

Supporters of fast track argue that the U.S. is being left behind. They tell us we need fast track to increase American exports and to increase new jobs for American workers. But our history of flawed trade agreements has led to a trade deficit with the rest of the world that has surged to a record \$369 billion. The 2000 trade deficit is 39 percent higher than the previous record set in 1999.

The Department of Labor has reported that the North American Free Trade Agreement alone has been responsible for the loss of 300,000 jobs in this country. While our trade agreements go to great lengths to protect investors and protect property rights, these agreements rarely include enforceable provisions to protect workers or to protect the environment.

CEOs of multinational corporations tell Members of Congress that globalization stimulates development and allows nations to improve their labor and environmental records. They say interaction with the developing world spreads democracy.

The facts speak differently. Democratic nations such as India are losing out to more totalitarian nations, such as China. Democratic nations such as Taiwan are losing out to authoritarian regimes, such as Indonesia.

In 1989, 57 percent of developing country exports and manufacturing came from developing democracies; 10 years later, only 35 percent of developing country exports and manufacturing came from developing democracies. It is clear that corporations are relocating their manufacturing bases to more totalitarian regimes, where even the most minimal labor and environmental standards are often ignored.

The fact is, Western business investors want to go to China, they want to go to Indonesia; they want to go to countries which are dictatorships, which have docile work forces, authoritarian governments and they are very predictable for Western investors.

They do not go to India, they do not go to Taiwan, not to South Korea; 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 good wages are paid, and because we have free elections.

Western corporations instead want to invest in countries that have weak environmental standards, unenforced labor law, below-poverty wages, and where workers have no opportunities to bargain collectively.

Flawed trade policies cost American jobs, put downward pressure on U.S. wages and working conditions, and erode the ability of local, State, and Federal governments to protect public health and to protect the environment.

If we fail to include important labor and environmental provisions in future trade agreements, multinational corporations will continue to dismiss labor and protection of the environment as discretionary and wholly un-

necessary expenses. Global working conditions will continue to suffer.

We need in this body to press for provisions that promote workers' rights in all countries and promote economic advancement in all countries. The U.S. must continue to be a leader in setting standards for worker rights, for fair wages, for worker safety, and for environmental protection.

In the last year, in this country, we have lost, since President Bush took office, 1 million industrial jobs. We have experienced economic slowdown, and we have experienced a drop in the stock market that we have not seen in a decade. Fast track will not solve that problem; fast track will make that problem worse.

Our Nation cannot afford to sell its principles to the highest bidder. The global race to the bottom must be stopped and turned around.

In 1998, fast track was defeated in this Congress 243 to 180. Fast track should be defeated again in Congress this year.

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#### WITH FALL HARVEST COMES FALLING PRICES IN FARM COUNTRY AND FALLING HOPES FOR OUR NATION'S FARMERS

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

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, local commodity prices are becoming an everyday story for Kansas farmers and ranchers. Last week was no exception, with headlines like "October Farm Prices Show an Abrupt Drop" and "Farm-Price Index Suffers the Biggest Drop on Record."

Last Wednesday, data showed that farmers' prices were reduced the largest amount in 1 month, 9.5 percent. The decline between September and October is the sharpest month-to-month price drop in 91 years, since USDA began recording farm prices in 1910.

The corn price, \$1.79 for October, was down 12 cents from September. Twelve cents may not sound like much, but for the State of Kansas, that is a loss of \$50 million to the State's economy. Soybean prices plunged 43 cents to \$4.10 cents a bushel, 35 cents below the price just 1 year ago. For the average Kansas farmer who plants about 150 acres of soybeans, that is a 1-month loss of about \$1,500 on his or her fall harvest.

Farmers know that grain prices always drop around harvest time, but even the Department of Agriculture admitted last week that "the breadth of this downturn is unanticipated."

Grain producers were not the only ones affected. The index of meat prices fell 4.2 percent, hog prices at \$41 per hundredweight declined \$4.10, and cattle prices fell to \$67.50, down \$1.50.

The news of this dramatic price drop is bad not only for agricultural producers, but for all of us who depend upon American agriculture for the security of our food supply. However, to

farmers whose grain incomes have grown steadily smaller, it is no surprise, nor is it a surprise when the price continues to drop.

More headlines just from yesterday tell that story: "Wheat Export Commitments Second Lowest on Record," "Corn Sales Lagging." Our farmers want to be able to continue feeding our Nation and others around the globe with the safest, most abundant food supply in the world, but with record low prices and trade barriers hindering the export market, times are tough in agriculture country.

My farmers tell me that they want to get their income from the market to raise prices through increased exports to willing consumers in nations around the globe, yet political barriers distort international trade. And so our farmers need short-term assistance just to continue farming and to pass the family farm to their sons and daughters.

The House has acted to assist farmers by passing the Farm Security Act last month. Now it is up to the U.S. Senate to realize the need for legislation.

Last Thursday, the Secretary of Agriculture stated that she was pleased by the newly developed Senate plans to proceed with a farm bill this session. That statement was followed by the President's announcement Friday of his appointment of a new special assistant for ag trade and food assistance.

The President said that he is not opposed to signing a farm bill into law this year, and the addition to the administration's agriculture team is a positive step to further coordinate farm bill efforts between Congress and the White House.

I am encouraged to once again hear the administration's commitment to farm policy, and I am glad to see the Senate Committee on Agriculture responding by beginning to mark up their version of a farm bill.

I look forward to working together on farmers' priorities: caring for the environment, a farm income safety net, and greater trading opportunities.

With the tragic events of September 11, the battle against terrorism is continuing. Our Nation has many vital defense priorities right now both at home and abroad. However, food security is one of the most important elements of homeland security, and we must not overlook our Nation's farmers before this session ends.

Farmers are counting on us to deliver the promise of a farm bill, and with all that they do every day to provide us with food, clothing, and shelter, we must not let them down.

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#### EXPRESSING REGARD AND SYMPATHY TO UKRAINE AT 68TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE OF GREAT FAMINE OF 1932 AND 1933

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise for the record to express my deep respect and sympathies to the new Nation of Ukraine at its 68th anniversary remembrance of the tragic great famine of 1932 and 1933.

Ukraine, always known as the breadbasket of Europe, lost nearly a quarter of its population as the Stalinist-led government, headquartered in Moscow then, forcibly exported Ukraine's wheat and spent the money earned on industrialization.

□ 2000

Only God knows the true count of the millions of Ukrainian peasants and village dwellers who were systematically starved to death as collectivization of the countryside made independent farming impossible.

Inside the borders of the Soviet Union, over 50 million people ultimately perished through the end of the Second World War, beginning with upwards of 8 million innocent people who died during forced famine of the early 1930s. The totalitarian regime of Joseph Stalin understood the power of food as the most fundamental weapon and used it cruelly.

For several centuries, Ukraine then fought for its freedom. When forced to join the U.S.S.R. in the 20th century, Ukrainians resisted with valor. The forests of Western Ukraine are filled with the bones of their sacrifice. Every family suffered permanent losses. Yet no threats or punishments could deter Ukraine from its constant attempts to leave the Soviet Union and restore its independence.

Fearing for the integrity of its empire, the Soviet regime then decided to simply eliminate Ukrainian culture by destroying the intellectual and military elite that pursued ideals of freedom and liberty. The regime falsified history and finally starved millions upon millions into submission.

Genocide of this magnitude is unparalleled in human history. It is almost impossible to comprehend a political system that would contemplate and plan the deaths of millions of its citizens. These deaths of men, women, children and elderly were executed in the most tortuous ways imaginable. Young men were forcibly inducted into the military, taken from their farms and villages. Families that did not cooperate were shot. The remaining millions were starved to death. Women and children scratched in the frozen earth to find even an onion to make soup in the winter. Mothers died to give their last shreds of food to their children.

History shows even in the face of such brutality, Ukrainians did not retreat. They continued to fight for freedom. Deep in their souls their spirits remained unbent and steadfast.

When Ukrainian independence finally was declared in 1991, Ukrainian patriots did not rest. They refused to forget their roots and live like tumbleweeds. Life without a homeland for them was

life not worth living. Finally, they prevailed; but the memory of the earlier horrors remained always and drives them in their sense of duty.

Many of my own ancestors died miserably inside what is now Ukraine during the 1930s. Our family well knows that this horror occurred.

We, history, must never forget that such profound events happened. We must remember. We must prevent such evil from happening again. We must also recognize that such hatred can be perpetrated only when freedom does not reign in a land. Therefore, we must maintain our dedication to freedom and representative government.

We must resist anyone who attempts to take it from us. We must help those in the world who have gained their democratic freedoms to keep them alive and nurture them into maturity. We must not rest until such seemingly simple gifts as a right to life and the right to pursue happiness are guaranteed for every person in a land.

Democratic freedoms must prevail more now than ever. Recent events make us more aware of precious endowments of our known Nationhood. Now we have an additional reason to continue our work for democratization and defense of human rights. The memory of those who died defenselessly in this struggle so long ago deserve to be honored.

For several centuries, Ukraine has fought for its freedom. When forced to join the U.S.S.R., Ukrainians resisted with valor. In furtherance of this remembrance, I would strongly encourage the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, and the U.S.-Ukraine Joint Cultural Heritage Commission, each funded annually by the Congress of the United States on behalf of the people of the United States, to accurately reflect the great famine in their historical documentations, including cemeteries, massacre sites and other hallowed grounds in Ukraine. Those commemorations should also give proper tribute and restore the lost heritage resulting from the mass immigration of writers and scholars to the West.

In closing, Madam Speaker, we will mourn the lives of these innocent people lost to history on November 17, 2001, when a commemorative service will be held in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Let us never forget them. Let us work ever harder to build a world free of terror for our children.

#### COMMEMORATION OF THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UKRAINIAN FAMINE-GENOCIDE OF 1932-1933

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HART). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of millions of innocent Ukrainians who were systematically starved to death by the Soviet Government in 1932 and 1933.

A comprehensive campaign to kill Ukrainian citizens and to destroy all vestiges of Ukrainian nationalism was carried out by Joseph Stalin, the dictator of the Soviet Union; and his policies of forced collectivization of both agriculture and industry was part of the problem. Although almost a quarter of the Ukrainian population died in those 2 years, 1932 and 1933, their tragedy remained unknown to the rest of the world for almost 60 years.

Joseph Stalin's collectivization policy to finance Soviet industrialization had a disastrous effect on agricultural productivity. In fact, between the First World War and the Second World War productivity in agriculture doubled, but not with the industrialization and the collectivization. The Northern Caucasus and the Lower Volga River area were part of that famine that occurred.

Without regard for the negative consequences of this policy, Stalin raised Ukraine's grain quotas by 44 percent. Because Soviet law required that the government's grain quota be filled before no other food distribution, peasants were effectively starved to death. Stalin enforced this law absolutely mercilessly. Those who refused to give up their grain were executed or deported. The death toll from the famine is estimated to be 6 to 7 million people. That is quite a bit when Stalin, the dictator, had killed about 25 million in his own country.

Yet, despite this atrocity, Ukrainians still struggled to restore their independence and freedom. There is no doubt that when Ukraine declared its independence on August 24, 1991, it vindicated the deaths of so many Ukrainians during the famine.

Madam Speaker, during the difficult time in our own country, it is important to recognize the courage of other peoples and other generations in the long struggle for freedom. It is equally important that we build on this example by teaching compassion to our young people and reinforcing our resolve to prevail over evil.

We must never forget that many innocent lives have been taken to undermine our commitment to the ideals of freedom and democracy. With this commemoration, we honor the memory of Ukrainians whose lives were lost in the struggle to gain independence; and we renew our commitment to justice for all.

In this week, Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko will be here, and I hope many Members in the House would have an opportunity to meet the new Prime Minister and its former pro-market reform. We hope that never again on Russia at all or Ukraine should such brutal murders and such wrong groups take place.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.