

by, on behalf of, or otherwise for the Central Bank of Iraq create obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq. Accordingly, these obstacles continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency protecting the Development Fund for Iraq, certain other property in which Iraq has an interest, and the Central Bank of Iraq, and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 19, 2005.

2005 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON U.S. TRADE AND INVESTMENT POLICY TOWARD SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 109-29)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Consistent with title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, I am providing a report prepared by my Administration, the "2005 Comprehensive Report on U.S. Trade and Investment Policy Towards Sub-Saharan Africa and Implementation of the African Growth and Opportunity Act."

GEORGE W. BUSH.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 19, 2005.

CAFTA

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today most recognize we are part of a global economy, probably no more so than in my home State of Oregon. Unfortunately, the Central American Free Trade Agreement, CAFTA, is not the step forward that new trade agreements should represent.

For me it is clear that CAFTA does not include adequate environmental and labor standards. It is time to put the dispute resolution process for labor on the same solid footing as we do for commercial issues. Most acknowledge that CAFTA countries lack the financial resources and technical expertise to enforce good labor and environmental practices, but we are not providing funding that could help overcome these obstacles.

Additionally, CAFTA would seriously harm these countries that rely heavily

on their agricultural sectors. Our egregious farm bill has locked us into subsidies that do not promote free trade and have already caused much harm to other countries' farmers. We need to pay attention to the hard lessons NAFTA imposed on struggling Mexican farmers.

Couple these issues with our reluctance to help American workers hammered by trade and technological change, and CAFTA is not an agreement that I can support in its current form.

SAVE FILIBUSTER

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, Republicans continue to abuse this body with their blatant disregard for the rules. They are clearly manufacturing a crisis about the judicial nomination process, saying it is in trouble. They would have us believe that none of Bush's nominees were being confirmed.

But that just is not true. Let us remember that 95 percent of the Bush nominees have been approved, in contrast to 35 percent of the Clinton nominations. So instead of following history, they figure altering the Senate rules in their favor is the ultimate solution so that they can force ten nominees through the system.

Republican leaders in Washington are absolutely out of control. They are so afraid of our democracy failing their interests that they must continue to bully in order to get their way. The American people do not want a Congress controlled by bullies. Bullies who are willing to sacrifice a 200-year-old democratic process that has withstood such debates as the 24-hour filibusters of the Civil Rights Act in 1960s.

This abuse of power must end.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

CAFTA AND OUR TRADE DEFICIT

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, it has been nearly a year since the President signed the secretly negotiated CAFTA agreement and has begun the process to bring it forward to the House for an up-or-down vote. No amendments allowed. It is a perfect agreement, of course.

It is only perfect in that it mirrors all of our most recent failed trade agreements, such as its predecessor, NAFTA.

Some would say this is about helping the American economy, putting Americans to work, to help our exporters. That is what they said about NAFTA. And it turned out that the people of Mexico, the aggregate buying power of everybody in Mexico who spent every peso on American goods was slightly less than the State of New Jersey. It was never about the purchasing power of the people of Mexico and the idea that somehow they were going to buy American goods and put Americans to work here at home. It was always about United States capital, multinational corporations, chasing cheaper labor into Mexico and now further into Latin America; chasing lack of environmental standards and enforcement into Mexico, particularly the maquiladora area, which is a total environmental nightmare, further into Latin America; in chase of the lowest standards, the lowest common denominator, the most abused labor.

And that is what CAFTA is all about. It mirrors the NAFTA agreement. Like the NAFTA agreement, it will deliver the same thing. They told us we would gain 140,000 jobs with NAFTA. Well, we lost close to half a million jobs because of NAFTA. CAFTA will be the same.

When we are doing something that is failing the Nation and the Nation's workers and driving down wages here at home and trying to pull down our standards of consumer protection, environmental protection, labor standards, then maybe it is time to think about doing something different, and perhaps the House of Representatives is on the verge of doing that. Perhaps they are beginning to listen to the large majority of the American people. We are going to run a trade deficit this year of \$2 billion a day.

□ 2045

Every billion dollars represents tens of thousands of lost jobs, the export of our industrial base, and, now, the export of our knowledge base.

We cannot continue these same failed policies as the President would have us do. I have heard that they have begun the purchasing phase of the CAFTA agreement.

Now, most Americans would wonder, what is the purchasing phase? Well, they have tried the strong-arm phase for the last year. They still do not have enough votes to jam another failed trade agreement through the United States House of Representatives. So I am told by friends on the other side of the aisle that they are about to begin the purchasing phase.

The White House is open for business. What do you need? How much does it cost? What can we do for you? It is not any argument that this is somehow going to deal with our trade deficit, help raise wages here at home, help provide jobs here at home; it is all about what deal can we cut for you so these same multinational corporations can continue to move jobs offshore, and, in this case, a little closer to

home. Perhaps they could avoid some of the transport costs from China or India where they have sent many of our other jobs, or Vietnam, and they can find almost as exploitable and cheap labor in Central America.

The combined buying power of these five nations is less than four days' purchasing power of the United States of America. If every person in these affected nations spent every cent they earned in the next year, it would be totally insignificant to the American economy; and, obviously, they are not going to do that. So it is very much the same as NAFTA: it is to move our plants, our equipment, some workers have even been made to package up their machines and train their replacements in the case of NAFTA, and they will be doing the same thing under CAFTA.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for a major change in policy. It is time for a policy that brings jobs home to America, that puts people at work here in America, that helps maintain wages in our country, and helps bring people overseas up to our standards instead of trying to drag the American people down to the lowest common denominator.

I hope that Members, particularly on the other side of the aisle, will not be bought by the White House in this debate and they will vote in the interests of the people who sent them here to Washington, DC.

#### A TRIBUTE TO TSCL VICE CHAIR DOTTIE HOLMES

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a very, very special lady tonight. Dorothy "Dottie" Holmes served in the United States Air Force from 1949 to 1979. She is the first female Chief Master Sergeant and first woman to retire with 30 years of continuous service in the United States Air Force. She received 14 different awards and decorations during her career, the highest being the Legion of Merit Award.

Dottie Holmes was recalled to active duty twice to serve on the Air Force Chief of Staff Advisory Council For Retiree Affairs. She currently serves as a trustee on the TREA Senior Citizens League Board, a position that she has held since 2001. She previously served as a trustee on TSCL from 1995 to 1996.

Dottie Holmes is a life member of the Retired Enlisted Association. She served as the National President, the only woman to do so. She was a National first Vice President, and the National second Vice President of that organization as well. She actively served on the TREA Convention, Finance, Planning, Membership, Bylaws, and Rules Committees during the 1990s. She also served as president, Vice President, and Secretary of Chapter 1 Building Board Association.

She has been active in community affairs. Dottie Holmes served as a Pikes Peak Regional USO council member. She served as a Colorado State Field Representative For Women in Military Service, a part of their Memorial Foundation. She served as a city and county election judge, a USAFA Special Olympics volunteer. She also served at Peterson Air Force Base as a staff judge advocate volunteer. She currently serves as President of the Women in the Air Force Association.

She is considered an authority, and let me say a real authority, on the Air Force Academy. For many of the years that she served in the Air Force, she served as sort of the den mother to an awful lot of those cadets who went on to become officers in the United States Air Force.

The management skills of Dottie that she acquired from service in the Air Force and in her community service were enhanced by her college studies and management. At TREA Senior Citizens League, she has served as Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the past several years. She has demonstrated outstanding leadership in helping to oversee the Board's rise to prominence as a really accredited and acclaimed seniors' group.

In numerous meetings with Members of Congress, vice-chair Dottie Holmes demonstrated strength and determination in representing their position on important issues affecting seniors around the United States. She persuaded many legislators to send articles to her to appear in their newsletter, and she has just been an amazing and powerful force for issues that seniors care about. Dottie Holmes contributed greatly to the seniors of America with her work on that board. She has done the country and her Air Force service proud.

From the very first day that I met Dottie Holmes, it was apparent that she was an exceptional lady. It has been a personal pleasure of mine to work with her during the past several years on behalf of seniors' issues, especially on behalf of her interest in making affordable drugs more available to seniors here in the United States. She championed the cause of safer and less expensive drugs when she spoke on a panel at a town hall meeting we held last year in Denver. Her convincing voice for seniors will be sorely missed here in Washington when she retires from the Board of Trustees.

I want to say a very special and personal thank you to Dottie Holmes for the example that she has set and for her lifetime of service.

#### CELEBRATING THE JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, during the past half century, from America's first

satellite, the grapefruit-sized Explorer I, to the International Space Station now being built 200 miles above us, human beings have begun to learn how to operate in the harsh environs of space.

America's space program operates on dual tracks. On the one hand, we have stressed human space flight, an inspiring, but dangerous undertaking. With the exception of the Apollo lunar landing missions, humans have not ventured beyond the low-earth orbit. The other track that we have followed is the robotic exploration of our solar system, using spacecraft that are more impervious to the harsh conditions of space and unaffected by the enormous distances necessary to explore our planetary neighbors.

Our unmanned space probes, from the Ranger and Surveyor craft that paved the way for Apollo, to the Voyager spacecraft that explored the outer planets and are still continuing to send back data even as they leave the solar system, have increased our understanding of the universe beyond anything even contemplated half a century ago.

On Mars, we have witnessed dust storms on Olympus Mons, the largest mountain in the solar system. We have peered through Venus's clouds and its broiling surface. We have discovered new moons and ring systems around outer planets. As I speak, a small spacecraft bearing dust from a comet is zooming back towards Earth and will parachute into Utah on January 15 of this coming year. A coffee table-sized probe named Deep Impact is scheduled to crash into another comet on July 4 of this year, a feat described to me recently by scientist Charles-Elachi as hitting a bullet with a bullet.

NASA's jet propulsion laboratory managed by the California Institute of Technology has designed, built, or controlled all of these programs. JPL has been a pioneer of our exploration of the solar system from the beginning of our space program. Earlier, I mentioned JPL's Explorer I, America's first satellite. At the time that it was launched, the United States had fallen behind the Soviet Union in the space race, and several other attempts at getting an American Sputnik into orbit had ended in fiery explosions on the launch pad.

Every American space probe that has visited another planet was managed by JPL. Through the wonders of technology, we have zoomed by Jupiter with Voyager, witnessed a Martian sunset with Viking, rolled across the surface of Mars with our rovers, and marveled at Saturn's rings with Cassini.

Whom do we have to thank for unlocking the wonders of the solar system, for providing brilliant, three-dimensional images of the Martian surface, for bringing us the multi-hued clouds of Jupiter and the cold beauty of Saturn? For this, we must thank the women and men of the Jet Propulsion