

While the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) inspects these overseas plants when built to certify their products, there is little supervision later.

Ireland is a favorite location and Singapore is getting new plants. This overseas production of drugs was \$40.7 billion in 2002, a five-fold increase from 1995. The impact has given us a negative balance of trade in that field.

Pfizer Inc. and Eli Lilly & Co. enjoy huge profit margins compared with other U.S. firms. Pfizer's was 28.4 percent profit in 2002 while Eli Lilly was at 24.4 percent.

Pfizer reported \$9.1 billion in profits on \$32.4 billion, a return of 28 percent and a rate more than twice that of General Electric, nine times that of Wal-Mart and 31 times that of General Motors.

Our U.S. sales of prescription drugs is the highest in the world at \$654 per person with an average life expectancy of 77 years. Japan is second at \$421 with a life expectancy of 81 years.

Americans pay on an average 40 percent more for their prescription drugs than do Canadians. And it has been ruled illegal for us to import them from Canada. Drug companies have threatened to cut off supplies to Canadian drug stores that sell to Americans.

Despite all this, the cities of Montgomery, Ala., and Springfield, Mass., have negotiated with Canadian sources. Montgomery alone is saving \$34,000 a month with its contract.

Members of Congress, the FDA and all the rest who are in bed with the pharmaceutical industry who use the excuse of safety regarding Canadian drugs are just blowing hot air. So far there have been no reported incidents of any problem. In the U.S., 50,000 to 100,000 people die annually as a result of adverse reactions from FDA-approved drugs.

Drug companies like to talk about the cost of developing new drugs. A report of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress in 2000 dispels some of that. It found that the federal government, mainly through the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute and other public agencies funds about 36 percent of all U.S. medical research. Of the 21 most important drugs introduced between 1965 and 2002, a total of 15 was developed using knowledge and techniques from federally funded research.

Best current figure we could locate indicates \$2.5 billion was spent by the drug industry on advertising in 2001.

There is absolutely no real effort by the President or Congress to take an honest look at the high cost of prescription drugs. We believe in the capitalistic system but not in those extreme profiteers whose huge profit is at the cost of our health. Canada does a good job of regulating prices and would be a good example to follow.

Regulations always take away a little freedom from some segment of the economy but the government has seen fit to regulate the broadcast industry, the airline industry, interstate commerce and through taxes numerous other aspects of the economy. It is time to do something about runaway prescription drug prices.

There is a Republican president, a Republican Congress and this problem lies largely on their shoulders, election or not!

ARTICLE BY RABBI ISRAEL
ZOBERMAN

HON. EDWARD L. SCHROCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. SCHROCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share the following article written by a constituent, Rabbi Israel Zoberman.

The recent bus #19 suicide bombing in the heart of Jerusalem with its heavy toll found me in Israel's capital during a solidarity mission of my Reform Jewish movement.

I passed by that doomed site, near another past one, only hours before the latest of incredible serial terrorist attacks in the three and a half years of the bloody Second Intifada. Once again violating Jerusalem where Biblical Abraham proclaimed the sanctity of human life in the midst of a paganism now being resurrected by its contemporary messengers of death who should not be allowed by the civilized world to reverse Abraham's victory. Let what just ghastly happened, newly available on Israel's Foreign Ministry website for a reality check not become an added statistic!

Upon arriving in my parents' home in Haifa on that hellish day, I found them anxious, even panicky, already having called hospitals in Jerusalem looking for me . . . I thus experienced a bit the anguish encountered by Israelis, without parallel, with Holocaust survivors like my parents whose constant exposure to trauma may reawaken repressed carnage images.

The timing of the deadly Palestinian violence with both Arafat's forces and Hamas competing to claim responsibility, purposefully coincided with exchanging only four Israelis, three of them in coffins, and promised information on the fate of Israeli navigator Ron Arad, captured 17 years ago, in return for hundreds of Hizballah terrorists. Of the three killed Israeli soldiers, Benny Avraham, Adi Avitan and Omar Suad, whose fate was cynically manipulated by the Hizballah to inflict pain upon their families, the first one was connected to Tidewater Jewry through a joint communal program.

Israel has proved again, with Prime Minister Sharon's guiding input, that for humanitarian values' sake, sorely lacking by its enemy, it is willing to pay a high price though it might be interpreted as a weakness. Is it any wonder that without a credible peace partner and unwilling to respond in kind, Israel is forced to erect a costly security separation fence to save innocent lives? The fence, which our group observed for miles, is not necessarily permanent and can be adjusted. Some resulted Palestinian hardship has to be weighed against penetrating terror. It is the least Israel can do in face of relentless terrorism, experienced by the United States' heroic troops in Iraq as well, while questionably restraining itself to the very limits from using its superior military power. A state's obligation for self-defense is no less incumbent upon Israel whose national morale and very way of life are threatened. In spite of Sharon's uncharacteristic dovishness, at the moving state welcoming ceremony for the fallen soldiers he referred to unspecified options in Israel's arsenal. His announced intent, tantamount to an earthquake, to unilaterally withdraw from the Gaza Strip reflects Sharon's commitment to peace even in the face of painful sacrifices, opposition within his own political camp, expected resistance, and increased threats on his life. Will the Palestinian Authority finally respond by halting terror in compliance of President Bush's Roadmap?

General Shlomo Gazit, former director of Military Intelligence and fellow at the Jaffe Strategic Center at Tel Aviv University, who addressed us, justified the fence as a security need, refusing to call it a wall. He urges economic and demographic separation from the West Bank to safeguard Israel as a Jewish and democratic entity. Both the reserve General and former Minister Michael Melchior who serves in Israel's parliament as chair of Diaspora Affairs, view the American war in Iraq to have a transforming impact on the

unstable Middle East, sending a clear moderating message to the Arabs. Gazit was optimistic that the ultimate resolution of Israeli-Palestinian conflict has begun. He and Melchior stressed building bridges to Israel's own Arab minority, attending to its special needs with the hope to draw the two essential partners closer. Otherwise Israel's security is at risk.

I watched Jewish kids purchase with their moms costumes for the joyous Purim holiday and Arab families celebrating the Eid. For the sake of their inevitable shared future and that of their own children, may these parents find a way to each other's hearts. Perhaps, Israeli Arabs will yet be a bridge of shalom to the larger Arab world.

Rabbi Israel Zoberman, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, was born in Kazakhstan and grew up in Haifa, Israel.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RECOMMENDING RECONSIDERATION OF FUTURE SERVICING MISSIONS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution recognizing the accomplishments of the Hubble Space Telescope and recommending reconsideration of future servicing mission to Hubble. I am very pleased that a number of my colleagues are joining me as original cosponsors of this bill—including Representatives BARTLETT, HOYER, McDERMOTT, AKIN, GORDON, LAMPSON, and RUPPERSBERGER.

I wish this resolution weren't necessary. I am introducing it in response to NASA's decision made in mid-January to cancel all future space shuttle missions to the Hubble Space Telescope, including SM-4, the next flight that would have installed the new Cosmic Origins Spectrograph and the Wide Field Camera 3 instruments—both largely completed at a cost of about \$200 million. Installation of these instruments would have provided over a factor of ten improvement in Hubble's imaging and spectroscopy, and in addition to replacement gyros and batteries, would make Hubble's final years its most scientifically capable and productive. If SM-4 goes forward, Hubble will continue to operate until 2012. Without the mission, Hubble will likely die in orbit sometime in 2007.

My goal in introducing this resolution is simple—I want to call attention to the Hubble Space Telescope's contributions to scientific research and education and ensure that any decision affecting its future is made carefully and seriously and for the right reasons. Precisely because of Hubble's extraordinary contributions in the past and promised contributions in the future, I also believe that the decision to cancel the planned servicing mission to Hubble should be considered by an independent panel of experts.

Finally, I want to try to ensure that the planning for the servicing mission continues at least until the panel comes up with its recommendations and until NASA provides a timetable of compliance with recommendations of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board

report, since NASA's compliance will allow both a Hubble servicing mission and a mission to the International Space Station to be carried out safely. Since NASA Administrator O'Keefe cited safety concerns as the main reason for the cancellation of the mission, it seems to me that NASA must state how and when it plans to comply with the CAIB recommendations. Once the shuttles are deemed safe enough to fly, a trip to Hubble will be as safe as a trip to the Station. Indeed, there are some who argue that the Hubble mission will be the safer of the two.

Hubble's scientific contributions continue to amaze us all, year in and year out. A few weeks ago Hubble detected oxygen and carbon in the atmosphere of a distant planet, the first time the elements have been found at a world outside our solar system. Hubble also contributed to the finding of new evidence about recently discovered "dark energy." Hubble measured properties of light from 16 exploding stars, or supernovas, to find that the dark energy that pervades the universe might be what Einstein originally called the "cosmological constant." This discovery supports the theory that instead of ripping apart, the cosmos will continue expanding very slowly for at least the next 30 billion years.

These are just recent discoveries. Hubble remains one of the most productive scientific instruments in history, and certainly NASA's most productive scientific mission, accounting for 35 percent of all its discoveries in the last 20 years. The Hubble has provided proof of black holes, insights into the birth and death of stars, spectacular views of Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9's collision with Jupiter, the age of the universe, and evidence that the expansion of the universe is accelerating.

So to me—and to so many others who have voiced their opposition to NASA's decision—it seems as though canceling the mission is premature at best.

I would rather not cynically believe, as some do, that the Hubble is being abandoned primarily to enable the president's Moon-Mars initiative to get underway. But there doesn't seem to be any other explanation that makes sense.

I have long believed that NASA needs a new vision for the future—but before this Congress and future Congresses commit to the president's expensive plan, NASA must first generate broad public support and scientific backing for it. Today, as the general public and the scientific community alike call for Hubble to be saved, NASA risks undermining its efforts to sell its Moon-Mars initiative to the public—not an auspicious beginning for a vision that will require billions and decades to complete.

I have attached a February 29 editorial from the New York Times calling for the administration to reconsider its decision. The final paragraph concludes, "The gains from extending Hubble's life are real and achievable and should not be sacrificed for a distant exploration program that for now is mostly wishful thinking and can surely be delayed a bit."

The gains from extending Hubble's life are indeed real and achievable. In addition to its past and potentially future scientific discoveries, Hubble provides information used by approximately one million teachers per year across the U.S. The demand for research time on the telescope far exceeds the time available. The scientific imagery and data Hubble

provides is integral to the work of researchers in universities across the country and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution will be welcomed by school children, scientists, and interested citizens around the world who understand that Hubble is a national treasure that we should not prematurely condemn to death. I look forward to working with Members of the House, including my colleagues on the Science Committee, to move forward with this important initiative.

[From the New York Times, Feb. 29, 2004]

PREMATURE DEATH FOR THE HUBBLE

By all accounts the Hubble Space Telescope is one of the most productive scientific instruments in history. Orbiting high above the distorting effects of Earth's atmosphere, it has peered far out into space and back toward the beginnings of time, producing images of startling clarity. It has detected extremely faint objects that can't be seen from the Earth, calibrated the age and expansion rate of the universe, detected supermassive black holes in the cores of galaxies and generally helped revolutionize our understanding of the universe. A distinguished panel of astronomers judged that Hubble "has arguably had a greater impact on astronomy than any instrument since the original astronomical telescope of Galileo."

Yet now, just as Hubble was scheduled for a major rejuvenation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has consigned it to slow death. The agency has canceled a planned servicing mission that would have upgraded Hubble's instruments and extended its life past the end of the decade, making it likely that the telescope will run out of battery power and functioning gyroscopes by about 2007. Congress needs to prevent the premature loss of this valuable instrument.

Cancellation of the servicing mission is being justified on safety grounds, but that is not the whole story. Indeed, it looks as if Hubble is being sacrificed primarily to make way for President Bush's grand new plans to send astronauts to the Moon and Mars in future years. Once the shuttles are deemed safe enough to resume flying, probably early next year, a shuttle flight to Hubble will be no more risky—and possibly even less risky—than flights to the space station. The real safety issue comes up if something goes wrong. A shuttle near the station might find safe haven and help in repairs. A shuttle near Hubble could not.

Our guess is that with NASA on high alert after the Columbia tragedy, the next shuttle flights will be the safest ever. Astronauts are paid to take risks, and there would be no shortage of volunteers for a Hubble mission that seems no more risky than other flights and a lot more important scientifically.

The Bush administration argues that Hubble has passed its prime, that its uniqueness is diminishing, that advances in ground-based telescopes enable them to do some of Hubble's work and that future breakthroughs will require telescopes able to search in other wavelengths than those used by Hubble. There is a germ of truth in all those contentions, but a parade of experts have argued that Hubble, if serviced and updated, has years of great work ahead. There seems little doubt that the science still to be done on Hubble is far more important than anything likely to be accomplished on the space station.

The chief reason for Hubble's demise is almost certainly NASA's need to use its shuttles to finish building the space station by 2010 so that the shuttles can be retired and the money used for the president's Moon-

Mars exploration initiative. The agency will be lucky to complete the station on time even with all three remaining shuttles devoted to the task. Servicing the Hubble would be a diversion.

The administration essentially argues that the scientific returns from extending Hubble's life are not worth the risk and effort of a servicing flight. Our feeling is just the opposite. The gains from extending Hubble's life are real and achievable and should not be sacrificed for a distant exploration program that for now is mostly wishful thinking and can surely be delayed a bit.

TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY F. MALONEY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Timothy F. Maloney who is being honored as Hibernian of the Year. Tim is a partner with the Greenbelt, MD law firm of Joseph Greenwald & Laake, P.A. and is a former member of the Maryland House of Delegates.

He served in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1979 to 1995. When I was Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, I came to know and appreciate his many talents and abilities. As a legislator, he chaired subcommittees on higher education, transportation, public safety and capital budgets.

Tim stood out as a gifted legislator who had a great sense of humor. He was known for good fun practical jokes and on more than one occasion I was tempted to call out the Maryland State Police to hunt him down (no comparison to Texas intended). In recent years, he has put these talents to work as the Master of Ceremonies of the annual Hibernian Dinner. This year it is his turn to sit quietly at the head table as his life transgressions are revealed.

Despite certain behavior lapses, he was an extremely able and effective legislator. He was instrumental in the development and funding of numerous capital projects, including the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, the Prince George's County Courthouse, the Hyattsville Justice Center and the College Park Airport Museum. His colleagues in the General Assembly voted him as one of the three "most effective" members of the General Assembly in the WJLA-TV poll, although there is some question and poll tampering by the Maloney camp.

For the past 15 years, Mr. Maloney has been heavily involved in significant litigation and administrative matters. These include complex litigation in federal and state courts in the District of Columbia and Maryland, and a significant administrative practice before federal, state and local agencies. Surprisingly, he has never been a defendant. He is a member of the District and Maryland Bar, and also is admitted to practice before the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. He serves on the Rules Committee of the Maryland Court of Appeals, and frequently lectures to state and local bar organizations.

Mr. Maloney has worked tirelessly to improve our community and its many institutions. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the University of Maryland Foundation, the Administrative Board of the Maryland Catholic