courtesy of prompt hearings, in accord with their constitutional responsibilities to advise and consent. Only six former Senators have been turned down for nomination this century, all for Cabinet or Supreme Court positions. A Senator has not been rejected for an ambassadorial appointment since 1835.

Up to this point, Senator Moseley-Braun's nomination has been blocked by the chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, who, according to news reports, has demanded an apology for a speech Senator Moseley-Braun made criticizing the use of the Confederate flag.

A study by the Alliance for Justice determined that the nomination of an average nonwhite candidate took 60 days longer than that of a white candidate. Couple these two facts and we have a profound malfunction in our democracy.

Senator Carol Moseley-Braun will do just fine in whatever direction life takes her. She will be a success as an ambassador if she is confirmed; she will be a success in some other endeavor if she is denied. But democracy in the United States faces a bleaker choice. Mr. Speaker, make no mistake, our democracy is being weighed in the balance in the coming days. If fairness does not prevail, if Senator Carol Moseley-Braun is denied confirmation, then those responsible will have offered up proof, proof to the American people, proof to the world, that fairness and justice are still wanted in America five generations after the end of the Civil War. I find that possibility abhorrent, detestable, and obscene.

So I add my voice to those urging the Senate to bring the nomination of Senator Moseley-Braun to a quick vote and to approve the nomination by the largest vote possible. I hope that on tomorrow the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations will move promptly to approve the nomination of Carol Moseley-Braun as our next ambassador to New Zealand and America will be well served.

WHEN WILL ADMINISTRATION ASK YELTSIN FOR LOCATIONS OF BURIED WEAPONS IN U.S.?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, when will we ask the question? When will this administration formally ask Russia to provide the details contained in secret KGB documents that define the significant number of locations throughout America where, during the Soviet era, military equipment, hardware, and possibly even material for weapons of mass destruction was stored in buried sites?

Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago the highest ranking foreign intelligence officer

ever to defect from the Soviet Union, Stanislav Lunev testified before my subcommittee and said that one of his jobs when he worked at the embassy here in Washington undercover as a Tass correspondent was to locate sites where the Soviets could drop equipment that could be stored in the soil of America.

Last Wednesday, again before my subcommittee, Oleg Gordiefsky, the highest ranking ever internal KGB intelligence officer, who now lives in Britain, testified that the KGB files, as documented by Mitrokhin, contained in a new book just released last month called *The KGB Files*, are in fact true. Those files document significant numbers of cases around the world, in Europe and in North America, where during the Soviet era the KGB arranged for the storage of military material and hardware on the soil of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, we have known this for at least 6 years. The FBI has told me and the Pentagon has said publicly we have not yet asked the Russians for the specific sites.

This past weekend I spoke at an international terrorism conference in Europe, where I had a chance to meet one of the highest-ranking intelligence officials from Belgium. I was told by that official that in the last 2 months, Belgium has uncovered three sites where these materials were stored by the Soviet Union without the knowledge of the Belgium government. Switzerland has also identified one site that was booby-trapped where materials were stored.

Mr. Speaker, when is this administration going to ask the Yeltsin government to give us the KGB documents that identify the sites in California, in Montana, in Minnesota, in New York, in Texas, and across this Nation where specific caches of arms and military hardware and equipment were prepositioned during the Cold War?

□ 2340

It is absolutely a national disgrace that this administration, having known about this prepositioning of equipment for at least 6 years, has not yet seen fit to ask that question of the Yeltsin government.

This body needs a demand that this administration take action. Because, Mr. Speaker, the safety of the people of America are in question as long as those materials have not been identified and have not been removed by our Government.

In four instances, one in Switzerland and three in Belgium, sites have been found and they have been dug up. It is about time this administration asked the question of the Russian leadership where those sites are in America. We should demand no less from our Government.

PROPOSED OSHA REPETITIVE MOTION REGULATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON). Under a previous order of the

House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, a short time ago I received a communication from an individual in my district, a gentleman who owns a number of small businesses. He is head of something called The Bailey Company in Golden, Colorado. It is an Arby's franchise.

He writes: "Our company opened its first Arby's restaurant in 1968 at the corner of York and Colfax in Denver. Today we own and operate 63 Arby's restaurants in Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Wyoming, including all of the Arby's in the Metro-Denver area."

He goes on to explain what happened in his business a short time ago, and this I want to bring to the attention of the House and our colleagues in order to explain the problems we are going to face and we do face in small businesses throughout the United States. And these problems will become exacerbated by the actions of OSHA as they have been many times in the past. I want to refer specifically to an event that occurred in Mr. Eagleton's business.

"As an employer of approximately 1,500 people, we are concerned about the proposed OSHA repetitive motion regulations. An employee, Mary, worked at an Arby's restaurant in Jefferson County, Colorado, in 1998. On her first day of work, after 3 hours of light duty wrapping sandwiches in foil, she complained that her wrists hurt. An employee of the Bailey Company filled out a first report of injury and sent her to our designated treatment facility. Mary was diagnosed with repetitive motion injuries. The ensuing series of treatments evolved in a \$100,000 Worker's Compensation claim.

"The medical community is split on the legitimacy and causality of these injuries. For instance, athletes do repetitive exercises to strengthen their muscles; yet repetitive motion does not harm them. How does repetitive motion in other circumstances differ in the view of the courts?

"Our position is that the proposed OSHA repetitive motion regulations should not be funded until definitive scientific studies are concluded."

"J. Mark Eagleton, Senior Manager/Director of Training and Personnel for The Bailey Company."

Mr. Speaker, even though what we have just heard here is replicated, unfortunately, far too many times throughout the country, OSHA is nonetheless pushing ahead with its ergonomic study. Even though the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that repetitive stress injuries are on a decline and have dropped 17 percent over the last 3 years, should we not at least have as much information as possible when developing Government policy? Should we not require Government agencies to use sound scientific information when reaching decisions that will affect our lives?

Obviously, this is not the case. Once again, it is the Government-knows-best attitude, an attitude that many Federal bureaucrats have unfortunately. It is an outrage and it should be stopped.

In August, the House passed H.R. 987, the Workplace Preservation Act, which prohibits OSHA from implementing the ergonomics regulation until the academy completes its ongoing study slated to be released mid-2001. This is a common-sense step and one which Members of the House and the other body should support.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEASURE TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER SUSPENSION OF THE RULES ON TOMORROW

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 353, I announce the following measure to be taken up under suspension of the rules: H.R. 3075, Medicare Addbacks.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 0053

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SESSIONS) at 12 o'clock and 53 minutes a.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3196, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-450) on the resolution (H. Res. 362) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3196) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. LARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business.

Mr. KANJORSKI (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business.