

POLITICAL PROFITEERING

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, think back to the late afternoon, early evening of September 11 when several gas stations in northeastern Ohio and across the Midwest and across the country raised their prices of gas to \$4, \$5, \$6 a gallon. Some people would call that war profiteering.

But something else happened in this Chamber in the last 8 weeks, something perhaps not much different that some have called political profiteering.

First, this Congress passed a bailout bill giving the airlines \$15 billion, no strings attached, no sacrifices from airline executives, no assistance for the 100,000 laid-off workers, no dollars for nor push toward any airline safety measures.

Then last week, all in the name of rebuilding the economy that has obviously suffered a blow from September 11, this Chamber voted tax cuts for the richest people in the country, and very little for health care for laid-off workers, very little tax relief for those who need it, most making \$20,000, \$30,000, \$40,000, \$50,000 a year.

Then this political profiteering reached new heights as this week the United States Trade Representative Bob Zoellick has begun to link fast track legislation, giving the President trade promotion authority, linking that legislation to antiterrorism activities, pointing out that most of us who oppose fast track are indifferent to terrorism, questioning a bit our patriotism, and saying that we really do not share American values if we do not support fast track because that is the way to combat terrorism around the world.

Mr. Speaker, fast track, to be sure, does not embody those American values that our U.S. Trade Representative has indicated. Simply look at the upcoming WTO, World Trade Organization, ministerial in Doha, Qatar. The people in Qatar, where trade ministers from all around the world and prime ministers and leaders from all around the world are converging, the people in Qatar have no freedom of speech, no freedom of assembly, no freedom of religion, as pointed out by the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) in a Dear Colleague she sent around this week; no freedom of association, and in Qatar there are no free elections.

Yet, the World Trade Organization ignored these abuses of personal freedom in selecting Qatar as the host for the World Trade Organization ministerial.

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Qatar's human rights record is not in line with American values, but it is familiar territory for many of corporate America's trading partners. Supporters of fast track say interaction with the developing world spreads democracy.

But watch as we engage developing countries in trade and investment, democratic developing countries are losing ground to dictatorships, to authoritarian developing countries. Democratic nations such as India are losing out to the authoritarian communist nations such as China. Democratic nations such as Taiwan are losing out to autocratic nations such as Indonesia.

In 1989, 57 percent of developing-country exports in manufacturing came from democracies. Since then the share of developing country exports from democracies fell 22 percent. Now 65 percent of developing country exports come from authoritarian countries.

The fact is Western business investors want to go to China, want to go to Indonesia, want to go to countries which are dictatorships because they have docile workforces, authoritarian governments, and they are very predictable for Western business. They do not want to go to India. They do not want to go to Taiwan. They do not want to go to South Korea; and they do not want to stay in this country many times because we have strong environmental laws, because labor unions can organize and bargain collectively, because we have free elections.

Western corporations want to invest in countries that have poor environmental standards, that have below-poverty wages, that have no worker benefits, that have no opportunities to bargain collectively.

As American investment moves to those dictatorships where they do not have the values that we have, where they do not care about the workers and the environment and food safety and all the things that we in this institution have fought for, American working families lose out.

Our trade agreements go to great lengths to protect investors and property rights. But these agreements do not include enforceable provisions to protect workers, either in the United States or abroad.

Ambassador Zoellick's call for a blanket trade authority in the name of patriotism must be recognized for what it is, pure and simple political profiteering. I have watched this country respond to the events of September 11. The right response for American values is to vote no on trade promotion authority.

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

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

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

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

TRIBUTE TO THE HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for participating with us in this Special Order this evening to pay tribute to our former colleague, the gentleman from New York's 22nd Congressional District, Gerald B.H. Solomon.

I am pleased at this time to yield to our distinguished majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY).

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for recognizing me.

This is kind of a solemn occasion. The Speaker, the gentleman in the chair, will be proud to know that Gerald Solomon was born in 1930 in Okeechobee, Florida.

Jerry Solomon grew up to be a fine man, a dedicated Marine, great Member of this body, friend and mentor, sometimes disciplinarian to all of us. I had the privilege of arriving in the House of Representatives when Jerry Solomon had already been here and working with him until he retired. I watched him as he worked on behalf of veterans with a heart that seemed to be just as big as can be; and he believed in freedom, not only for America but for all the world.

Gerald Solomon was always busy on foreign policy matters. He was busy on veterans affairs. He was a strong proponent of a strong defense, but he was also a man with a big heart. And one of the things that would always shine through with Jerry, especially when he was with his beautiful wife, Freda, and his children, was that he was a man who had a heart for family. And that too, I think, to many of us was an inspiration.

This is a tough job; this is a tough place. It is tough on our lives. And to have those colleagues that we have, Jerry Solomon being a perfect example, that can meet all of the demands of this work, and especially the demands of travel that he met with foreign travel in his interests, and remain so thoroughly dedicated, devoted to his wife. And many will remember that you did not have to look much further beyond the reflection of Freda and Gerry's eyes to see the definition of the word adoration. He truly did love his family.

So he helped us in so many ways with his presence, with his commitment, his sense of courage, his dedication, his legislative skills, his good judgment on

occasion, good advice on others, and restraining hand on a few. Even his willingness to himself accept the restraining hand when that Marine Corps temperament would get out of control was an example for the rest of us. And then to combine that with the year-in, year-out example that yes, you too can meet all the demands of this congressional life and still remain devoted to a family life, where you can be cherished and where you can cherish your family.

We were sad when Jerry retired. Many of us talked about Jerry at that time. I remember saying to Jerry, Jerry, you are like a boat when you come to this body. Everybody loves you when you are brand new, but they love you even more when you leave. Jerry got a kick out of that.

We enjoyed his celebration and we saw him off and on. I have to say, Mr. Speaker, it was a blow to me the other day when I picked up the paper and saw that we had lost Jerry. I truly lost a friend. And like others here, I will miss him. I guess we just did not expect it. We just do not expect to lose somebody that seems so strong and so boisterous.

If I can again just thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for allowing me this little bit of time. If I could probably find two final words to say to my friend, Jerry Solomon, I guess they would have to be *semper fi*.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority leader for his kind remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY).

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for organizing this Special Order in memory of our colleague and fine friend.

Mr. Speaker, last week New York and America lost a great patriot, a fierce advocate, a fine leader and legislator and an extremely decent, kind and wonderful man. Whatever differences we had on policy, I always admired Jerry Solomon and our differences were never personal; they were merely based on policy disputes.

He spoke and acted with tremendous conviction. One never needed to interpret what Jerry was saying. He was refreshingly direct. He stuck to his guns, and I know my colleagues are going to miss him as much as I will.

Jerry led the Committee on Rules with distinction, decisiveness and fairness. His stewardship of that powerful committee was a credit to this institution. As a fellow New Yorker, Jerry was extremely gracious to me when I came to Congress in 1993 and all the years that we served together. He and I shared a love of the Adirondacks and Upstate New York. He was devoted to his wife, Freda, and his family. Above all I will remember Jerry's passion, an ex-Marine, an entrepreneur, and a father of five.

Jerry had a rock-solid vision of the American way. He was true to that vision in everything he did and to his

dying day he wanted to know what he could do for his country.

Jerry, I think every Member of this body would agree that you did more than enough, and we will miss you.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for her kind words.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield to one of Gerry's colleagues, former colleague on the Committee on International Relations, the former vice-chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for yielding me this time to speak about my dear departed colleague and friend, Jerry Solomon.

Jerry Solomon and I were elected together in 1978. We became friends and I now count him as one of the very best friends I have ever had. His wife, Freda, and my wife, Louise, he and I shared a friendship among us that simply grew over time to a point that I came to appreciate him in so very many ways.

The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) had just talked about his interest in doing whatever he could to advance the best interest of our country. Jerry Solomon was an unabashed flag-waving patriot. But he was a patriot in deed as well as word. And we came to know that because of his service on the Committee on International Relations, first of all, and later the leadership he brought to the Congress through his chairmanship of the House Committee on Rules.

His dedication to his family has been frequently mentioned. One of his children, the only one I am privileged to know, is Linda Solomon who has played and continues to play a very crucial role as the person in charge of protocol for the Committee on International Relations, and she is a very valued and respected and loved staff member for the committee.

I want to speak about Jerry Solomon, however, in a way that perhaps I have a special opportunity and knowledge. And that is to talk about his role in the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. It was through Gerry's encouragement that I first became involved in 1984. He already as a young Member of the House was involved in this interparliamentary effort involving the parliamentarians from the then 16 NATO countries and later the 19 countries that now constitute NATO and the associate members. He was very well respected in that body. We have five major committees. He chaired for the maximum length of time the political committee, which you might be surprised was the one that dealt with the most controversial subjects and had the widest area of coverage. That was in 1993 through 1996.

Later, in 1997 and 1998 for the maximum 2-year term, he served one of the assemblies of vice presidents. He was extraordinarily effective in that venue just as he is and was in this House.

I want to relate one personal experience that I am sure his wife, Freda, will remember very well. We traveled together frequently since I had the privilege to chair the delegation at the encouragement of Jerry Solomon because he was very busy with the Committee on Rules. We were having plane trouble as we tried to take off from refueling in the Azores on the way back from a NATO meeting in Europe. We had to return to the Azores because of pressurization. We tried again. And Jerry Solomon was stewing because he had to get back here to chair a Committee on Rules hearing. His wife tried to calm him. My wife tried to calm him. Eventually about 6 hours later we got on to a transport plane, no seats, just webbing and the floors.

I can recall and I am sure Freda will recall how that ramrod straight-back Marine was lying back on the floor in the cold on the deck of the transport plane and we worked our way back to Washington, D.C. so he could take over the responsibilities of the Committee on Rules and move some important legislation for the House.

Jerry Solomon made many contributions here. It is impossible to enumerate them all. But of the things that the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and I had the privilege to do today is to offer an amendment to legislation that was pending and which we passed unanimously from the committee encouraging and enumerating the support for NATO expansion.

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We amended that bill to name it for our colleague, our late departed colleague Jerry Solomon, because he was such a leader in encouraging the enlargement of NATO both within the assembly and here in the House of Representatives. And because the House of Representatives, of all of the entities across the whole world, took the lead first in trying to push for NATO expansion, and because Jerry Solomon played a major role in assisting President Clinton at the Madrid Summit, which considered for the first substantial time NATO expansion, for these reasons we thought it was particularly fitting.

So I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for joining me in that effort, for a suggestion that was always followed through on, and for yielding me this time on behalf of our beloved colleague, the late Jerry Solomon. We wish all the best possible in the days ahead to Freda and his family as they miss his physical presence here on Earth.

Mr. GILMAN. I thank the gentleman for his kind words on behalf of Jerry. I am pleased now to yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), who was kind enough to yield some time to us this evening so that we could proceed before her special order.

Ms. KAPTUR. I would like to thank our esteemed colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), and the

dean of the New York delegation, for yielding me some time, as a Midwesterner, a Buckeye, to place in the RECORD very sincere remarks in memory of the life of our beloved colleague, Jerry Solomon, someone with whom I had the great privilege of serving for over a decade and a half.

When I first came to Congress as a young Member we began our service on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. He was already there. And I remember as a new Member his devotion, his commitment, his seriousness and his humor on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. He then obviously moved over to Rules and became very involved there, rising to chair the committee.

I think I will always remember Jerry coming through these doors with those big brown folders. And I do not know how he got all those papers, but they were always like a foot thick and they had like a rubber band or a tie or something. The papers never seemed to fall out. He would kind of grip them, like that. It must have been an old duffle bag Marine trick or something, but he carried those folders all over the floor.

And what a great patriot. What a patriot. He loved this country so much. And I agree with what my sister colleague, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) has said. His determination and his directness was refreshing. It was so refreshing. Sometimes you didn't want to be at the end when it had a barb, but you always knew that he would level with you.

And he had such a way of carrying himself. He kind of pitched his shoulders here, and he looked like he planted himself on the floor. He always stood his ground.

Many people will talk about Jerry getting a little red faced and excited at times, but I also remember his humor, the great sense of humor that he had. And in some of the issues we got involved in, you needed to have a great sense of humor.

I remember his great friendship and support on all of the economic questions that we faced as a country, his deep concern about the workers in his community who had been thrown out of work, his mastery of international trade law, and his work with us in trying to right the wrongs that existed in trade policy so that we would pay attention to those who paid the price of trade laws that are out of balance, truly, and do not pay enough attention to workers. He really fought for the workers of his State and our country.

So I just wanted to say to his wife Freda, to his five children, and they used to sit down in the dining room here all the time and dine together, his love for you shown always. And I can still see his smiling face. What a square-jawed, patriotic, truly caring gentleman he was, and it was my great privilege to have served with him.

I thank the people of New York for renewing his election many, many, many years, allowing him to gain the seniority here where he was given true

voice. My deepest condolences to his family and the people of his home State. And once again I thank the dean of the New York delegation for this opportunity.

Mr. GILMAN. I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio for her kind words.

I am now pleased to yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN), a fellow member of the Committee on International Relations, who served with Jerry for a number of years on our committee.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and it is with great sadness that I join my other colleagues in noting the passing of former Congressman Gerald Solomon, one of the most effective and committed Members that this body has ever had. And although we are sad in noting his passing, we should take this opportunity really to celebrate his productive and fruitful life as a husband, as a father, as a Member of Congress, as a businessman, as a civic leader, and as a mentor.

With devotion and love, Congressman Solomon shared his life with his high school sweetheart, Freda, and later with his five children, including Linda, who works in our Committee on International Relations, and his six grandchildren. Although our Nation mourns the loss of this great leader, his family, as noted in their own words, lost a deeply loving husband, father and grandfather.

The spirit of love permeated all facets of his life. During his spectacular career in the House of Representatives, spanning over two decades, Jerry worked tenacious on issues benefiting not only his district in New York but benefiting the entire country. Love for his work and devotion to his country were the impetus for his efforts here in Congress. An example was his support of a balanced budget, of which he was a proponent long before it became in vogue, so that our country could be fiscally sound and responsible.

His love for the American people led him during his tenure as chairman of the Committee on Rules to streamline many areas of the House and reduce the size and the power of Congress to remain true to our belief that individuals and not Congress are vested with power.

Jerry's love for recognizing our country's veterans was the impetus for authoring the bill creating the Department of Veterans' Affairs, for co-authoring the GI bill, and fighting to establish the Saratoga National Veteran's Cemetery.

Work during his tenure in Congress was not limited to legislative efforts only. Jerry also led many task forces, boards, and represented us in important global organizations. My colleague, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), mentioned some of those. For example, he was the Chair of the National Defense Task Force, he was the Congressional Advisor to the United Nations Session on Disar-

mament, Representative to the North Atlantic Assembly, Chair of the Political Foreign Affairs Committee, Chair of the House NATO Observer Group, and the U.S. Task Force on POW-MIAs.

Jerry shone in business as brilliantly as he did in Congress. His most recent business achievement was forming the Solomon Group, a successful consulting firm providing advice and counsel to Fortune 500 companies and international corporations worldwide. Before serving in Congress, Jerry was also a successful businessman, dealing with insurance, investment, and international trade.

We were fortunate to have known Jerry and to have had him as a congressional leader, but it is his community that will miss him the most. I am certain that the love and the kindness that he expressed to the people in his district, in his State, will be forever remembered and cherished. He said that his greatest enjoyment came from successfully helping people back home in his district cope with problems that they had with the Federal bureaucracy.

His selflessness and commitment to civic duty was demonstrated by his service as a volunteer fireman; his involvement with the Boy Scouts of America, spanning over 50 years; his founding of the Queensbury Kiwanis Club and the Queensbury Jaycees; his active membership in his local Elks Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons Lodge, the Royal Arch Masons, and the Joseph Warren Council. Through all of these activities, Jerry touched the lives of many who have also aspired to greatness, and numerous other honors that we cannot name tonight, for Jerry truly served as a mentor to many of us.

I am proud to pay tribute to this devoted leader, to this patriot, and to express my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. May they find peace and comfort in the knowledge that he made significant differences in the lives of everyone whom he touched and that he was an inspiration to those of us who also serve. He will forever be remembered as a patriot, as an American, always a proud Marine.

Semper fi, Jerry Solomon.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida, the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, for her very kind words.

I am pleased to now yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS).

Mr. SHIMKUS. Semper fi. Always faithful. There is no better phrase to describe Jerry Solomon. He was always faithful to his family, he was always faithful to his God, he was always faithful to NATO, to our NATO allies, and to the cause of NATO enlargement. And I bring a warm heartfelt thanks from the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, whose role in NATO enlargement was always championed by Congressman Solomon.

He was always faithful to this institution, he was always faithful to the

Boy Scouts of America, his beloved Marine Corps, this country, and our beloved flag. His booming voice left this floor on his retirement, and on his death his voice has left this world. But the echoes of his booming voice will continue to ring: Duty, honor, country, or let's step outside.

I personally remember, always, one time when I heard "Shimkus, you voted wrong," right here on this floor. And the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) has left the floor, but I think the vote was on Radio Marti. You know what? He was right.

I was not a classmate of Jerry's, I was not on his committee, and I am not from his State. I am just a veteran, like Jerry, who loves his country. Semper fi, Jerry Solomon. I will miss you.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS).

I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Research and Development of the Committee on Armed Services, a good colleague of Jerry Solomon's.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me the time, and I thank all my colleagues for their wonderful and eloquent words. I was listening to them back in my office, and that is why I came over also, to pay tribute to Jerry.

A number of folks have talked about Jerry's countenance and his optimism and his appearance. And he was impressive because he had that big voice and he exerted that voice, and he had a great leadership role in this House. But he had this countenance and presence that I think, to some degree, was America's presence. He was optimistic. He was always ready to help. He believed very deeply in principle. I would hope that is how other nations would view the United States.

I can recall waging battles side-by-side with Jerry and with my buddies, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) in the 1980s, when Ronald Reagan came in. And that was such a joy for Jerry Solomon, because he was such an ardent supporter of this guy who believed in peace through strength, President Ronald Reagan.

We fought what were known as the Contra wars, and those were the wars in which we came into an era at a time when most of our Central American neighbors had military dictatorships of one type or another. And through putting a shield around those countries, in terms of the foreign intervention, the attempt by the Russians, then the Soviet Union, to try to move into our hemisphere, and giving some leadership to those nations with respect to democracy, we ended up with fragile democracies in all those nations, which heretofore had had military dictatorships and, to some degree, tragic histories. But we did that by extending the strong hand of American leadership, and that was, I think, reflective

of Jerry Solomon's belief as to how this country should conduct foreign policy.

I recall all the debates we had on the nuclear freeze; the idea that somehow if we would just show a little more passivism, if we would simply halt and not do anything while the Soviet Union built 758 big ICBMs during the 1970s and early 1980s, that somehow they would reciprocate because of our kindness and our good personalities and they in fact would start to build down their nuclear inventory.

□ 2145

But Jerry Solomon believed you could only achieve peace by having strength. He was on the floor, as was the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), during the nuclear freeze debate that took place over 3 or 4 weeks, holding out until we impressed upon the American people, and I think the leadership of the Soviet Union, that we intended to remain strong and become stronger. Through the leadership of Ronald Reagan, they called up at one point, and the Soviets said can we talk. We did talk and that led to the first arms reduction agreements. That set the tone for the talks that are going on today, that will result in further reductions to our nuclear stockpiles, as well as the Russians'.

Jerry Solomon was here at a critical time in our history. He also believed in the American patriot. I think one of Jerry's great attributes was that he wanted to remake America in his image. I mean that in a good way. Jerry was a patriotic guy who served in the United States Marine Corps, and he wanted to make sure that every young man had that opportunity. He wanted to make sure that every young man registered with the draft and every educational institution which took its freedom to teach from the legacy of the 619,000 Americans who have died in this last century, Jerry wanted to make sure that those educational institutions, if they wanted to receive any largess from the Federal Government, would make sure that they allowed a draft registration and a presence of military recruiters on their campuses.

This was Jerry Solomon, the patriot. He believed that every American had a duty to serve his country, and as usual led by example by doing it himself.

Jerry, you have left us in a different era, a new era, with new threats, new challenges, new dangers, and some receding dangers. I think if this country will follow that model of optimism, of help for others who need help, of rugged individualism, and of peace through strength, that is the American idea that we only achieve peace and maintain peace in this world by being militarily strong and thereby being able to protect ourselves, and help others, if we follow that Jerry Solomon model, even in this new dangerous world that we live in, we will come out okay.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), the chairman of our Republican Policy Committee.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, when Chairman Jerry Solomon died last Friday, America lost one of freedom's great friends.

Jerry had been leading the congressional charge to put the last nail in the coffin of Soviet communism for many years when I began working with him here on Capitol Hill in 1988. Decades earlier he had taken more direct action volunteering as a Marine during the Korean War.

In more recent years, it was my privilege to work with Jerry to promote freedom in place of communism in the People's Republic of China. It was Jerry's leadership, more than anything else, that permitted this House to act unanimously to put together the Select Committee on National Security that I, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), and others from both sides of the aisle served upon. It was Jerry's help, as chairman of the Committee on Rules, in structuring that select committee of this Congress that paved the way for the unanimous and bipartisan result that we achieved, and for the implementation by the Congress and the execution of every one of our recommendations.

In 1988, Jerry's work on the Committee on Policy's policy for freedom brought us 11 separate pieces of legislation that were passed essentially unanimously by this full House, and again the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) worked very closely with the chairman of the Committee on Rules, as did the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), who has already spoken in this Special Order this evening.

In fact, Jerry Solomon dedicated his entire career to advancing human freedom, and he deserves credit for advocating policies supporting freedom in Central America, in Eastern Europe, and Central Europe. Jerry would be the last, however, to tell us, mission accomplished. If Jerry were still here, he would be doing what he did every day, exhorting the rest of us to work as hard as we could, as hard as he worked, to rededicate ourselves just as this tireless Marine did to see the end of communism in the People's Republic of China, to see the end of communism in Vietnam, in North Korea and Cuba.

Jerry did not live to see Fidel Castro brought to justice, and yet he was an unwavering voice against appeasing the Castro dictatorship to his last day. He did not live to see America's victory in the war on terrorism that we are fighting right now; and yet all of the work that he did in this Chamber has prepared us to win this war because his work and his leadership ensured that our fighting men and women will have what they need to see us through to victory.

Jerry was an active and invaluable member of the House Republican Policy Committee during the entirety of my chairmanship from 1994 to 1998 when he retired. As chairman of the Policy Committee, I will forever treasure the opportunity I had to work with him as one of the chief leaders in the House of Representatives, the chairman of the Committee on Rules. I will be forever grateful for his tremendous contributions to the committee and this Congress in time, advice, wisdom, and policy.

Jerry was also a practitioner of bipartisanship at its best. He was a leading Republican in the Congress, but he was also a leading Member of the Congress who promoted comity in this institution every day. He worked with our colleagues, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), in pursuit of human rights around the world. It was typical of Jerry that he commended his ideological opposite, Congressman Ron Dellums, admiring him for his sincerity and his principled opposition to the Gulf War, even as Jerry fought to do everything possible for victory in that same war.

Jerry Solomon's bipartisanship was not the feckless kind that seeks to muzzle debate. Jerry understood that only when all sides of an issue get a full airing is there a possibility to achieve true national consensus.

When America lost Jerry Solomon, America lost a hero. We owe him an enormous debt. Thanks to Jerry, America's men and women are so well prepared and so well equipped today that I have no doubt when we achieve victory on today's war on terrorism, we can say thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish Jerry were here tonight so we could say personally what we all feel in our hearts. Mr. Chairman, we miss you.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. Cox) for his eloquent words.

Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank all of my colleagues who participated in this tribute to one of our great heroes, Jerry Solomon.

Mr. Speaker, in the House, in the Senate, in Washington, in New York State and overseas, many of us were deeply saddened to learn late last week of the loss of our former colleague, Jerry Solomon. In New York State's capital, in Albany, Jerry was an assemblyman noted for his energy, determination and his commitment. It was, therefore, no surprise to those of us who knew him when he subsequently brought those same characteristic traits to bear as a Member of Congress and as a distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Jerry came to the House in January 1979 serving here for 2 decades, diligently and meritoriously representing his constituents in the 22nd Congressional District in upstate New York. He came to the floor of the House placing his large accordion Solomon folder, placing it on a desk with those large

letters staring us in the face, always ready to stand up vociferously for what he believed in when it came to our Nation's defense, for veterans, and his never-ending fight against communism.

Last week, upon learning of the passing of our former colleague, President Bush said "Jerry Solomon was a true patriot who will always be remembered as true to his creed, duty, honor and country." The President's words remind us that as our military goes into battle against those who perpetrated the atrocities of September 11, our troops are now relying on advanced weapon systems and technologies that Jerry Solomon fought to obtain for them.

As a Marine veteran, Jerry Solomon was proud to be labeled a hawk on defense, consistently arguing that our Nation had to stay prepared and strong for the new challenges in the post-Cold War world. Today we fully recognize his wisdom in that policy.

In 1998, Jerry Solomon successfully helped us raise our program of rewards for any information leading to the arrest of terrorists to \$2 million, four times the maximum reward at that time, and now we are considering a reward of \$25 million. I know how strongly Jerry believed that the money would be well spent if it helped to stop even one act of terrorism against our Nation. He was right.

Mr. Speaker, along with many of us who have served here in the Congress, Jerry Solomon sought to make our Nation better more prosperous and more secure. Let me cite some of his many accomplishments during his 20 years of congressional service: the promotion of the director of Veterans Administration to a cabinet level office; the passage of legislation to reduce illegal drug use and to fight drug dealers; the reform of the rules of the House; the passage of legislation linking Federal student aid to registration in selective service; his chairmanship of our House task force on prisoners of war and missing in action; his passage of legislation to compel reform at the United Nations; creating the Saratoga National Veterans Cemetery, where he has recently been buried; representation of the House in the political arm of the NATO Alliance for some 18 years where he served with the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

Today in honoring Jerry, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and I introduced in our Committee on International Relations, as the gentleman indicated, and it was the committee on which Jerry served for many years, we introduced and adopted a measure, The Gerald B.H. Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act, which promotes the continuing enlargement of NATO; and that measure will soon be brought to the floor.

In 1998, Jerry authored a book entitled "The NATO Enlargement Debate: 1990-1997: The Blessings of Liberty."

His allusions to our own Constitution's preamble was meant to convey

the view that people everywhere should be able to live in liberty, a view to which he dedicated much of his life. Jerry had many legislative victories and some defeats, just as we all do; but he never gave in when it came to matters which he felt involved principles, whether human rights in China, the desecration of our American flag, or the support of family dairy farms and small businesses.

Jerry would not forgive me, of course, if I failed to mention his love for and devotion to the United States Marine Corps in which he served for several years. My wife, Georgia, joins with me in extending our heartfelt condolences to Jerry's beloved wife, Freda, and to their children, Susan, Daniel, Robert, Linda and Jeffrey. Linda has served on our Committee on International Relations. And to his brother, Richard, and their grandchildren.

While our words may not assuage their sense of loss, we hope that they can take some comfort in our recognition of the rich, fruitful life that Jerry lived and the way the world embraced his spirit.

Jerry, when you left Congress some 3 years ago, we in the Congress and in New York State and all those across the Nation missed you. We missed your shouting at us from across the floor, "We need that vote. One more for the Gipper."

May God bless you, Patriot Jerry Solomon. You leave behind many fond memories, a loving family, your devoted staff and friends who will long miss you. Semper fi, Jerry.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sadness at the passing of our former colleague Jerry Solomon. Jerry was a dedicated and hard-working Member of Congress, a loyal former Marine, a true fiscal conservative, and he was my friend. I rise today to express my most sincere condolences to Freda Solomon, a lovely and gentle lady with whom I spent many pleasant hours, and to their children and grandchildren. Jerry always worked too hard, but I have to believe that he always did so because he believed so passionately in this Nation and wanted to make sure that its ideals and goodness were preserved and protected for his family, for mine, as well as for every other American family.

Jerry also believed passionately that ideals embodied in the democratic form of government we practice in the United States were worthy of export. Given his long-term commitment to the protection of freedom through his active participation in the North Atlantic Assembly, it was natural that he be given the role of ranking Republican Member when former Speaker Foley created the Special Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe shortly after the demise of communist governments in Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia in 1989 and 1990. Jerry worked closely with me during the four years I had the honor to chair the Task Force, and in 1995 and 1996 carried on the work we had started. He took a keen interest in our work and saw, quite correctly, that the United States Congress could play an exceptionally valuable role in the development of new parliaments in countries that had, for 50

years, lived behind the Iron Curtain. I will always be grateful for his help, his suggestions, and his counsel during the years we worked on that project. It was a truly bipartisan effort, in fact, it was an American effort. We did something valuable, and it did not matter that Jerry and I rarely agreed on much in the legislative arena. We knew we were doing something special and we knew we were doing something for the good of our families, and for the families of the world.

Jerry did work too hard. He was probably born to work too hard, but he was also born to be a Marine. He was so proud of his service to his country in uniform and that pride never left him. We saw it every day in his ramrod straight Marine posture, in his dedication to the men and women who served before and who serve today, and in his dedication to his country. It is fitting that he has been laid to rest in the Saratoga National Cemetery, since he was instrumental in its establishment.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to Freda and to his children and grandchildren. They should be proud of him and all he did in service to his Nation, to the flag, and to his family. He was the true embodiment of *Semper Fi*.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of profound sadness and a touch of nostalgia and deep admiration that I take the floor today to speak about a man who served his country and this House with vigor distinction. Jerry Solomon was a man who took the concept of service to country to its highest plan. He was deeply committed to keeping America the bastion of democracy which the founding fathers envisioned.

As anyone who met Jerry knows, he served proudly, and with great honor in the United States Marines. *Semper Fi* was more than just a slogan to Jerry. He took those words to be his code of conduct both in the Marines and later as a Member of the House. It was a true badge of dignity and commitment for him.

When Jerry was elected to Congress, he was exultant in having found another way to serve his country. While he was dedicated to the constituents who so wisely chose to send him to Congress, he was ever mindful of the responsibilities he bore as a United States Congressman. He realized that every vote he made, and every action he took, affected the nation as a whole. While some Members find this responsibility to be a heavy burden, Jerry relished in having the opportunity to do things to make America a better place to live and work and a stronger example of the glories of our democracy.

When he became chairman of the Committee on Rules, Jerry's responsibilities expanded. He was clearly up to the task. He took this extra assignment knowing how important it would be, but also well aware of the enhanced burden it would carry. Jerry managed to walk the tightrope of being a fair and equitable chairman, and still keeping the mission of the majority in mind. He was a key member of leadership, and used that position to continue his never ending quest for a better America.

The House has lost a tremendous asset, I have a lost friend, and this nation has lost a great patriot. How comforting it would be in these times of national stress to have Jerry here to lead and inspire us in all the challenges ahead.

When someone you love dies, he is no longer where he was—he is with you, in your

heart and memory. Rather than mourn our loss let us be glad he lived and we knew him.

My deepest sympathy to his wife and his family—especially his daughter Linda.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in paying tribute to our late colleague, Gerald Solomon.

Jerry was a very special individual, Representative and friend. Others have described his reputation as "the pit bull of the House." I want to describe how encouraging and war, he was under that rough exterior.

As chairman of the Rules Committee, Jerry had enormous influence as gatekeeper of the kinds and number of amendments that could be entertained on the House floor.

Many a time, I testified before him and the Committee—pleading the merits of the amendment I wanted to offer to some bill.

I particularly remember the repeated appearances that Bill Brewster, Mike Crapo and I made to the Committee to pitch the importance of our "deficit reduction lock box" amendment. Our amendment would designate and "lock" all savings from amendments cutting spending to deficit reduction.

On every appropriation bill, we asked that our amendment be made in order.

In all cases, Jerry was attentive—even after I starting sporting a "where's the money" button on my lapel and when it was clear from the outset that our amendment would not be made in order.

Each time we testified, Jerry was encouraging of our efforts and supportive of the goal of our amendment—even as he and his Committee denied the waivers necessary for us to offer it.

He loved my moniker—"mother of the lockbox." We chuckled that it had many fathers, but only one mother.

In fact, Jerry understood the importance of the fiscal discipline we were proposing and I think he winked many times as a way to encourage us—even though the act of denying us the opportunity to offer the amendment embarrassed him and other fiscal watchdogs in his party.

In time, of course, and with behind-the-scenes help, the deficit reduction lockbox amendment was indeed made in order to one appropriation bill. And the House also considered the lockbox as a separate bill. The author of that bill was Jerry Solomon himself.

Even after he left Congress, Jerry continued to greet the "mother of the lockbox" with a hearty laugh, a twinkle in his eye, and words of encouragement.

We will miss you Jerry.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our friend and colleague from Glens Falls, New York, Gerald Solomon.

I had the honor to serve with Chairman Solomon on the Rules Committee. He was a strong leader for our committee who stood firmly on his policy beliefs and was respected for it. He was unyielding and passionate on the important issues. I can tell you, there were many times that I was glad to have him in my corner.

During his twenty years of service in the House, Chairman Solomon was a tireless advocate for the people of the 22nd district of New York. He was a true and dedicated public servant—in every best sense, a patriot.

He served in the United States Marine Corps and exemplified its true spirit. He was always faithful to the corps and his country. As

a member of Congress, he was an unrelenting defender of the American flag—the symbol of our nation that has engendered so much unity and pride in these trying times.

I remember Chairman Solomon fondly for so many things, perhaps best of all because he shared my passion for adoption. He was dedicated to helping children find permanent, loving homes. In fact, he was invaluable in aiding two of my constituents in their fight to keep their adopted children. I know that they remember him as I do—as an advocate for families.

Here in the House, we remember Chairman Solomon for his service to our country. He was also a husband, a father, and our friend. He will be missed.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to my former colleague and friend, Representative Gerald Solomon, and express my deep sorrow for the recent loss of this great American.

Jerry Solomon faithfully represented the constituents of New York's Twenty-Second Congressional District for 20 years. First elected in 1978, Jerry distinguished himself as a champion of conservative values in the House of Representatives. For years he fought for smaller and more accountable government, opposing policies which would threaten liberty.

Jerry was never afraid to speak his mind and take strongly held positions on important issues. He vehemently opposed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and favored an end to China's most favored nation trade status. He argued for creation of the line-item veto, defended constitutional rights, and chastised young people who ignored their responsibilities. Whether or not you always agreed with his position on the issues, you always had to admire the boldness which characterized his commitment to the causes in which he believed.

As a former Marine and Korean War veteran, Jerry served the interests of our Armed Forces and veterans as a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. As the ranking Republican on the Committee in the 1980s, Jerry helped pass the 1984 G.I. Bill of Rights, an important tool which served to increase veterans' benefits and attract quality recruits to the military. I was honored to serve with Jerry on this Committee during my first terms in Congress.

Many would argue that Jerry's greatest achievement in Congress was his ascension to Chairman of the House Rules Committee. While he certainly served this body, the legislative process, and our country well in this position, I would maintain that his greatest achievement was the dedication with which he served his constituents for two decades.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I offer my most heartfelt sympathy to the Solomon family. For while America has lost a great man, they have lost a great husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle.

May his memory be eternal!

Mr. WOLF. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to participate this evening in a special order to remember Jerry Solomon. We were all saddened to learn of his passing last weekend and extend to his wife Freda and his children and grandchildren our deepest sympathy.

Jerry was a friend and colleague. I had the privilege of serving with him for 18 years until he retired from the House in 1998. I also had

the honor of working with him on several major issues over the years. We both had serious reservations about the nature of U.S. relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC).

In fact, in the mid-1980's, Jerry Solomon introduced legislation prohibiting the export of U.S.-built satellites to the PRC. He argued that exporting these satellites to China would place at risk our most sensitive military technology. Ten years later we knew Jerry was right. The Chinese were stealing this satellite and missile technology and had used it to upgrade their ICBMs.

Needless to say, Jerry was a very effective legislator. Dozens of important laws are on the books which are authored by Jerry Solomon. Laws aimed to helping the American family by encouraging young people not to get involved with illegal drugs, the law which elevated the Veterans Administration to a cabinet level department, and the Solomon Amendment, denying student aid to people who refuse to register with the Selective Service. The list goes on and on.

A few weeks ago I visited the operations center for the FBI and on the wall was a large wanted poster for Osama bin Laden, offering a reward of \$5 million for information leading to his arrest. It was Jerry Solomon who put the terrorist reward law on the books.

When we look at what this country is facing today we are hard pressed not to think of Jerry. A few years back some people thought Jerry Solomon was a throwback to some other time because he was so patriotic. Not today. He loved America and as a Marine would have died for his country.

Jerry sponsored legislation to prohibit the desecration of the American flag. It is a symbol of what unites us as a people and what is best about America. Who can forget the firemen in New York raising that flag at Ground Zero, the crater where the World Trade Center once towered in tandem over the city.

In Jerry's Capitol Hill office there were shelves covered with firemen's helmets from many of the small towns in his upstate New York district. He respected and honored our firemen. Today, everyone appreciates them.

Jerry always honored and respected our police, our veterans and our men and women in uniform. Jerry had a real appreciation for how difficult and important their work is. Today all Americans appreciate them.

Jerry Solomon wore an American flag lapel pin every day for the 20 years he served as a Member of Congress. Today we all wear them.

Jerry Solomon was a true patriot and a good friend. He embodied his Marine Corps motto—*semper fidelis*—"always faithful." I will miss him.

Mr. GOSS. I am submitting my speech that I gave, Mr. Speaker, at the Honorable Gerald Solomon's funeral.

Were I a fully finished disciple of Jerry Solomon I would now set out right here on the lectern a big accordion file with "Solomon" written boldly across the front—this was his hallmark. The funny thing is—he didn't need it—everyone knew when Jerry was in the room. It will be easy to remember Jerry—so active, so involved in so many things. He touched so many lives—family, colleagues, marines, veterans, the people of the 22nd district and so many others. It will be very hard not to miss him. How many times since Jerry

left Congress have I thought "where's Solomon when you need him?" When confronted with issues of the day, especially now when patriotism is so much in the forefront. The display of our flag these days is just what he loved.

I am reminded of Jerry daily—or at least whenever the Rules Committee meets (so perhaps I should say nightly given our recent schedule) because his portrait in the committee room is positioned so he looks right over my shoulder—so close, he could whisper in my ear, which I am sure he will.

Jerry left his marks of fairness and dynamism and good spirit on the committee—they last today under David Dreier's able leadership. Jerry wasn't perfect. He failed to convince me that milk marketing orders were a good thing. He never could get David Dreier to agree to his views on trade. But, he ran a tight ship, even had his own phraseology, designed to save words and make the point. "step out side," and "taking you out to the woodshed" are phrases that had meaning when Jerry spoke.

The Washington Post this week labeled him a "blunt conservative." A more politically correct paper would have used "straight-talking patriot." Political correctness was not his way but Honest-to-God concern for people and his country were.

Many of us here today traveled with Jerry and Freda to far off places—some places I'd barely heard of—to serve our Nation's Interest. Somehow it just doesn't seem normal to get on a Codel plane without having Jerry and Freda leading the way. Early on, I found out that Jerry had discovered the best maple ice cream is found in Gander, Newfoundland. It was never a surprise to find ourselves on a plane that needed to refuel in Gander. He really loved that maple ice cream.

My favorite recollection dealing with European Parliamentarians—which we did a lot—occurred one otherwise quite Sunday mid-winter morning in Brussels. A certain self-approving Euro-speaker took some serious liberties describing U.S. foreign policy to belittle our country at a fairly high level gathering of influential parliamentarians. Without a note, Jerry instantly stood up, delivered a magnificent, passionate oration tracking in some detail American sacrifice and contribution to Europe from WWI to the Cold War. It was so stunningly effective that our European colleagues were literally "speechless"—a condition in which European parliamentarians have not found themselves before or since.

On another occasion in Bucharest, I watched Jerry take on Mr. Zhirinovski—a one-time Russian presidential candidate—who was making particularly obnoxious remarks about the United States without cause. Jerry made short work of him as he did of anyone showing disrespect to our country.

Jerry always got the job done—somehow. One day in the Ukraine, our delegation was offered a visit to Sevastopol, Russia Fleet Headquarters on the Black Sea. This had been an "off-limits" area—so we were eager to go, but the Ukrainians were adamant we must go on their plane (a well used Russian model) rather than our own Codel plane. Jerry dutifully took a vote of the delegation—which was unanimous—to go only if we could use our plane. Jerry "fixed it." We arrived at the airport dawn the next day—got on the Ukrainian plane and flew to Sevastopol. So much

vodka was consumed that day celebrating the American presence that it didn't matter what plane we flew on. Jerry got the job done.

Jerry's energy was legendary, he never saw a hill he didn't charge; some say he made hills where none existed just so he could charge up them. To Freda and family go our love and support and the certain knowledge that Jerry rests comfortably atop the Lord's hill now.

□ 2200

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PUTNAM). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

UNITED STATES INCREASING DEPENDENCY ON IMPORTED PETROLEUM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as we complete our commemoration this evening of our dear colleague Congressman Jerry Solomon of New York, I am reminded that his patriotism and his devotion to duty inspired us all, and as we confront this latest test of America's will and position in the world and what is just for all people, I am reminded of a book that I have been re-reading called *Sacred Rage* that puts in context some of the forces that are arrayed against the United States and our interests now and the entire issue of terrorism and its roots.

In that book by Robin Wright, much is discussed, including some of the religious fervor that has been promoted and directed against the people of the United States, some of the hatred of U.S. policies in the Middle East that are at the basis of some of the antipathy toward our country and our people, but also the economic underpinnings of the unrest in the Middle East and Central Asia and how directly it is tied to petroleum and oil.

This evening I am going to spend a little bit of time talking about that because, as the American people understand better some of the underpinnings of the terror, we can get a clearer sense of new directions to set in order to build a more peaceful world for the future.

This evening I wanted to talk about the United States' increasing dependency on imported fuel and petroleum, and I have two charts here that describe it very clearly.

This is a chart dating back to the mid-1980s and each year showing an increase in the amount of imported oil that comes into our country, and in spite of conservation efforts, in spite of