

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 211, Encouraging Corporations to Contribute to Faith-Based Organizations. Had I been present I would have voted "yea". I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 212, Expressing the Sense of Congress in support of Victims of Torture. Had I been present I would have voted "yea". I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 213, Authorization of the Use of the Rotunda for Presenting Congressional Gold Medals to the Navajo Code Talkers. Had I been present I would have voted "yea".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday morning June 26, 2001, I was unavoidably detained and as a result missed one rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 195, on approval to the House Journal of Tuesday, June 26, 2001.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday morning June 28, 2001, I was unavoidably detained and as a result missed one rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 199, on agreeing to the Tancredo of Colorado Amendment on H.R. 2311.

HONORING FRITZ BRENNECKE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to recognize a courageous man for his dedicated years of service to the United States during some of the most horrific times of World War II. I am proud to honor Mr. Fritz Brennecke—a devoted veteran—for his enduring flights over war-stricken Europe as he aided in the effort to ensure Allied victory during the war.

As Mr. Brennecke was harnessed in his waist gunner position aboard a B-24, he fought valiantly against German fighter planes that were attempting to hinder the bombing runs. The waist gunner position, appropriately named for its location behind the wings of the B-24 at the waist of the airship, was capable of defending the aircraft by firing out either side of the fighting bomber. Amidst flak bombs

and insistent attacks, it was not unusual for a mission to return to base with only three or four planes out of the original group with nearly seven planes. Throughout his noble service to the United States, Fritz participated in missions attacking Grottaglie, Italy, Ploesti and other German strongholds.

In 1945, the bombing runs subsided and offered the distinguished war veteran an opportunity to return home. Upon returning to Colorado, Fritz completed his formal education at the University of Denver and eventually retired to Montrose after establishing a career in livestock and produce.

Mr. Speaker, while Fritz Brennecke considers the real heroes of World War II to be those who were never able to return home, his recognition with two Presidential Citations and an Air Medal with five oak clusters testify to his selfless service to America and to his 50 combat flights. These are distinctions one earns for going above and beyond the call of duty.

I am proud to honor Fritz with this Congressional Tribute as he is truly an American hero who exemplifies the spirit of patriotism. He is one individual who added to the collective effort to perpetuate peace and reconciliation following World War II. I commend his notable service and his efforts on the behalf of this country and wish him all of the best in the years to come.

EUROPEAN UNION OPPOSES BEIJING'S OLYMPIC BID—CONGRESS REMAINS SILENT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on July 5th the 626-member European Parliament meeting in Strasbourg, France, adopted a resolution opposing China's bid to host the 2008 Summer Olympics. In finding that China "clearly fails to uphold universal human, civil and political rights, including freedom of religion," the European Parliament urges that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) "reconsider Beijing's candidacy," only when China has made "fundamental change in their policy on human rights, and the promotion of democracy and the rule of law."

Last March, with an overwhelming bipartisan vote, the House Committee on International Relations expressed itself against China holding the Olympics by approving H. Con. Res. 73. Now the 626 Members of the European Parliament have voted and approved a similar resolution, yet we in the U.S. House of Representatives have not been given the opportunity to speak as a whole on this critical moral issue. I implore the Speaker and the Majority Leader—stop bottling up this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire text of the resolution concerning Beijing's application to host the 2008 Olympic Games, as adopted by the European Parliament on July 5th, be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I urge my colleagues to review this resolution and consider our obligation to join our European colleagues in speaking out on China's Olympic bid in the few hours that remain before the IOC vote on Friday in Moscow. Religion is

persecuted, political freedom does not exist, media freedom does not exist, our airplane is forced down, our servicemen and women are held in captivity for 11 days; yet this body is not allowed to vote on whether the Olympics should be held in Beijing.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION ON BEIJING'S BID TO HOST THE 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES

The European Parliament resolution on Beijing's bid to host the 2008 Olympic Games. The European Parliament, having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation in the People's Republic of China (PRC), having regard to the conclusions of the General Affairs Council of 19 March 2001, in which the Council expressed its concern at the serious human rights violations in the PRC, recalling the city of Beijing's bid to host the 2008 Olympic Games, recalling that the Charter of the Olympic Games states that Olympism has as a goal 'to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with the object of creating a peaceful society with the preservation of human dignity'.

A. Whereas the repression of freedom of opinion and freedom to hold demonstrations in favour of democracy that has been practised for decades, is continuing in the PRC, despite international protests.

B. Having regard to the repression of religious, ethnic and other minorities, in particular Tibetans, Uighurs and Mongolians and the Falun Gong movement.

C. Having regard to the frequent imposition of capital punishment, leading to over a thousand reported executions in China every year, as well as the widespread use of torture on the part of the Chinese police and military forces.

D. Recalling that the PRC has still not ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

E. Whereas the Chinese authorities have taken no significant initiatives on respect for human rights, despite the ongoing political dialogue between the EU and the PRC.

F. Concerned with regard to environmental and animal welfare issues in the PRC.

G. Stressing that the plans relating to Beijing's bid to host the 2008 Olympic Games would involve the destruction of a large part of the old city and the obligatory transfer of the inhabitants to the surrounding areas.

H. Recalling that the International Olympic Committee is due to designate, on 13 July 2001 in Moscow, the city that will host the 2008 Olympic Games.

1. Invites the International Olympic Committee to establish guidelines to include respect for human rights and democratic principles to be applied as a general rule to host countries of Olympic Games.

2. Regrets that the PRC clearly fails to uphold universal human, civil and political rights, including freedom of religion and therefore believes that this negative record and the repression in Tibet as well as in Ouighouristan and in South Mongolia, make it inappropriate to award the 2008 Olympic Games to Beijing.

3. Urges the International Olympic Committee in any case to make a thorough environmental impact assessment with regard in particular to the recurrent water shortages, the impact of mass tourism and the social repercussions in the region surrounding Beijing.

4. Invites the International Olympic Committee to reconsider Beijing's candidacy when the authorities of the PRC have made a fundamental change in their policy on human rights, and the promotion of democracy and the rule of law.

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission,

the Presidents of the parliaments of the Member States, and to the International Olympic Committee.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, the House this week begins debate on campaign finance reform. This debate is important for a number of reasons. We need to end the practice of unlimited soft money contributions from corporations and labor unions. We need to improve disclosure requirements so that ordinary citizens know who is paying for campaigns. Most importantly, we need to restore people's confidence that their elected officials are looking out for their interests.

In previous debates on campaign finance reform, I have supported a ban of soft money. These unregulated, unlimited contributions have cast a shadow of impropriety over electioneering efforts by both political parties. Soft money circumvents current campaign finance laws which prohibit corporate contributions to federal campaigns and limit how much an individual can contribute. Banning soft money would eliminate the largest source of questionable campaign money in elections and would help repair Congress's tarnished public image.

Another key principle of campaign finance reform is improved disclosure. Voters have a right to know who is contributing to campaigns, how much and when. They also have a right to know who is paying for advertising and other political activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates. Armed with this information, voters are more than capable of judging who is representing them and who is representing special interest contributors. Reform legislation should strengthen disclosure requirements and improve electronic access to campaign finance information.

While I strongly support reforming our campaign finance laws, I do not support taxpayer financing of federal elections. Nor do I support proposals that infringe on the free speech rights of individuals or groups. The freedom to support or oppose candidates is fundamental to the American system of government. Public financing forces citizens to support with their tax dollars candidates they oppose at the ballot box. Similarly, it is wrong to prohibit citizens from using their own resources to advocate the election or defeat of a candidate. We need to ensure that we do not use the banner of reform to silence the voices of those who oppose us.

I will work to pass and send to President Bush a campaign finance reform bill that accomplishes true reform while protecting the rights of all citizens to participate in our democracy.

INDIAN MINORITIES SEEKING THEIR OWN STATES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I was interested in a Washington Post article on Sunday, July

8 which reported that all across India, minorities are demanding their own states. For example, the article reports that the Bodos, who live in the northeast part of India, are demanding a separate state of Bodoland.

This demand underlines the fact that India is not one country any more than the Soviet Union was. Much of India's instability can be traced to the fact that it is a multinational state thrown together by the British for their administrative convenience, a vestige of the colonial era. The Soviet experience showed how difficult it is to keep such a multinational state together.

Unfortunately, instead of listening to the demands of the people, India has responded by stepping up the oppression of its minorities. Instead of listening to the people, the Indian government has killed more than 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 75,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, and tens of thousands of other minorities. India was caught by the Movement Against State Repression admitting that it held over 52,000 Sikh political prisoners under the so-called "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act," known as TADA, which is one of the most repressive laws in the world. TADA expired in 1995. India also holds political prisoners of other minorities, according to Amnesty International. In 1994 the State Department reported that the Indian government paid more than 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs.

Recently in a village in Kashmir, Indian soldiers were caught red-handed in the act of trying to set fire to a Sikh temple, known as a Gurdwara, and some Sikh homes. This appears to have been aimed at setting the Sikh and Muslim residents against each other. Village residents, both Sikh and Muslim, came out and intervened to stop the soldiers from carrying out this nefarious plan.

Unfortunately, this is only one recent chapter in an ongoing saga of repression of minorities and denial of basic human rights in "the world's largest democracy." In India, minorities have seen the destruction of the Muslims' most revered mosque to build a Hindu temple, the burning death of a missionary and his two sons while they slept in their jeep followed by an effort to expel his widow from the country, church burnings, the murder of priests, the rape of nuns, attacks on schools and prayer halls, the massacre of 35 Sikhs in the village of Chithisinghpora, a recent attack on a train carrying Sikh religious pilgrims, troops attacking a crowd of religious pilgrims with lathis, police breaking up a religious festival with gunfire, and many other such intolerant acts.

In November 1994 the Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid Surendra Nath, then the governor of Punjab, the equivalent of \$1.5 billion to generate terrorist activity in Punjab and in Kashmir. In India, half the population lives below the international poverty line. About 40 percent lives on less than \$2 per day. Yet they could find \$1.5 billion to pay a government official to generate and support terrorism. We have programs in our government that don't cost \$1.5 billion. This is not a small amount of money.

Mr. Speaker, India has been caught red-handed engaging in domestic terrorism against its minorities. This is why they are seeking their own states. This is why there are 17 freedom movements within India's artificial, colonial-era borders. The minorities are look-

ing for any means of protection against the brutal Indian state.

America is the beacon of freedom, and as an old song from the 70s said, "you can't be a beacon if your light don't shine." We must do what we can to shine the light of freedom on all the people of south Asia. We can do this by maintaining the existing sanctions against India, by stopping our aid to India until it stops denying basic human rights that are the cornerstone of real democracies, and by supporting self-determination for the peoples of South Asia in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on their political status. By these measures, we can help bring freedom, security, stability, and prosperity to the subcontinent and bring America new allies and new influence in this dangerous region.

HONORING NANCY MACCONELL

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great grandmother and friend. Eighty years ago this Saturday, July 14th, Nancy Leigh MacConell, was born in Globe, Arizona, eldest daughter of Elijah and Alta Phillips.

Nancy is also a treasure to one and all. She has brought great joy to all her family including her beloved sisters Joan and Sidney and her late husband Michale MacConell, Jr.

Nancy is the mother of three; Suzanne Du Pree, Michele King and Michale, the grandmother of ten and the great grandmother of thirteen. And all firmly believe she has the patience of Job and is the greatest mom there ever was.

I rise today to celebrate and honor Nancy MacConell's 80th birthday and wish her as much and love and joy in the next 80.

SUPPORTING A COMMEMORATIVE STAMP FOR THE HONORABLE ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 182, which recommends a long overdue commemorative stamp for a lawmaker, civil rights advocate and American statesman whose achievements continue to resonate.

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. remains one of the greatest and most effective legislators in the history of the U.S. Congress. When he was first elected to Congress in 1945, he was one of only two African-American members, and became the first of his race to chair the powerful Committee on Education and Labor from 1961 to 1967.

As Chairman, he spearheaded the legislation that authorized the Medicare, Medicaid, Head Start and school lunch programs, increased the minimum wage and established student loan programs. Chairman Powell also pushed through the landmark Civil Rights Act