

the Chattahoochee were under particular strain, because of the explosive growth the city of Atlanta and the north metro area had been experiencing.

At this time I would like to not only acknowledge Shirley for her foresight and dedication to the community and environmental issues, but also recognize her for the dauntless leadership and incredible humility she shows to the citizens she serves. It is true leaders like Shirley Lasseter who are the real secret to solving local and state issues. Please join me in congratulating Shirley Lasseter for the accomplishments she has already achieved, and the goals I am certain she will realize in years to come.

CHINA'S LONG-RANGE MISSILE PROGRAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, on several occasions I have addressed this House on the matter of National Security and the threat to it posed by China's aggressive arms buildup. Particularly, with regard to China's long-range missile program, America's vulnerability is growing, not shrinking.

While I applaud the leadership of our President to advance a national missile defense program, Congress must rely upon complete, accurate, and candid assessments of the threat posed by China, or any other nation. Without such candid assessments, Americans are burdened by excessive risk.

I hereby submit for the RECORD, a letter I have today posted to Mr. George Tenet, who heads America's Central Intelligence Agency. I urge each of our colleagues to review this letter and respond to its contents or reinforce its sentiments to the Director, and to the President.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully submit the following for the RECORD.

DEAR MR. TENET: Last month, your agency produced the assessment of China's ballistic missile threat to the United States in the unclassified summary of the January 2002 National Intelligence Estimate "Foreign Missile Developments and the Ballistic Missile Threat Through 2015." The lack of attention to the pronounced and growing danger caused by China's ballistic missile buildup, and its aggressive strategy for using its ballistic missiles cannot go unchallenged. The report is misleading, and, because it understates the magnitude of threat, is profoundly dangerous.

Perhaps the unclassified National Intelligence Estimate was meant to conceal from foreign eyes what the CIA really thinks or knows. But this government has a duty to defend the lives and freedom of its citizens. A large part of that defense is informing the American people of the threats they face rather than downplaying, for example, China's ballistic missile and military buildup.

In this regard, I protest the inferior quality and lack of information compared to Department of Defense reports such as the Soviet Military Power series initiated by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger in the 1980's, which addressed the Soviet military threat in detail, providing numbers of missile, bombers, and warheads, and location of forces.

Your report is an issue because China has focused on a buildup of ballistic missiles to defeat the United States. In addition to its ballistic missile and information warfare buildup, you yourself have noted the threat posed by China's growing anti-satellite capabilities. China is engaged in economic and surrogate terrorism, and diplomatic initiatives using its mouth to promise friendship while preparing for war. America needs to be informed and warned.

Without adequate intelligence about the ballistic missile threat, or the courage to act on the intelligence it has, the United States will not be able to defend itself. President Bush's proposed defense budget understates the need to accelerate ballistic missile defense programs, and emphasizes a poor design for a ballistic missile defense using groundbased defenses over space-based defenses that can provide boost phase interception, global coverage, and multiple opportunities for interception.

One point is how China's program for multiple reentry vehicles for its road-mobile ICBMs and SLBMs is "encountering significant technical hurdles and would be costly," giving an impression that China may not develop a MIRV capability, at least in the near future.

In contrast, in 1999 defense analyst Richard D. Fisher, Jr., could convincingly write, "Both the DF-31 and DF-41 ICBMs are expected to incorporate multiple independently targeted reentry vehicle (MIRV) warheads." Fisher further noted China has been suspected of trying to develop MIRVs for years, and that in 1998 Air Force General Eugene Harbinger said China is developing MIRVs for its ICBMs. One would suspect that China would have made some progress since Fisher's analysis in 1999, especially given technological assistance from the United States and Russia. In January 2002 Fisher noted the CIA report appeared to be too low in its estimates of China's threat.

On the issue of MIRVs, the report appears to understate how China's spy and intelligence gathering program, highlighted by the 1999 Congressional Cox Committee report, was focused on obtaining information on U.S. nuclear warheads and ballistic missile technology, which makes extensive use of MIRVs. In addition to U.S. missile, nuclear warhead, and satellite technology that could be used for MIRVs, China has obtained considerable technological help from Russia. China is one of Russia's largest arms customers and has signed a strategic partnership with it. Russia has perfected the technology for multiple warheads in its advanced rail and road-mobile ICBMs—the SS-24 and SS-27 Topol-M, and reportedly transferred to China SS-18 technology that would presumably include MIRV technology as the SS-18 was designed to carry 10 nuclear warheads, and could be fitted with even more.

Of surprise is the CIA statement that "China could begin deploying the DF-31 ICBM during the first half of the decade." In contrast to the uncertainties contained in the CIA report, in May 2001 Taipei Times defense reporter Brian Hsu noted China has built two bases for housing the DF-31 and plans to build more. It would be very reasonable to assume that these bases house DF-31s. In addition, according to a story by Washington Times reporter Bill Gertz, China was expected to obtain an operational capability for the DF-31 by the end of 2001, before the release of the CIA report.

If China's deployment of the DF-31 ICBM follows its pattern of deploying short-range road-mobile ballistic missiles over a number of bases as it has done with its ballistic missile buildup aimed at Taiwan, the United States should expect China to deploy the DF-31 over more than two bases to blunt the

effect of any potential counterattacks or preemptive strikes.

The CIA report, rather than telling the American people how China is taking steps to deploy the DF-31 and apparently has achieved an operational capability, is content to word its analysis as a possibility. In addition, it overlooks why China is building the DF-31—its ballistic missile strategy.

The Taipei Times noted that China's buildup of the DF-31 is part of its "Long Wall Project" that "is aimed at the US, not Taiwan," and said that "The Chinese military leadership plans to put longer-range ballistic missiles in the southeastern provinces so that they can cover US military targets in the Pacific."

The CIA report, moreover, appears remiss with respect to China's buildup of intermediate-range ballistic missiles such as the DF-21-X and DF-25, which can attack U.S. forces and bases in the Far East and Pacific. The report also projects that by 2005 China will have a force of short-range ballistic missiles that will number "several hundred missiles." Yet, throughout 2000 and 2001 China was reported as having massed 300-350 short-range ballistic missiles against Taiwan in a number of news accounts, and increased production to more than 50 per year. China already has an arsenal exceeding "several hundred missiles."

China's view on using its long-range ballistic missiles is very aggressive. It does not believe in a "balance of power" dictated by equal numbers of missiles or nuclear warheads. Rather, according to one Chinese analyst, China believes that "It is not necessary for China to seek a nuclear balance with the US. If we have the capacity to launch a nuclear counterattack, there will be no difference between 10 and 10,000 nuclear warheads." This same view appeared in an August 1999 planning document of China's Central Military Commission headed by President Jiang Zemin.

In May 2000, the late Congressman Floyd Spence, quoting the Liberation Army Daily, noted that China "is a country that has certain abilities of launching a strategic counterattack and the capacity of launching a long-distance strike . . . It is not a wise move to be at war with a country such as China, a point which the U.S. policymakers know fairly well also." In 1995 PLA General Xiong Guangkai issued a similar threat.

China has used its ballistic missiles to intimidate, seen in its launch of ballistic missiles off Taiwan in 1995 and 1996. While the diplomatic failure which occurred resulted in the tempering of its diplomacy, the fact that China has changed its diplomatic tactics toward Taiwan and the United States should not obscure its strategy for using its ballistic missiles for aggression. China's words of friendship are a mask for its ballistic missile and military buildup.

Americans should be concerned with its defense. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 showed what can happen with a lack of vigilance. The United States needs to realize that China is engaged in a military and ballistic missile buildup pointed at Americans. We must take the necessary steps to defend our citizens, and we should build a space-based ballistic missile defense. We must have better information about China's ballistic missile threat. Regrettably, your report on this matter is insufficient.

Very truly yours,

BOB SCHAFFER,

Member of Congress from Colorado.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP FAILS AGAIN TO ASSIST LONGTERM UNEMPLOYED

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to believe that once again, the House of Representatives is leaving Washington without passing an Unemployment Assistance extension bill that could be in effect by the time we return next Tuesday.

The Senate has passed the extension bill several times. But the House Republican leadership refuses to take that bill and send it to the President for signature—unless it is loaded up with unjustified and very detrimental tax cuts for the most affluent Americans and corporations., a bill that the Wall Street Journal declared “mainly padded corporate bottom lines.”

And so, once again, Congress leaves Washington without doing its job for the men and women who send us here to represent them and whose taxes pay our salaries.

That may not be very important to our Republican leaders who run this House. But it surely is important to the 378,000 working men and women who filed new unemployment claims last week who wonder if extended benefits will be there for them when their meager weeks run out, as they have for over 1 million Americans between September 11 and December 31, 2001 and 11,000 more every day of this year!

When we left Washington without passing extended benefits for the President's Day recess, over a quarter million Americans lost their unemployment benefits. By the time we return next week after being gone for nearly five full days, another 55,000 left high and dry by this Congress and by the Republican leadership that uses them, and their suffering, as leverage for fat cat tax breaks.

Mr. Speaker, where is the compassion of the Republican leadership? Why can we not have a straight up-or-down vote on the Senate's bill to extend unemployment benefits as we have been urged to do by 9 Nobel laureates who say these benefits are the quickest and surest stimulus we could enact? Let's stop the political gamesmanship, get the assistance to the men and women who paid for it with their labor, and then we can continue the debate over tax cuts for the wealthy.

ON THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF HADASSAH

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, in 1912, Henrietta Szold founded the Daughters of Zion, an organization to meet the health needs of Jews and Arabs in what is now the modern State of Israel. Soon renamed Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, it has grown to be not only the largest Jewish organization in America, but also the largest women's organization. I rise today to pay tribute to Hadassah and all of the wonderful accomplishments of its ninety-year history.

Today, Henrietta Szold's vision lives on. With more than 300,000 members and 1,500 chapters across the country, Hadassah is stronger than ever. While best known for the Hadassah Medical Organization, which is synonymous with expert medical care, Hadassah has expanded its services greatly to help so many people across the globe.

From preventing the spread of AIDS in Africa to helping at-risk teens in Russia, Ethiopia and Israel, the women of Hadassah continue to serve the world community in addition to helping American teens develop their Jewish spiritual identity.

The great accomplishments of Hadassah were recognized last year when Hadassah gained special consultative status as a non-governmental organization with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. This enables Hadassah to participate more fully in international deliberations over medical research and treatment, immigrant absorption, refugee welfare and the status of women and children—all the areas in which Hadassah has earned its reputation for expertise.

I congratulate the Women of Hadassah for reaching this milestone, and I commend them for their many wonderful accomplishments during the past ninety years.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARDS

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize five outstanding young women from Illinois' 8th District. Sarah Desprat, Kristen Rusek, Katherine Swanson, Julie Zielinski and Shauna Marie Zivin all will receive the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouting.

Only 6 percent of Girl Scouts nationwide receive this award. According to the Girl Scouts, the requirements for the Gold Award include efficient organization, time management, and leadership skills resulting in a 50-hour community service project.

I am glad to see the hard work, dedication and commitment of these Girl Scouts are being recognized with this honor. I am proud to represent such fine young women and pass along my congratulations.

CONGRATULATING TEMPLE BETH EL OF SAN MATEO ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to congratulate Temple Beth El of San Mateo California, in my Congressional district, on the 50th anniversary of its founding.

In 1950 the San Francisco peninsula was experiencing an extraordinary growth spurt. Young families were reunited with soldiers returning from the war and began purchase homes with their G.I. loans. This resulted in the rapid growth of the Bay Area. One result

of this growth was that public facilities could not meet the demand of the population explosion, and schools were required to have double session to accommodate all the new children. At the time there was only one Jewish institution housed in its own building on the Peninsula at a small synagogue in Menlo Park. Although members of the Congregations Sherith Israel and Temple Emanu-El were co-sponsoring a religious school for their children, the schooling took place at a Seventh Day Adventist Church, because the congregations did not have the necessary building space for a religious school.

In order to accommodate their expanding numbers concerned parents met on a Monday evening in October of 1950, calling themselves the “Board of Directors of the Peninsula Temple Congregation.” Their focus that evening was to create a facility for Jewish learning and worship on the peninsula. From that first night, it was obvious that this group of dedicated individuals would be a success. They elected officers, organized themselves and took the first steps towards their exciting journey that very first night. Soon they had hired a Rabbi and chose a name; Peninsula Temple Beth El.

Mr. Speaker, over its fifty years Temple Beth El has grown from a few families to a congregation made up of over 700 families numbering more than 3,000 people. Their religious school has become a model of programming followed by other congregations in California and the rest of the country. Today over 600 children receive a quality Jewish education in Beth El's religious school. Two years ago the Gannon Day Care center was named the number one child-care facility on the Peninsula.

In addition to providing excellent religious institutions for their children, the members of Temple Beth El sponsor numerous programs aimed at enriching the spiritual lives of adult members. They were one of the first congregations in California to establish a Havurah—a traditional Jewish prayer group. Members of Temple Beth El are also actively fulfilling their obligations to be involved in social justice. From preparing food for the homeless at the Samaritan House in San Mateo, to collecting donations for numerous charities, serving as tutors for literacy programs in public schools, the members of Temple Beth El are extraordinary examples of selflessness and giving back to their community.

Mr. Speaker, after fifty years Temple Beth of San Mateo remains a vigorous, exciting and expanding congregation. Despite its growth it has remained committed to the core goal—to provide a place for Jewish worship and Jewish education and to nurture Jewish Life on the Peninsula. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in commending Temple Beth El of San Mateo on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary, and wish its members continued success for the future.

OPENING OF SLOVAK CONSULATE IN MIAMI FLORIDA AND 50TH AN- NIVERSARY OF SLOVAK GARDEN

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the official opening in Miami, Florida of