

in this issue related to Taiwan's status in the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Mr. ROYCE. I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

I do rise in support of this measure. For too long, Taiwan has been left out of international organizations at the demand of China. Taiwan was denied access to the World Health Organization. It was unable to participate as even an observer for over 40 years. Thankfully, though, that changed in 2009, when a Taiwanese delegation was allowed to observe meetings in Geneva. Infectious disease knows no borders. And it was only proper that that change was made. Congress had long pressed for this action through bills and resolutions.

□ 1850

So it is fitting that we once again take to the floor to press for Taiwan's inclusion in the International Civil Aviation Organization. Despite being home to the world's 18th busiest airport, Taiwan has been kept out of an organization that aims to keep passengers safe.

Indeed, as this resolution finds, Taiwan's exclusion from the ICAO has impeded Taiwan's government from keeping up-to-date with aviation standards and prevented the implementation of new systems and new procedures. The 35 million passengers that travel to and from Taiwan each year are done a great disservice by Taiwan's exclusion.

Mr. Speaker, in a relatively short period of time, Taiwan has gone from poverty to prosperity. It has gone from autocracy to democracy. We have a strong relationship that stretches back for over half a century. Today, our relations remain strong. Passage of this resolution will only serve to strengthen this relationship, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. Con. Res. 17 and yield myself such time as I may consume.

I'd like to thank the sponsor of the legislation, the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for their leadership on this issue.

This resolution expresses the sense of Congress that Taiwan should be accorded observer status in the International Civil Aviation Organization, ICAO. Taiwan has made significant progress in its economic and political development. Today, Taiwan is a leading trade partner of the United States and stands as a beacon of democracy in Asia.

However, Taiwan has been excluded from meaningful participation in ICAO, an international organization which is dedicated to ensuring safe and efficient air transportation around the globe.

Taiwan clearly deserves to be brought into ICAO as an observer—a status specifically recognized under ICAO's own rules.

Taiwan has jurisdiction over airspace comprising 176,000 square nautical miles and provides air traffic control services to over 1.3 million flights each year. It has the eighth largest airport in the world by cargo volume, and the 18th largest by the number of international passengers.

Taiwan's exclusion from ICAO has impeded Taiwan's efforts to maintain civil aviation standards to keep up with rapidly evolving international standards. It is unable to even contact ICAO for up-to-date information on aviation standards and norms, nor can it receive ICAO's technical assistance implementing new regulations or participate in ICAO technical and academic seminars.

Despite these impediments, Taiwan has made every effort to comply with ICAO's standards, but their continued exclusion not only hurts Taiwan, it puts the entire international aviation system at risk. Indeed, Taiwan's exclusion has prevented ICAO from developing a truly global strategy to address security threats.

With this resolution, Congress calls on the international community to grant Taiwan observer status at ICAO, not only to help Taiwan, but to ensure ICAO can fulfill its own mission and address international threats to aviation security. We call on the United States government to take the leading role at ICAO to assist Taiwan in gaining that status and look forward to working with our administration officials to track the development of these efforts.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I will make some remarks, and then I will also yield back the remainder of our time.

I rise in strong support of this important resolution which calls upon the International Civil Aviation Organization, ICAO, to grant meaningful participation for Taiwan.

Is there any doubt in a post-September 11th world that air traffic safety constitutes one of the first lines of defense against those who would do harm to the United States or to our friends and allies? Are not the people of Taiwan deserving of the same level of protection against air assault as provided to the other peoples whose governments participate in ICAO?

The Taipei flight information region, under the jurisdiction of Taiwan, covers an airspace of 176,000 square nautical miles. Taiwan's main international airport is recognized as the eighth largest in the world in cargo traffic and the 18th in the number of international passengers who make use of its services.

Can there be any doubt, therefore, that Taiwan, which provides air safety control services for well over 1,350,000 flights annually needs meaningful participation in the international organization responsible for air safety and security?

Beijing, like some haughty overlord, condescendingly informed Taipei and the U.N. system in the year 2009 that it would allow, at least temporarily, Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly. Meaningful participation in international organizations for Taiwan represents too important an issue to be determined only by the whims of Beijing.

It is time to open the door to Taiwan's constructive and meaningful participation in ICAO, and that time is now.

The State Department, as this resolution suggests, should assume a leading role in providing an action plan to ensure that this happened as quickly as possible. We owe this, Mr. Speaker, to the people of Taiwan. We owe this to ensure as well for the air safety of those American passengers flying over the skies of the western Pacific.

And here I am not speaking just in theoretical terms, Mr. Speaker. Let us not forget that it was less than three decades ago when, due to a tragic confusion in air communications, a Soviet military fighter shot down a Korean Air Lines civilian flight as it left western Pacific and flew inadvertently over Soviet territory. As we know, this resulted in the death of all 269 people on board, including a Member of this House, Congressman Larry McDonald of Georgia's Seventh District. The Congressman was traveling to Seoul to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the United States-South Korea Mutual Defense Treaty.

So air safety control is, therefore, a very serious matter. Taiwan needs meaningful participation in ICAO not only for the safety and security in the air of its own citizens but also for all of the peoples of the vibrant Asia Pacific region.

ICAO will be holding its 12th Air Navigations Conference in November, and Taiwan should be, must be represented there in Montreal.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge that my colleagues join Mr. BERMAN and me in expressing their overwhelming support for this important resolution.

With that, I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 17.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHIEF OF STAFF, THE HONORABLE FRANK R. WOLF, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Daniel F. Scandling, Chief of Staff, the Honorable FRANK R. WOLF, Member of Congress:

SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the Fairfax County Circuit Court in connection with civil litigation currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

DANIEL F. SCANDLING,  
Chief of Staff.

□ 1900

# COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE FRANK R. WOLF, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable FRANK R. WOLF, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 10, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
Speaker of the House, U.S. House of Representatives,  
Washington DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the Fairfax County Circuit Court in connection with civil litigation currently pending before that court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
Member of Congress.

# CONGRATULATING RICHMOND, TEXAS, ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

MR. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Richmond, Texas, for its 175th anniversary. There would not be a State of Texas without Richmond.

In 1822, members of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred built a fort on a bend in the Brazos River. Stephen F. Austin is known as the "Father of Texas." He built his colony around that fort where Richmond sits today.

In the wake of Texas independence, Richmond was incorporated by the Republic of Texas as Fort Bend County's seat of government in 1837. Richmond's current iconic mayor, Hilmar Moore, is the longest-serving mayor in American history, serving the people of Richmond since 1949.

Historically a center of commerce, the heart of an early livestock industry and a powerhouse of natural resources, the city continues to be something its people are darn proud of. It's an honor

to share that pride with the people of Richmond, Texas. Congratulations on our 175th anniversary.

## REMEMBERING 9/11

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARINO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

MR. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, 11 years ago today, the worst attack in American history on American soil occurred; more loss of life than Pearl Harbor. It was a day that those of us who are alive and old enough to know what was happening will never forget. It was a day of commitment as well that we would do whatever was necessary to protect our country, that we would do whatever was necessary to prevent future such attacks from occurring.

I recall there in east Texas where I live, I was a judge at the time. The day after, September 12, 2001, was an extraordinary day as well. It was a day that I also will not forget. I had never seen communities come together as we did across America on September 12, 2001, not in my lifetime. In World War II, from history, I've read accounts about some in America that felt like war with Germany was a bad idea, that we ought to be nice to them. There were even people that were divided in America back then. But the overall resolve was to protect democracy, make democracy safe—"Make the World Safe for Democracy" was the slogan.

But we were so united on September 12, 2001. There in Tyler, Texas—and I know it happened all over east Texas the same way—people came together. It didn't matter what race anyone was. It didn't matter where they came from, their national origin—man, woman, religious preference didn't matter, we came together as one people. There were no hyphenated Americans that day—no Anglo-Americans, African-Americans, Asian-Americans. We were Americans. We stood united, and we wept together and we prayed together and we held hands and sang together.

Here in Washington, D.C., once again today we sang "God Bless America" without regard to party, without regard to House, Senate. I think there was less mention of the word God today. I'm grateful for Speaker PELOSI, who at the end of her remarks asked for God to bless and comfort those who lost loved ones on 9/11 and asked that God would still bless America. I'm grateful she did that. Other leaders did not.

Andy McCarthy—Andrew McCarthy—was the prosecutor of those who were involved in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. He is a man that understands the Constitution. He understands the law. He is a fantastic prosecutor, a brilliant mind, and a great writer. And I won't read the entire article, but it's an article worth noting from Andrew C. McCarthy, entitled "Remembering 9/11 . . . At Least for a Day." He says:

It is difficult to say what's harder to believe: that it has been 11 years since the 9/11 atrocities, or that national security has become an irrelevant issue in the most consequential Presidential election in decades.

The first observation reminds us that today is a day of remembrance: of the loss of nearly 3,000 of our fellow citizens; of the bravery of those who willingly gave their lives to save others; and of the heroism of the men and women who put on the line all that they have. That includes the love and well-being of their families, on whom the burden of American national security has been imposed while the rest of us go on with our lives—too often, without giving them a first thought, never mind a second.

No matter which political party has been in power since 9/11, there has been a great deal of bloviating about the "rule of law." It is as if we had evolved beyond anything so crude and benighted as armed force and national interest—especially national defense. Let's remember today that we have the luxury of living under something resembling the rule of law only because dedicated Americans sacrifice themselves to confront evil—in this case, the adherents of an evil ideology, Islamic supremacism, that is closer to the law of the jungle.

And for those who do not understand—I'm saying this parenthetically, it's not in the article—Islamic supremacism is not talking about all of those who worship and follow Islam and Islamic teachings. We have friends around the world who do not want to live under totalitarian, radical Islamic supremacism, such as the Taliban, such as al Qaeda. They don't want to live under that, and they're Muslims. They want to live their lives. They want to worship in their own religion without totalitarians telling them how they must.

□ 1910

Unfortunately, as in Afghanistan, those Muslim friends, and Pakistan, for that matter, Iran and Iraq as well, there are Muslims who have admired the United States until we abandoned them.

Going back to Andrew McCarthy's article:

The rule of law has precious little to do with why we have gotten through 11 years without a reprise of 9/11. A better explanation is that terrorists who have been captured or killed cannot commit more terrorism.

I'll insert, parenthetically, there are terrorists who were captured, some confined at Guantanamo Bay, some confined at other facilities, who have been released and who have been found again on the battlefield killing Americans. They were captured, prevented from enacting further terrorism, and then released under some false notion that that would win friends and influence people, only to have other Americans killed by these same thugs.

Back to Andrew McCarthy's article. He says:

On the matter of evil, it is good to remember that it exists. Evil is not a misunderstanding, a cultural gulf, or a natural reaction to political policies adopted in pursuit of American interests or Israeli self-defense. That brings us to the second observation: the