

these young men and women, 80 percent of them go on to engineering degrees in colleges.

I am not sure of the exact statistics, but China is producing a staggering number of engineers greater than we are in this country, and that ought to give us all pause for concern. If America wants to remain competitive in whatever arena, look at the advantages all these engineers being trained in China will give them over us, as we produce fewer engineers, should give each of us pause on a variety of levels.

These young men and women go on to school to further their careers. They work in teams. They learn to use skills and techniques and processes that serve them well in the real world by working in groups, small groups and large groups, to accomplish this program. They design this vehicle from nose cone to nozzle, including the propulsion systems.

Now, once they have the design done, they then build the rocket. They build the 35-pound test module that they are going to send 100,000 feet into the air. They build it from scratch. They do all the electrical work; they do all of the construction work that they can. They then begin to look for contributions from companies that might be in this business or in allied businesses, looking for the nozzle parts, looking for the parts of the nose cone, the fuel systems, and those kinds of things, because they do not have money that goes with this. This is all part of the program of living in the real world, looking at problems and trying to figure out how to solve them.

Some of the accomplishments of the Fredericksburg High School and this team is the first high school to break the sound barrier with their rocket.

□ 1530

They are also the high school that has launched the largest, fastest vehicle to the highest altitude at a Federal missile range, White Sands Missile Range outside Alamogordo. That is a top accomplishment for a group of high school students.

This program, in its seventh or eighth year, is being developed in a manner that will allow it to be replicated in other high schools across the Nation, providing an opportunity to incent and interest our young men and women in positive programs doing things and doing those things well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to point this out to my colleagues here in the House. I hope that the good citizens throughout the 11th Congressional District of Texas and throughout the United States will recognize these accomplishments, will look for their own communities to say: We have some kids that are as bright and as smart as the kids in Fredericksburg, Texas; I wonder why we cannot beat their record, why we cannot put a 35-pound payload 100,000 feet into the air and recover it intact. It is a great accomplishment that is going on in Fred-

ericksburg, Texas. This is a great opportunity to recognize the wonderful things being done by these students, in contrast to all the bad things that we hear in the press.

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

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my Special Order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

LEBANON AND SYRIA LIBERATION ACT

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, for too long Syria has heard yes from the world. It has sponsored terrorism, and the world answered: Yes. It has built up an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, and the world answered: Yes. And it has stolen from Lebanon its sovereignty and political independence, and, once again, the world answered: Yes.

This week, we are here to tell Syria: No. For over a generation, the world stood silently as the occupation set deep roots in Lebanon, while hundreds of people were murdered by Syrian-supported terrorists like Hezbollah all over the world, and a dangerous stockpile of chemical weapons was developed. Anger grew as guerillas entered Iraq from Syria to kill innocent Iraqis and American soldiers, but it was left to the United States Congress to grab the bull by the horns and devise a policy to free Lebanon and confront Syria.

The Syria Accountability Act and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act, which I wrote, was signed into law in December 2003 and told Syria that things had changed. Until Syria got out of Lebanon, halted its support for terror, ended weapons of mass destruction programs and stanching the flow of extremists into Iraq, it would face sanctions.

Last fall, the United Nations followed our lead. They demanded in U.N. Security Council Resolution 1559 that Syria completely leave Lebanon, and Hezbollah be dismantled. But still, Syria remains in Lebanon, and the terror machine operates from the Damascus sanctuary.

It is remarkable, but it has taken the murder of a former prime minister of Lebanon and mass protests by Lebanese aspiring for democracy for the

world to take on the Syria challenge. The Cedar Revolution which has been launched by Lebanese people calling for Syria to leave Lebanon is something that really make us proud.

So this week, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and I introduced a new bill. This is the natural follow-up to the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act. The legislation is called LA SYRIA LA, which means in Arabic, No Syria No. It says that until Damascus gets completely out of Lebanon, stops supporting terrorist groups and ends its weapons of mass destruction programs, the Lebanese and Syria Liberation Act, LA SYRIA LA, codifies existing sanctions against Syria and imposes American sanctions on countries and companies which provide destabilizing weapons to Syria. In other words, third countries will have sanctions against them if they provide destabilizing weapons to Syria. It calls for a State Department report to Congress on Syrian activities, provides for American assistance to pro-democracy and human rights groups in Syria and Lebanon and instructs our government to oppose Syrian bids for U.N. leadership positions and international loans to Syria.

So, today, we stand with the Lebanese people who wish to take back their people by saying no to the Syrian occupiers. We stand with the world and the President of the United States, who is saying no to the Syrian occupation, and we align ourselves with the forces of Lebanese democracy which will deliver the ultimate no to Syria through power of the ballot box, not the barrel of the gun.

Now I must say, today, the newspapers reported that in a sharp policy reversal, the Bush administration is now ready to see Hezbollah in a role in Lebanon at the urging of France. I am sorry to hear, that, if it is true, is ill-advised, and I urged the administration to never acquiesce to terrorist organizations like Hezbollah. Hezbollah is in the same category as al Qaeda, and the President has said time and time again that there are no good terrorists, only bad terrorists, and we cannot compromise with terrorism. I hope this is not the fact. We should not deal with Hezbollah. Hezbollah killed 243 Marines, U.S. Marines, 20 some odd years ago in Beirut and has killed countless number of Israeli citizens by being allowed to conduct a proxy off of Syria against Israel in South Lebanon.

Resolution 1559 of the U.N. Security Council which we sponsored says that Hezbollah and all terrorist organizations in Lebanon must be dismantled and that the Syrians must get out of Lebanon. I urge the administration to stick to its guns on that and never recognize Hezbollah as anything more than a terrorist group.

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

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my special order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

HONORING THE FAMILY OF EVA BOWMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eva Bowman and her late husband, Ralph, for their commitment to education and, specifically, for their commitment to the Wray School District located on the eastern plains of Colorado.

The Bowmans' dedication to and involvement in the school districts of East Yuma County spans five generations. As a young girl, Eva rode her horse to school southeast of Wray. That schoolhouse was made of sod. It was heated using wood and cow chips. She graduated from Laird High School. Her father, Fred Peterson, was also active in education and served as a member of the Starnes County School Board at the turn of the last century. Ralph attended the nearby East Beecher Island County School, but had to quit after the eighth grade in order to work on the farm.

Because he was not able to finish his education, Ralph felt it was very important for his children and his grandchildren to receive a good education. All three of the Bowman children graduated from Wray High School. The ten Bowman grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren all attend or have graduated from the schools within East Yuma County. By the time the Bowmans' youngest great granddaughter completes her schooling, their family will be celebrating well over 100 years of education within these wonderful educational institutions.

As an additional testament to their devotion, Eva recently donated \$200,000 to the Wray School District wind turbine project on behalf of her late husband, Ralph, and her children, Jean Brophy, Geraldine Baird, and Jack Bowman. Upon completion, the wind turbine project will make Wray the first school district in Colorado to own a renewable energy source.

Recently, when her loving grandson Michael was talking to his grandmother, they commented on the technological changes Eva has experienced during her life. Michael praised his grandmother for her excitement about life, and she said, "I am not afraid to die; I just wish I could keep on living

so I can see what happens next." That epitomizes the kind of woman Eva Bowman is.

Mr. Speaker, it is people of optimism, perseverance, and commitment to education, like Eva and Ralph, that make America the strong, innovative country that it is today. We owe the Bowmans a heart of gratitude for setting such a positive example for all of us to follow.

THE FAILURE OF CAFTA

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this is the face of CAFTA. This photo was taken by Reuters News Service yesterday in Guatemala as police forces used tear gas and water cannons to beat back hundreds of demonstrators who had united to speak out against the Central American Free Trade Agreement, CAFTA. This is the face of CAFTA.

More than 25,000 letters have been signed by workers in Guatemala begging their Congress not to rush through this bad trade agreement. Throughout the developing world, from Guatemala to every other developing country, workers do not share in the wealth they create. Nike workers in Vietnam cannot afford the shoes they make. Disney workers in Costa Rica cannot buy the toys for their children. Motorola workers in Malaysia are unable to purchase the cell phones.

The North American Free Trade Agreement promised to create a thriving middle class in Mexico, to raise wages and lift people out of poverty. A dozen years later, there is no middle class realizing their dreams. Instead, there is a fallen minimum wage and the ongoing nightmare of abject poverty despite the backbreaking work and deplorable working conditions.

Now President Bush wants to expand this failed trade agreement with CAFTA, the Central America Free Trade Agreement, a dysfunctional cousin of NAFTA, involving five Central American countries: Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. CAFTA nations are not only among the world's poorest countries; they are also among its smallest economies. With a \$62 billion combined economic output, about that of Columbus, Ohio, these countries can hardly serve as a growth engine for the \$10 trillion U.S. economy. CAFTA is more about access to cheap labor and exporting American jobs than exporting American goods.

Trade pacts like NAFTA and CAFTA enable companies to exploit cheap labor in other countries, then import their products back to the U.S. under favorable terms. As a result, our country, especially my State of Ohio, bleed manufacturing jobs and run unprecedented trade deficits.

Gregory Mankiw, the President's former chief economist, portrays the

exporting of jobs as inevitable and desirable, saying, "When a good or service is produced more cheaply abroad, it makes more sense to import it than to provide it domestically."

Mr. Speaker, I would say to Mr. Mankiw that what really makes sense is a trade policy that lifts workers up in rich and poor countries alike while respecting human rights and democratic principles.

Proof that CAFTA is a legacy of failed trade policies is evidenced in Congress' own inaction. Since 2001, Congress typically votes within 8 weeks, about 60 days, of President Bush signing a trade agreement. Nearly 300 days have elapsed since President Bush signed the Central American Free Trade Agreement. That delay is proof that CAFTA is a failure and further proof of CAFTA's failure can be seen in this photo when police have turned on their own protesting public, people who are exercising their rights simply to petition their Congress and ask that they not pass this trade agreement.

And yet, the U.S. continues to push for more of the same, more trade agreements that ship jobs overseas, more trade agreements that neglect essential environmental standards, more trade agreements that keep foreign workers in poverty.

Madness, Mr. Speaker, is repeating the same action over and over and expecting a different result. The United States, with its unrivaled purchasing power and our enormous economic clout, we are in a unique position to help empower poor workers in the developing world while promoting prosperity at home. When the world's poorest people can buy American products rather than just make them, then we will know that our trade policies are finally working.

□ 1545

RU-486: BABY POISON THAT ALSO KILLS WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DENT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, RU-486 is baby poison, and now we know it is also fatal to women. RU-486 is a powerful pesticide that was developed to kill human beings, not cure them. It targets unborn children for elimination as if they were cancers or viruses and hurts the women who take it. The fact that pro-abortion groups led the charge to water down the FDA's safety measures on RU-486 and now have been silent in the death of Holly Patterson is an indictment against them. They care more about abortion than they do women. These groups have actually chosen to subjugate women's lives and health to the insatiable desire for legal abortion at any time and for any reason. They have chosen abortion over women, but our current FDA should not continue