

U.S. FUNDING FOR UKRAINE

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the provision in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act for 2002 that reduces U.S. foreign assistance to the country of Ukraine to \$125 million, which is \$45 million below both last year's funding level and what the President requested.

With its geo-strategic location between Russia and our NATO allies, Ukraine has an inherent importance to our national security. It houses a major naval fleet with access to the Mediterranean and can be a major communication and oil conduit between Europe and Asia. As the 6th most populous nation in Europe, Ukraine is filled with resources and promise, and we can't afford to turn our backs on it.

Over the past 16 months, the Ukrainian economy has grown immensely. In fact since January of this year, Ukraine's GDP has risen by over 9%. The privatization of land and businesses has proceeded at an unprecedented rate and the National Bank of Ukraine has undergone a series of reforms to promote transparency and stability. These are tremendous accomplishments for a country that was part of the Soviet Union until 1991.

This year also marks the 15th Anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and the impact of this tragedy continues to haunt the Ukrainian people. Children still suffer from illness caused by exposure to radiation. Much of the farmland, which is vital to the survival of the people, remains contaminated. The recent closing of the remaining Chernobyl reactors has added to the already severe power shortage in Ukraine. The disastrous effects of this tragedy demand that this body reach out the hand of humanitarian aid.

Despite its numerous accomplishments, Ukraine still requires U.S. assistance. The \$125 million provided in this bill will not effectively fund the programs needed to assist Ukraine down the road toward democracy and prosperity. It is a shame that this bill severely cuts aid to this country, at a time when it is needed most. I believe that we should at least provide last year's level of funding, which was \$170 million. Ukraine has made great strides since its independence and it deserves our continued support.

WORKPLACE REFORMERS ARE
STIRRING IN CHINA**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an op-ed piece written by Mr. William B. Gould IV that appeared in the San Jose Mercury News on Monday, July 23, 2001. Mr. Gould wrote the article upon his return from China where he conducted a series of lectures at local universities. I share it with my colleagues in the hope that they will find it as instructive as I did.

[From the San Jose Mercury News, July 23, 2001]

WORKPLACE REFORMERS ARE STIRRING IN
CHINA

(By William B. Gould IV)

On an uncomfortably hot June afternoon in Shanghai, university students giggle as they complete their mandatory military exercises before departing for the summer. The coexistence of these out-of-uniform drills with the mirthful laughter of students mirrors much of the paradox of Chinese free market policies alongside Communist Party controls.

The free market has meant a labor market that has witnessed more than an incremental expansion of freedom to hire and fire—millions of dismissed Chinese public enterprise workers who have not found re-employment in the newly expanding private sector can testify to the latter. The same environment affects rural migrant workers who have streamed to the job-filled urban centers with a resolve that sometimes borders on the desperate. Their unemployment and second class status mean worker protest and government scrutiny of it. Like South Africa and Poland in the '80s, China has the potential for a mobilized worker discontent that could cut across most of the sectors of political and economic life.

Last year, for instance, 20,000 miners in the northeast went on a violent rampage of burning and window smashing as they faced dismissal.

Workers in a state-owned silk factory confronted with the same prospect, called for a new and independent union.

Standing in the way of such spontaneity are not only the security apparatus but also the Communist Party government unions, which perform none of the representative functions normally present where there is freedom of association. The Chinese government, though it signed last month a Decent Work agreement with the Geneva-based International Labor Organization, defiantly proclaims its continued hostility to the right of workers to choose their bargaining agents. Yet advocates of reform are stirring and American policy makers on Capitol Hill considering China's preferential trade status need to be aware of them.

As the military drills fade into the languid Shanghai air, labor law reform expert Dong Bao Hua tells me, "The essence of reform is to try to persuade policy makers that we want to have a government with open and societized features." This approach seeks to protect both rural migrants and those dislocated public enterprise workers through a number of avenues.

One is to provide a "hotline" with legal advice for workers with labor complaints, pregnant female employees who are unfairly dismissed, and those who have suffered workplace accidents.

Dong and his students have organized events in public squares to advertise their services. They use the courts and China's expanding government arbitration process. The cases move quickly by Western standards, most of them brought to conclusion within 60 to 90 days of a complaint's filing.

The arbitration mechanism, admittedly government controlled, resolves a variety of workplace disputes. (The so-called neutral third party is a Labor Ministry employee.) Workers can retain lawyers and in half of the cases in Shanghai they do so.

The bad news is that workers have difficulty getting their frequently fearful fellow employees to testify on their behalf. The Communist Party official government unions are of no or little help to them. As a Shenzhen employment lawyer said to me: "No representatives of workers are in the arbitration process."

No one can completely anticipate the stress that the transition will place on China's workforce. The government's response to Tiananmen Square illustrates the likely reaction to any new challenge or to an outcry against its unapologetic use of forced labor.

Yet the workplace democratic impulse is an international one. In South Africa and Poland, it had its origin in institutions far more modest than those that ultimately brought sweeping change. And Chinese officials may ultimately find comfort in the examples of Hungary and the Czech Republic, where reform did not include new Solidarity-type mass movements.

One of China's many puzzles lies in the prospects of and the government's answer to the new workplace reformers who have come on the scene.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM A. NACK ON
BEING HONORED BY THE SAN
MATEO CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bill Nack, an extraordinary citizen of San Mateo County, CA who is being honored by the San Mateo Central Labor Council at its 22nd Annual COPE Benefit Dinner on July 27, 2001.

For over 30 years, Bill Nack has been an active member of the labor movement, a dedicated community leader, and an environmentalist in the San Francisco Bay Area. He has worked tirelessly to improve the health, the job safety and the economic conditions of workers in San Mateo County and throughout the nation.

Bill Nack currently serves as Business Manager and Executive Officer of the San Mateo County Building and Construction Trades Council, an association comprised of 26 construction unions and a membership of over 15,000 craftspeople.

For over 20 years, Bill Nack was an aircraft jet engine mechanic for United Airlines and a rank and file member of the International Association of Machinists, Local 1781. In 1987, he left United Airlines to work with the Santa Clara Central Labor Council and soon became the Deputy Executive Officer of the Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building and Construction Trades Council.

As a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, Bill Nack is a highly regarded member of the environmental community. Governor Gray Davis appointed him to the Bay Conservation and Development Committee (BCDC) to help ensure the protection of San Francisco Bay and in 1997, Bill became Chairman of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Advisory Council.

Bill Nack's involvement in our community is deep and broad. As a board member of Mid-Peninsula Rebuilding Together, he plays an integral role in helping to rehabilitate the homes and community facilities of low-income citizens, of the elderly, and for the disabled. He's also an active member of many other community organizations, including San Mateo County's United Way, and the San Mateo County Peninsula Policy Partnership, as well as the Bay Area Economic Forum.

Bill is married to fellow activist, Rayna Lehman, Director of AFL-CIO Community Services for the San Mateo County Central Labor Council and they are the proud parents of twin sons, Patrick and Benjamin.

Mr. Speaker, we are a better country, a better community, and a better people because of Bill Nack. It's a privilege to know him, to serve him as a constituent, to call him a friend, and to honor him for his extraordinary leadership and I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to him for all he has chosen to do.

**TRIBUTE TO MR. LEROY DANIELS
OF REDSTONE ARSENAL, ALA-
BAMA**

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. LeRoy Daniels on the occasion of his retirement from the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, located at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

Mr. Daniels has over 36 years of outstanding service to the defense of this nation. Throughout his years with the Army, he has served his nation in tours in Korea and at the Pentagon. He has been the Civilian Personnel Officer at both the U.S. Army Aviation Center and School at Fort Rucker, Alabama and is currently employed with the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command as Civilian Personnel Officer.

Mr. Daniels is a native of Troy and received both a Bachelors of Science and a Masters of Business Administration degrees from Alabama A&M University. He has received special recognition from the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of Defense. For his leadership and vision for the Army, he has been honored with the Superior Civilian Service Award, the Commander's Award and the William H. Kushnik Award for Outstanding Achievement in Civilian Personnel among others.

His talents, skills and experience, which have made him so successful in his career, have also endeared him to his community. He serves as an Elder, a Sunday school teacher and sings in the Chancel Choir at the Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the Alabama A&M University Business and Industry Cluster Publicity and Fund Raising Committee. He also stays active in Blacks in Government, the NAACP and the North Alabama Golf Club.

I wish Mr. Daniels the very best of luck in his retirement and, on behalf of the people of Alabama's Fifth Congressional District, I thank him for his extraordinary service to our community and the nation. I wish him a well-deserved rest.

**NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER
AWARENESS WEEK**

HON. FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring awareness to the American public about

a silent killer that will affect one in five American men in their lifetime: prostate cancer, and to assist the National Cancer Institute in recruiting men to participate in the largest ever prostate cancer prevention study.

Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among men in this nation, according to the American Cancer Society. A family history of this disease can double your risk of being diagnosed with prostate cancer, as does a high-fat diet. Those men over the age of 40 are more likely to be stricken with the disease.

But while no one knows what causes prostate cancer, early detection is the best way to survive this sometimes deadly disease. In fact, according to the American Cancer Society nearly everyone whose prostate cancer is detected before it spreads survives.

To learn more about this disease, the National Cancer Institute is launching the largest-ever prostate cancer prevention study. The NCI will be recruiting 32,000 men for this trial, which will take up to 12 years to complete. Anyone interested in being a part of this trial can call 1-800-4-CANCER for information about where the study is being conducted in their area.

I'm proud that Stony Brook University Hospital—which is located in the First District of New York and is one of the finest medical institutions in the nation—is one of the four Long Island hospitals hosting sites for this very important study.

Next week, July 29–August 3, is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Week. I urge all men over the age of 40 to set aside time during this week to make an appointment with their doctor to schedule a prostate health screening. With early detection offering more treatment options and a better cure rate for those who are diagnosed with this disease.

Research into the prevention and cure for prostate cancer and other forms of this ailment is critically important; and additional research dollars are needed to achieve this goal is vital. That's why I have joined my colleague from Long Island, Congressman PETER KING in co-sponsoring H.R. 281, the Taxpayer's Cancer Research Funding Act. This legislation would amend the Internal Revenue Code and allow certain individuals to designate that five dollars—or ten dollars in the case of joint returns—be directed to the Breast and Prostate Cancer Research Fund. These dollars would be used to award peer review research grants by the National Cancer Institute.

I ask all of my colleagues to inform their constituents about the National Cancer Institute's study and to urge the men in their district over the age of 40 to schedule a screening appointment during National Prostate Cancer Awareness Week and support H.R. 281.

**HONORING THE 2000 GOVERNOR OF
GUAM'S EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION
PROGRAM AWARD WINNERS**

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the governor of Guam, acknowledges the hard work of government of Guam employees. The gov-

ernor's employee recognition program, better known as the Excel Program, is the highest and most competitive employees awards bestowed by the governor—showcasing outstanding employees and programs within the government of Guam.

Local governmental agencies and departments participate in this program. Awardees are chosen within each department's nominees for a number of occupational groups. These groups range from clerical to labor and trades to professional and technical positions. The various awards reflect individual and group performance, valor, sports, community service, cost savings, and integrity.

My sincerest congratulations go to this year's awardees. I urge them to keep up the good work. I am pleased to submit for the RECORD the names of this year's outstanding employees.

**THE WINNERS FOR OUTSTANDING
PERFORMANCE IN 2000**

INSPIRATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

Medium Dept./Agency: Kenneth G. Castro, Social Worker III, Department of Youth Affairs.

Large Dept./Agency: Lydia C. Cruz, Chamorro Language and Culture Specialist, Department of Education and Susie Reyes Wells, Administrative Assistant, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority.

SILENT ONES

Small Dept./Agency: Benny C. Cruz, Engineer III, Guam Environmental Protection Agency.

Medium Dept./Agency: Edgardo D. Retumban, Customs & Quarantine Officer II, Customs & Quarantine Agency.

Large Dept./Agency: Shirley Movida, Nursing Assistant, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority.

Large Dept./Agency: Advanced Life Support, Guam Fire Department.

COST SAVINGS/INNOVATIVE IDEA OF THE YEAR

Medium Dept./Agency: Residential Substance Abuse Program, Department of Corrections.

Large Dept./Agency: Alvin M. Razon, Engineer II, Guam Power Authority.

INTEGRITY AWARD

Joaquina Meno, Youth Service Worker I, Department of Youth Affairs.

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Connie C. Benavente, Private Secretary, Department of Public Works

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Ricky P. Mendiola, Customs & Quarantine Officer III, Customs & Quarantine Agency.

SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR

DPW Sports Team, Department of Public Works.

**PHYSICAL FITNESS AND WELLNESS PROGRAM OF
THE YEAR**

Vincent S.N. Perez, Customs & Quarantine Agency.

EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Yukiko Inoue, PH.D., Assistant Professor, Foundation & Educational Research, University of Guam.

PHOTO OF THE YEAR

Public Service & Children: Martha T. Tenorio, Department of Education.

Public Service & The Elderly: Christina Sablan, Governor's Office.

Public Service & Our Environment: Christina Sablan, Governor's Office.

Funny Moments of Public Servants: John T. Muna, KGTF.

Public Service is Wonderful: Christina Sablan, Governor's Office.