

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MR. CHRISTEPHER ROMERO, A PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD WINNER

### HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a young Arizona student from my district who has achieved national recognition for outstanding volunteer service in his community. Mr. Christopher Romero of Phoenix has just been named one of my state's top honorees in the 2003 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Christopher, a junior at Sunnysdale High School in Phoenix is being recognized for having developed a program to help keep at-risk teens in an inner-city neighborhood away from crime and drugs. Being raised by a mother who struggled with a drug and alcohol addiction, he was recruited by a neighborhood gang. He was later adopted and given the opportunity to turn his life around. As a way to honor his adoptive parents for helping him become a better person he decided to put together a program that would help at-risk teens. He approached a police officer working at his former school, and became a volunteer mentor. Christopher soon began to put together activities such as swimming and soccer, CPR and nutrition classes, and organizing neighborhood clean-ups. He also has encouraged kids to get involved in fundraising activities to help pay for annual theme park trips.

Christopher should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud him for his initiative in seeking to make a positive impact on the lives of others. He has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. His actions show that young Americans can play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I was not recorded on rollcall votes 146, 147, and 148. I was unavoidably detained and was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 146, 147, and 148.

AUTHORIZING PRINTING OF BROCHURES ENTITLED "HOW OUR LAWS ARE MADE" AND "OUR AMERICAN GOVERNMENT," THE PUBLICATION ENTITLED "OUR FLAG," THE DOCUMENT-SIZED ANNOTATED VERSION OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, AND THE POCKET VERSION OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

SPEECH OF

### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2003*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank Chairman NEY and Rep. LARSON for their appreciation of need to help Americans understand their most basic rights under this government.

One of the most popular House publications among my constituents is the pocket-size Constitution of the United States. Nothing is more important to this nation than the fundamental ideas set forth in this grand document that lays out our government, our rights and our responsibilities. Yet, time and time again, it appears that the citizens of this great nation are fundamentally unaware of those rights and responsibilities as established in the Constitution.

For instance, in May 2002, a Columbia Law School nationwide survey found that a shocking number of voting age Americans have serious misconceptions about the Constitution. The survey included a question revealing that two-thirds of Americans did not know that Karl Marx' foundation of Communism ("From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.") was NOT included in the United States Constitution.

This government has gone some distance in trying to teach young people the importance of education and civics as they relate to our history and our Constitution. Last year, President Bush launched "We the People," an initiative to encourage the education of United States history. Last fall, the House of Representatives passed a resolution recognizing the importance of history and civics in a child's curriculum.

So far, however, the best instrument I have seen to teach children about the Constitution is a book called Constitution Translated for Kids. For those who want their children to understand our birthright as Americans—as laid out in the Constitution—this book is an excellent resource to see precisely what the Constitution says, at a fifth-grade level.

Constitution Translated for Kids features the actual 1787 text of the United States Constitution on the left-hand side of the page and the translation appears on the right side in the first ever side-by-side, simple translation of the short, yet most supreme, legal and political document of the United States. The book also offers historical context and student exercises

that approximate the decisions made in the name of democracy.

Democracy demands that citizens be informed. Understanding our history will make tomorrow's citizens more aware of their government and their rights. I thank the House Administration Committee today for bringing this resolution to the floor; and I urge my colleagues to continue our outreach to young people in order to make them aware of what the Constitution says and what that means in our daily lives.

KAZAKHSTAN

### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, today, when our country faces unprecedented challenges, it is crucial that we have strong allies in the world. One such ally is Kazakhstan, a country that throughout its short history of independence has demonstrated a true commitment to our principles and ideals of building a safe and prosperous world.

Against the backdrop of modern threats of catastrophic terrorism with the use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), Kazakhstan has voluntarily renounced the world's fourth largest nuclear arsenal it inherited from the former Soviet Union, has shut down the world's largest nuclear test site and has been actively working with the United States in the fight against international terrorism.

Kazakhstan's example can be used as a response to aspirations by rogue states to develop WMD to impose their interests in the world. This is why I believe we need to actively spread the story of Kazakhstan's responsible international conduct and its strong cooperation with the United States that is of exceptional significance to settle today's most critical international problems.

As a key state for our interests in the center of Eurasia, Kazakhstan was one of the first to support us in the tragic days after September 11 and is providing concrete assistance in the Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Kazakhstan, sharing our interest in securing stability in Iraq and its surroundings after Operation Iraqi Freedom, is also sending its military medical personnel to join the International Coalition Stabilizing Force.

Now is the time, I believe, for us to develop multifaceted cooperation with Kazakhstan, a strategic partner of the United States in the fight against terrorism and proliferation of WMD. Now is the time to support this young and perspective country of pro-Western orientation in its serious efforts to build a developed and prosperous society. Such a course will undoubtedly meet the interests of our two nations.

On May 5, 2003, the Honorable Kanat Saudabayev, Ambassador of Kazakhstan, published an article in the Washington Times

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

entitled "Kazakhstan's contribution" in which he addressed these issues in a most persuasive manner. I call upon my colleagues to read this article and request your permission to include it in the U.S. CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

KAZAKHSTAN'S CONTRIBUTION

U.S. SHOULD STRENGTHEN COOPERATION EFFORTS

(By Kanat Saudabayev)

Although the recent PBS screening of "Avoiding Armageddon" did mention Kazakhstan as a country that chose to rid itself of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), it was disappointing that Americans were not fully informed of what was behind that choice and what it means for global security.

Kazakhstan's "notable example" of disarmament, as the White House recently described it, could be used as a counterweight to aspirations of some countries to develop WMD as means to assert their interests in the world. I strongly believe that Kazakhstan's story of responsible international behavior and strong cooperation with the U.S. is of paramount importance, as it might lead to solutions to today's most acute international problems.

In 1991, having suffered through almost 500 Soviet nuclear tests that destroyed the lives of 1.5 million people, Kazakhstan voluntarily renounced what would have been the world's 4th nuclear arsenal and shut down the world's largest nuclear test site at Semipalatinsk. Together with the United States, we have since destroyed the remaining infrastructure of the loathsome legacy of the Cold War. Amongst the most graphic examples of our cooperation under the Nunn-Lugar program have been Project Sapphire, which shipped more than 1,300 pounds of weapons-grade uranium from Kazakhstan to the U.S., and the destruction of the world's largest anthrax production and weaponization facility at Stepnogorsk.

The path of history could have been different, however, had President Nursultan Nazarbayev chosen to go with the significant portion of Kazakhstan's elite that was in favor of keeping the nuclear weapons as means to ostensibly gain international respect.

To the contrary, it was Mr. Nazarbayev's unwavering commitment to disarmament during all these years that led Kazakhstan to renounce the nuclear weapons, becoming a strong disarmament advocate, and ultimately, gaining the recognition as a peace-loving nation.

Indeed, it is our policies that enabled Kazakhstan to launch a new security organization for Asia with the participation of the leaders of 16 nations. At its inaugural meeting in Almaty in June 2002, we hosted the presidents of China, Russia, Pakistan and Afghanistan, and the prime minister of India and others. At the height of a crisis between New Delhi and Islamabad, their leaders sat at one table and were able to directly listen to each other. This event became Kazakhstan's important contribution to the reduction of tensions between the two nuclear powers of the subcontinent.

"Countries like Kazakhstan that have renounced nuclear weapons for all time provide an example and can provide valuable leadership on these issues," former Sen. Sam Nunn said this month at a Washington conference. "One of the things I hope we can do is pay some real attention, and put in a leadership role, to countries that have given up nuclear weapons."

I couldn't agree more. We believe our example should become international public knowledge and a factor in dealing with threshold countries.

Though our disarmament might seem something of the distant past, it also relates directly to present challenges to global security.

We still need to take care of what Mr. Nunn calls the human factor. As we moved to disarm and destroy the military infrastructure, scores of experienced nuclear scientists and biological specialists and their families, were left lingering in ghost towns with neither proper jobs nor means to live. They can be instrumental in commercial projects of conversion in such areas as the peaceful use of atomic energy and biotechnologies. The help from the United States will not only give them an opportunity to peacefully apply their skills, but will also strengthen our joint counterproliferation efforts at a time when numerous countries and terrorist groups continue to seek WMD.

Our cooperation with the United States in nonproliferation and fighting terrorism has served as a strong foundation for our relations, dubbed "strategic partnership" by Presidents Nursultan Nazarbayev and George Bush.

The people of Kazakhstan were outraged by the horrific attacks of September 11, and we have worked closely with the United States in bringing peace and stability to Afghanistan. As of now, more than 1,000 coalition aircraft have flown over Kazakhstan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. We have provided our major airport for the use by U.S. Air Force, and significantly expanded the cooperation between our armed forces and intelligence services.

We have supported the American-led efforts to disarm Saddam Hussein, who failed to present clear evidence of the disarmament of Iraq and hence bore the full responsibility for the military action. Today, we stand united in bringing stability to that country and the region.

It is crucial then that in this fragile time, policy-makers and people of both Kazakhstan and the United States make strong efforts to support our cooperation further. This will bode well with the long-term interests of both nations and will help us build a safer and more prosperous world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Chairman, unfortunately I missed the votes on H.R. 1596 the "Timothy Michael Gaffney Post Office Building Designation Act," H.R. 1625 the "Robert P. Hammer Post Office Building Designation Act," and H.R. 1740 the "Dr. Caesar A.W. Clark, Sr. Post Office Building Designation Act." Had I been present, I would have voted for these bills.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WALLACE H. LEIPER

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Wallace H. Leiper and the United States Merchant Marines for their great services to this Nation.

Mr. Leiper donated his model of the Liberty ship *SS Zebulon Pike* to the United States

Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York and sadly, he passed away the very day it arrived. He is a graduate of the Academy, the original "Pike" was his first ship and he served on several others in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans during World War II. The model is Mr. Leiper's labor of love and is intended to symbolize the contributions of all ships and seamen of the United States Merchant Marine as mandated by the Merchant Marine Act of 1936. It should also be noted that the Merchant Marines continue to deliver support to our Armed Forces for recovery efforts in Iraq as well as food for starving nations.

May 22nd is National Maritime Day and this year, two plaques honoring Mr. Leiper will be unveiled at the Academy.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to honor Mr. Leiper and all the men and women of the United States Merchant Marine who serve our country both in peace and in war.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALLEN BOYD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I was not recorded on rollcall votes 155, 156, 157 and 158. I was unavoidably detained and was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 155, 156, and 158. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 157.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my district, I was unable to vote during four rollcall votes. Had I been present I would have voted as follows: No. 155—"yes"; No. 156—"no"; No. 157—"yes"; and No. 185—"yes".

FCC

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today concerning the Federal Communications Commission's, FCC, pending Triennial Review proceedings with respect to its potential effects on the health of the telecommunications industry.

There is no question that this sector is experiencing a decline in business and investment. Since the year 2000, more than 600,000 telecommunications-related jobs have been lost. Telephone companies have significantly reduced their capital spending. In fact, incumbent local telephone companies are hesitant to invest in broadband deployment due to regulatory uncertainty. With the lack of new infrastructure, equipment suppliers suffer, as do service providers and their employees, further stunting research and development. Ultimately, this slows consumer spending and demands for telecommunications services.