

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

U.S. CIVILIAN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (CRDF) MARKS ITS FIRST DECADE OF CONTRIBUTING TO A SAFER WORLD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in marking the 10th anniversary of the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF). Established in 1995, the Foundation was created to employ in peaceful scientific pursuits scientists from the former Soviet Union.

The Congress adopted legislation in 1992 to create the CRDF to provide grants for joint scientific research between scientists from the countries of the former Soviet Union and the United States. The effort is to fund non-military research and development projects, to provide employment and advancement of science with scientists that otherwise might be forced to seek employment with rogue nations using their knowledge and experience with weapons of mass destruction and other military research in order to support their families. In 1995 the CRDF was formally established by the Director of the National Science Foundation. Since that time the organization has put former Soviet scientists to work on a myriad of peaceful projects that have contributed to a better life for people around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, the current Chair of the Board of CRDF is Gloria Duffy from the San Francisco Bay Area. In the Clinton Administration, Gloria was U.S. Special Coordinator for Cooperative Threat Reduction and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, and there she focused on preventing the spread of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons from the countries of the former Soviet Union.

After serving in the Department of Defense, Gloria became the President and CEO of the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, the nation's largest, oldest and most distinguished civic forum. Under Gloria's able direction, the Commonwealth Club organizes some 400 forums each year on public policy issues which are held in person, on radio and television, and on the Internet.

One of the best examples of exactly what CRDF does and of the creative talent that goes into its work is an article by Gloria Duffy that appeared in *The Commonwealth* (September 15, 2005), the publication of the Commonwealth Club. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the article, "Teeth Whitening and Terrorism," by Gloria Duffy be placed in the RECORD, and I urge all of my colleagues to read it.

[From the Commonwealth, Sept. 15, 2005]

TEETH WHITENING AND TERRORISM

(By Gloria C. Duffy)

Peter the Great began the long and distinguished history of Russian science in 1724, creating the Russian Academy of Sciences in

St. Petersburg to ensure that Russia kept pace with the rest of Europe in contributing to the scientific discoveries of the age. During the Cold War, the Soviet Union continued to pour funds into science. But under the Soviets, much of Russia's superb scientific training and research was turned to military purposes, to create nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The majority of scientists worked for the government.

When the Soviet Union disintegrated in 1991, the cash-strapped governments of the former Soviet states had little money to continue supporting the work of their chemists, physicists, geologists, mathematicians and biologists. So they abruptly cut the scientists' funding. This personal disaster for the scientists was also tragic for their societies, which could benefit so greatly from their contributions to medicine, industry and the quality of life.

Of particular concern to the international community: because of their work during the Cold War, hundreds of thousands of these scientists had critical knowledge of how to build weapons of mass destruction. In an era when terrorists and rogue countries are seeking nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, these legions of unemployed or underemployed scientists present a very real threat. One story from the early 1990s, perhaps apocryphal, tells of a plane load of Russian scientists stopped by authorities on the runway at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport, bound for Iran, or North Korea or Iraq.

Enter a Riverside, California, Congressman, George Brown, with a bright idea. An industrial physicist and chairman of the House Science Committee, in 1992 Brown wrote legislation creating the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF). Set up as a nonprofit, non-governmental organization by the U.S. National Science Foundation, CRDF would fund collaboration between the U.S. and former Soviet scientific communities, the two greatest scientific groups in the world, which had been cut off from one another during the Cold War. CRDF would help scientists in the FSU to continue their contributions to world scientific knowledge, and to create more prosperous economies in their region. The Foundation would employ former Soviet weapons scientists on civilian research projects, giving them an alternative to selling their knowledge to other countries or terrorist groups.

Congressman Brown died in 1999, but CRDF was born in 1995 and will celebrate its 10th anniversary in Washington, D.C. in October. In the past decade, the Foundation has raised and channeled \$249 million, in taxpayer dollars, private foundation and corporate funding, for joint scientific research. CRDF has run research competitions and given hundreds of grants for American-FSU research. It has provided travel grants for scientists from the 12 former Soviet states to attend conferences or visit colleagues in the United States, in many cases for the first time in their lives. CRDF has provided major scientific research equipment—spectrometers, lasers, electron microscopes—to consortia of researchers across Eurasia, who share use of the equipment.

CRDF has funded fellowships for young scientists at Russian universities and built a geodynamic research facility in Kyrgyzstan. It has refitted an oceanographic vessel, the

Professor Kaganovskiy, so teams of U.S. and Russian researchers can measure the health of the Arctic Ocean's Pollock fish population. CRDF has launched a collaborative research project on treatment of HIV/AIDS. It has funded joint research by an Ohio start-up company and a Russian institute on advanced cancer detection technology, and funded training of Russian hospital staffs in infection control to prevent the spread of tuberculosis. After 9/11, CRDF established a joint U.S.-Russian research project on defense against bioterrorism, tapping the considerable Russian knowledge growing from their longtime biological weapons program.

CRDF has done all of this with low overhead, and with matching funds from the governments in the former Soviet countries. And the Foundation has paired scientists with companies and investors to explore the commercial potential of the joint research, so that it will eventually help the economies of that region and beyond. Some CRDF research projects have produced commercially viable products, including an energy-saving cryogenic process for refrigerating produce during transport that is already in use in the United States. My personal favorite among these success stories is teeth whitening strips. Every time you see a TV ad for these, think about how the method for making these strips adhere to the teeth came from one of CRDF's U.S.-Russian research projects.

And with terrorists on the hunt for nuclear weapons, CRDF has recently broadened its geographical range to provide former weapons scientists in Iraq and Libya with productive civilian alternatives for their skills.

On October 18, Marta Brown, widow of the late congressman, will be in Washington to help CRDF mark its 10th birthday. Kudos to Congressman Brown for a great idea, and to the U.S. and foreign officials, CRDF's dedicated staff, the participating scientists, funders and investors, and the volunteers who serve on its board for building this unique institution.

HONORING COAST GUARD AIR STATION SAVANNAH FOR ITS RESPONSE TO HURRICANE KATRINA

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Georgia's 12th Congressional District commend the heroism of the crews of Coast Guard Air Station Savannah for their lifesaving efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Thanks to Coast Guard Air Station Savannah's immediate response in a time of need, 376 American lives were saved. Our nation will remain forever grateful to the following Coast Guardsmen for their selfless and noble actions: LCDR Mark Jones, LCDR John Hollingsworth, LT Steven Foran, LT Ryan Allen, LT Chris Howard, LT Matt Walker, LT Tim Eason, LTJG Andy Kirkpatrick, AST2 Scott Beitel, AST3 Matthew Laub, AST3 Jonathon Ardan, AMTCS

• 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.

Bryant Denning, AMT1 Chuck Hyland, AMT1 William Breiner, AMT1 Philip Vanhornbeck, and AMT2 Brandon Weaver.

RECOGNIZING THE COLONIAL LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Colonial Life and Accident Insurance Company of Columbia, South Carolina has provided tremendous support to our neighbors in the Gulf Coast region.

Colonial recently provided the following description of the company's relief and recovery efforts. As Colonial continues to respond to this crisis, I am proud to recognize the company's generosity and service:

COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE
COMPANY RESPONSE TO HURRICANES

Like millions of others across the country, Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company was shocked by the suffering and devastation caused by the recent Gulf Coast hurricanes, one of the greatest natural disasters in U.S. History. The company was concerned both for its several hundred contracted sales agents in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas, and for its many thousands of customers who lost possessions, homes, jobs, and even loved ones.

In response, Colonial quickly announced that customers in affected areas will receive a grace period for premium payment through year-end 2005. Colonial took this action proactively before the states mandated grace periods and went well beyond the minimum state requirements. The company continues to work with employer and employee customers on a case-by-case basis to ensure their coverage continues and their claims receive priority attention. Colonial call center representatives have special instructions of supporting telephone calls from plan administrators and policyholders in the disaster areas, and the company has added new options to its automated phone system to ensure these calls are directed to the right places quickly.

The company also is supporting its sales agents in the affected areas, many of whom not only suffered personally but also have lost their business base for many months or possibly years to come. The company is making financial arrangements to help offset the lost commissions to these independent contractor agents and also is helping many of them find other temporary work opportunities. Colonial also established a special company-matched relief fund at a local bank to provide financial support to these agents in greatest need.

On a local level, Colonial employees are actively involved in drives to collect food, clothing and other vitally needed supplies for hurricane victims. The company is matching two-for-one employee donations to the American Red Cross and Salvation Army.

Colonial is committed to helping its producers and customers during this difficult time.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIENNA WOMAN'S CLUB

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vienna Woman's Club located in Vienna, Virginia.

The Vienna Woman's Club is a service and civic organization that was formed under the name of the Vienna Hills Woman's Club by 22 women on October 12, 1955. The following year, the group became affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs in January of 1956, and membership was expanded to all Vienna women. The club meets the third Wednesday of the month, and is responsible for numerous projects that enhance and contribute to the Vienna community.

Some instrumental projects the club has participated in for years include the club's scholarship program and the Policeman of the Year award. The Vienna Woman's Club inaugurated its scholarship program in 1962, and since that time has awarded approximately \$100,000 in scholarships to Vienna high school students. In 1967, the club awarded its first Policeman of the Year award. Each year, the club recognizes a Town police officer and holds a banquet in his or her honor. The recipient also participates in the annual Vienna Halloween Parade, which is enjoyed by many Northern Virginia residents.

In addition, the club has helped to improve the community by helping to establish a branch of the Fairfax County Library, furnishing a room at Fairfax Hospital for a more comfortable stay for hospital patients, and has set up eye testing clinics for pre-school children. Some philanthropic events the club has participated in include the Annual Harvest Bazaar and Craft Fair, to which the proceeds are donated to the scholarship program, and contributing a generous donation to the Vienna Community Center. The club members have also worked to promote holiday cheer by acting as hostesses at the Annual Christmas Sing-Along held at Wolftrap Farm Park.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate the Vienna Woman's Club on 50 years of success. They have served the interests of their community well, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding their past accomplishments and in wishing the club continued success in the many years to come.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CALLS ON ALL SIKHS TO SUPPORT FREEDOM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently, the Council of Khalistan issued an open letter in which it called for all Sikhs to work for independence for Khalistan. The letter cites abuses against the Sikh Nation such as the torture of Jagtar Singh Hawara, who had a

cigarette forced into his mouth in contravention of a Sikh religious tenet and was forced to desecrate the Sikh holy scripture, the Guru Granth Sahib. This shows that there is no freedom and no tolerance for religious minorities in Hindu-dominated India. And unfortunately, whichever party is in power, the imposition of Hindu theocracy continues. The latest atrocities have occurred under the secular Congress Party, not the openly Hindu nationalist BJP.

It is outrageous that such atrocities against human beings are still occurring in the twenty-first century, Mr. Speaker. The civilized nations of the world must step in to put a stop to this tyrannical brutality.

We must do whatever we can to help all people live in freedom. We can start by ending our aid and our trade with India and by publicly demanding a free and fair vote to settle the question of independence for Khalistan and all the nations of South Asia the democratic way. Separating from India appears to be the only way that the Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, and so many other minority groups will ever have a chance to live in the freedom that is their birthright as human beings.

I would like to introduce the Council of Khalistan's open letter into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues. It goes into much more detail than I am able to go into here. I urge my colleagues to read it carefully.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
Washington, DC, October 12, 2005.

ALL SIKHS MUST WORK FOR THE LIBERATION OF KHALISTAN

DEAR KHALSA JI: WAHEGURU JI KA KHALSA, WAHEGURU JI KI FATEH!

Recent events have underlined again the importance of liberating our homeland, Khalistan. All Sikhs must work toward that goal.

Recently, the Council of Khalistan completed its highly successful annual convention. There was great enthusiasm for Khalistan. There have been marches in Punjab demanding a free and sovereign Khalistan. Over 30,000 Sikhs were present at the raising of the Khalistan flag on the anniversary of the Golden Temple attack in June. 35 Sikhs were arrested and many were charged at that time for making speeches and raising the flag. On Republic Day the same thing happened. Sikhs were charged and arrested for raising the Sikh flag and making speeches in support of Khalistan. This blatant attempt to put an end to the Khalistan movement through the use of naked intimidation will not work.

Recently, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh apologized to the Sikh Nation for the Indian government's massacre of Sikhs in Delhi in November 1984. Over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in these massacres while Sikh police were locked in their barracks and the state television and radio issued a call for more Sikh blood. Manmohan Singh's apology squarely establishes India's guilt and it is greatly appreciated. Now we await the apology for Operation Bluestar and the withdrawal of all Indian occupation forces from Punjab, Khalistan.

Captain Amarinder Singh became a hero of the Sikh Nation by asserting Punjab's sovereignty and preserving Punjab's natural resource, its river water, for the use of Punjab farmers by cancelling Punjab's water agreements. This action is saving Punjab from the Hindu regime's plan to make Punjab a desert and eliminate the Sikh Nation, the Sikh people, the Sikh culture, and the Sikh religion