

Abuse in China (ET AC)—indicates that “prisoners of conscience,” especially Falun Gong practitioners, were usually targeted for organ harvesting. In 2006, a tour guide told visiting European Parliament Vice President, Edward McMillan-Scott, that he’d seen the cadaver of his friend—a Falun Gong practitioner—with numerous stiches across his body. That tour guide received five years in prison for speaking with Mr. McMillan-Scott. To this day, the Chinese government denies harvesting the organs of Falun Gong practitioners, yet reports indicate that the number of Falun Gong practitioners who are victims of organ harvesting is in, at least, the thousands, if not the hundreds of thousands.

The way the Chinese treated, and continue to treat the Falun Gong runs contrary to standards laid out by the WHO; incredibly, the WHO refuses to acknowledge the reality of China’s organ harvesting campaign.

According to the Council on Foreign Relations, between 800,000 and 2,000,000 Uighurs and ethnic Kazaks have been imprisoned in Chinese “re-education camps” since April 2017. In these camps, the CCP has condoned the practice of forced abortions and sterilization procedures on imprisoned women. Many cases of sexual abuse emanate from these institutions as well. Prisoners are placed under constant surveillance and have been forced to renounce their religious and political convictions.

In 2003, the People’s Republic of China waited three months before notifying its own people, as well as the World Health Organization, about the SARS outbreak. This pattern of late notice was repeated again last year, when the CCP hid knowledge of a new coronavirus. By December 31, both the WHO and Chinese authorities were alerted by Taiwanese officials that this virus could be spread by human-to-human transmission; but Beijing didn’t tell its own citizens anything until January 20. In the interim, China began a wholesale purge of any whistleblowers; arresting Dr. Li Wenliang and eight other doctors. Earlier this month, Dr. Ai Fei, the Director of Emergency Services at Wuhan Central Hospital and a former colleague to Dr. Li, disappeared. Untold numbers of doctors, reporters, lawyers, and other civil activists have been reported missing for defying the government’s draconian restrictions on information sharing.

Silencing whistleblowers and ignoring Taiwan weren’t the only sins the Communist Party of China committed during the pandemic. On December 31, the CCP began censoring social media, and launched a campaign to find those who’d criticized the government’s response to the virus. Shortly afterwards, both the Hubei Provincial Health Commission and the National Health Commission ordered gene sequencing companies and institutions to destroy testing samples; all in the hopes of preventing the spread of new information regarding the virus. On January 5, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commissions stopped issuing daily updates about the virus for almost two weeks; on January 6, the CCP declined a U.S. CDC offer of assistance. From January 8–9, CCP health officials stated that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission of the virus; and it also finally announced the COVID-19 outbreak in public.

On January 12, the CCP provided the WHO with the virus’ genomic information. On January 14, the WHO stated that there was no evi-

dence to suggest that the virus could be spread by human-to-human transmission. This raises many flags—given the fact that the WHO had access to the virus’ genomic information, and it’s troubling that an international institution would so quickly provide this kind of sweeping statement without a thorough analysis of the data.

Given the fact that the threat of COVID-19 was significantly downplayed by CCP’s health authorities, nearly 5 million people were able to leave Wuhan, China before the government imposed a quarantine on January 21. On January 22, the WHO stated that, while there was evidence of human-to-human transmission, more work was needed to determine the extent of the transmission. The very next day, WHO Director, General Tedros, voted against declaring the outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 virus as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, justifying his vote by saying there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission outside of China.

On January 27, the Mayor of Wuhan admitted that strict regulations imposed by the Beijing government prevented him from saying much about the new virus. On January 29, the WHO praised China’s reaction to the coronavirus pandemic, while also declaring a Public Health Emergency of International Concern the very next day. President Trump wisely closed off U.S. travel to Chinese visitors on January 31.

Well over a month passed before China allowed a restricted visit to the WHO; yet that institution continued to parrot the CCP line. Numerous other infractions colored China’s response to the coronavirus—from threatening criminal charges against those using social media to spread information regarding COVID-19, to blaming the United States Army for the outbreak.

This Congress should demand that China be held accountable for its gross negligence and cover-up during the current crisis. My hope is that everything we’ve discussed today demonstrates that this is more than just a one-off botching; lies and obfuscation form an essential part of the Chinese government methodology. China has given us every reason to believe that it’ll never be a good faith partner, and so our future efforts must include taking targeted actions to mitigate its influence.

Many actions need to be taken; the first of which has already been done. I applaud President Trump and his Administration for committing to withhold all future funding to the WHO until extensive organizational change is made. The mind-boggling irresponsibility of the WHO during this pandemic just proves that it’s powerfully influenced and irreparably compromised by the machinations of the CCP. The second step is for the U.S. to strongly advocate for the inclusion of Taiwan in the WHO. Our Nation has withstood some of the greatest challenges in human history, and we’ll rise to this one. Time is of the essence, though. The CCP is presently the greatest enemy to both global health and the United States, and our policies must reflect that.

Despite this sobering reality, we dare to hope for a better future for ourselves and for the Chinese people—the first victims of their government’s oppressive regime. With full acknowledgement of the imposing task in front of us, we’ll once again demonstrate to the world why the cause of freedom and peace is in good hands.

RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR POST-PEAK RESPONSE

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and partnership of Arkansas medical professionals and state agencies in their efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19 and prepare to rebuild.

Governor Asa Hutchinson recently announced the formation of the Governor’s Medical Advisory Committee for Post-Peak COVID-19 Response.

Focusing on public health strategy after Arkansas reaches the peak of its COVID-19 cases, this committee is tasked to examine testing capabilities and social distancing protocols and make necessary recommendations to avoid a resurgence of cases.

This work is critical to ensuring the health and safety of all Arkansans while continuing to pave the way for the opening of our state.

On behalf of all Arkansans, I thank Governor Hutchinson, the members serving on this important committee, and all of the medical professionals and health care workers on the frontlines battling COVID-19.

RECOGNIZING THE FISCAL IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ON THE TOWN OF DOVER, NEW JERSEY

HON. TOM MALINOWSKI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the devastating impact the coronavirus pandemic continues to have on the Town of Dover, New Jersey and many local governments throughout my district and the country. The coronavirus has decimated local revenues and increased costs and only Congress can provide a lifeline to small towns through direct and flexible funding.

Due to COVID-19 the Town of Dover has been forced to take unprecedented measures to educate the community on the virus and CDC guidelines to ensure the residents understand and practice social distancing and other protocols. These measures have forced the Town to have a higher number of expenses that were not included in the budget, therefore, the Town has to suspend a number of services and activities for the residents. Furthermore, the number of unemployed residents has increased which has created a very high demand for basic essentials like food, personal hygiene items, baby food and diapers. The Town was forced to suspend all parking enforcement, permits, and sports activities which all have negatively impacted revenues. The Town was not able to hire additional firemen during this very difficult time, which puts the existing personnel at higher risk. We desperately need financial support to help ensure that our community is able to bounce back from this health and economic pandemic.

CONGRATULATING NOLAN THRONE FOR HIS WIN AT CLASS 1A STATE FINALS FOR WRESTLING AT THE IHSA STATE TOURNAMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nolan Throne, a senior from Rockridge High School, who won the Illinois High School Association's Class 1A State Finals Wrestling Tournament in the 145 pound weight class.

Nolan was in a scoreless bout until the third period, where he took down his opponent and secured a victory. As a former athlete, I appreciate the fortitude Nolan displayed to achieve his dream of being a state champion and commend him for his efforts and attitude. Nolan is an example of the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic, and I am proud to see him represent Taylor Ridge so well throughout the state with his talent and passion.

It is because of student leaders such as Nolan Throne that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Nolan Throne on his Class 1A State Finals title in Wrestling.

THE 72ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD a statement from Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman, founder and spiritual leader of Temple Lev Tikvah in Virginia Beach, and the representative of the Jewish Community at the City of Chesapeake's civic occasions.

As the State of Israel celebrates its 72nd anniversary in its eighth decade, we miss the prophetic voice and heroic presence of Amos Oz (1939–2018), one of Israel's premier authors whose books were translated into forty-four languages. His life mirrored the history of the reborn Jewish state out of the monumental Holocaust that consumed a third of the Jewish people. He was the very embodiment of an inspiring Israel and its acknowledged representative to the world, with foreign leaders seeking his perspective on events involving Israel. He fought in both the 1967 and 1973 wars.

Oz was honored with significant international literary awards, though the Nobel Prize somehow eluded him while being a perennial nominee. He served as Professor of Hebrew Literature at Ben-Gurion University in Be'er-Sheva though he was courted by Jerusalem's Hebrew University from which he graduated. Oz was a great humanist and a distinguished member of the Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism. He was born in Jerusalem during the British Mandate to Fania and Dr. Arye Klausner, a gifted linguist of sixteen languages. They immigrated to then-Palestine from Eastern Europe. Oz's great-uncle was Professor Yosef Klausner, the Hebrew University's renowned scholar of the Second Temple period.

Following Fania's suicide at age thirty-eight, Oz opted at age fifteen to leave his Jerusalem home by himself and move to Kibbutz Hulda where he changed his surname Klausner to the Hebrew Oz which connotes courage. It befitting the kibbutz's pioneering Labor ideology and its break with the European experience to which his parents were attached, particularly its culture. It was a turning point for Oz who was raised on Zeev Jabotinsky's Revisionist ideology of manifest Jewish power. He consequently began identifying with the "new Jew" finding fulfillment in returning to till the ancient homeland, in contrast to the perceived Diaspora Jew represented in his own family.

There is an intriguing early religious chapter in the author's life attending an Orthodox elementary school while his family was secular and even anti-religious. He was exposed to working class students who regarded him as an outsider, a rejection he later experienced in the kibbutz. His second-grade teacher, who deeply impacted him, was the famous poetess Zelda, whom Oz described as his first love.

In his book, *A Tale of Love and Darkness*, Oz recalled the dramatic vote at the United Nations on November 29, 1947 to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states, which the Arabs refused to accept. His father, Arye, was moved to tears lying next to him in bed telling Amos that he would never be exposed to anti-Semitic attacks the way he and Grandpa Alexander were in Poland with their pants forcibly removed by hooligan students at his high school. Oz witnessed the unforgettable night of the critical vote with his neighborhood gathering to listen to the one available radio. His family's small apartment was home to about twenty people during the 1948 War in Jerusalem, all enduring hardship with some losing dear ones.

Oz, an iconic Israeli figure, was a peace activist and a ardent supporter of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, regarding it as vital to Israel's best interests politically as well as ethically, no less than "a matter of life and death for the State of Israel" that must retain a Jewish and democratic identity. He feared for Israel's future internally as well as externally, regarding Judaism's genius in its Biblical prophets' humanistic ideals and moral sensitivity towards society's weak and disenfranchised. Oz advocated the curbing of the establishment's raw power "to cause pain." He was gravely concerned for the growing conflict between those advocating for strict Orthodox Jewish law (*Halacha*) and the great majority opting to preserve democracy.

He lauded secular Israel's significant and multiple accomplishments in revitalizing the Hebrew language and culture, establishing a flourishing modern Jewish state recognized as the world's start-up nation with such humble beginnings and acute security concerns. Oz's sharp arrows were aimed not only at the political Right but also at Israel's Socialist founders for failing to acknowledge the full tapestry of the Jewish heritage, with patronizing treatment of the Mizrachi and Sephardic Jews who had a moderate approach toward religion and diversity. He moaned the worldwide rise of dangerous fanaticism of Islamic fundamentalism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, white supremacy, racism, and xenophobia.

Amos Oz, the secular prophet of pain and promise, doom and deliverance, concludes his last book, *Dear Zealots*, with whom he sought dialogue, on a stirring message of both searing pessimism and consoling optimism, "I am extremely fearful for the future . . . But I like being Israeli. I like being a citizen of a country where there are eight and a half million prime ministers, eight and a half million prophets, eight and a half mil-

lion messiahs. Each of us has our own personal formula for redemption, or at least for a solution . . . What I have seen here in my lifetime is far less, yet also far more, than what my parents and their parents ever dreamed of."

Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman is founder and spiritual leader of Temple Lev Tikvah (Heart of Hope) in Virginia Beach. It meets at The Church of the Holy Apostles, the only world's community of both Episcopalians and Roman Catholic. He was born in Chu, Kazakhstan (USSR) in 1945 to Polish Holocaust survivors. He and his family lived among Jewish refugees in Poland, Austria and Germany, prior to moving to Israel in 1949. He is a member of the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission.

HONORING LIEUTENANT CAMERON MCCORD

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lieutenant Cameron McCord for his faithful service to our country as an esteemed member of the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs in the U.S. House of Representatives. In this capacity, Lieutenant McCord facilitated interaction between the Department of the Navy and Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. These engagements included, but were not limited to, formal responses to congressional inquiries, counsel to Members and staff, and execution of congressional and staff delegations. These interactions were pivotal in providing Members and staff a greater understanding of the issues facing our Navy and its sailors.

I am particularly proud to note that Lieutenant McCord planned and executed CODEL Panetta to the U.S. Africa Command area of responsibility to examine aspects of U.S. Special Operations Force and partner nation operations in North and West Africa. He coordinated and facilitated movement across six countries and three continents for seven individuals. I am forever grateful for his leadership, persistence, and support of CODEL Panetta.

Lieutenant McCord's distinguished career began after commissioning in the U.S. Navy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His first assignment was in Charleston, SC, where he entered the Nuclear Power School and Nuclear Power Training Unit. After completing the Submarine Officer Basic Course in Groton, CT, McCord reported to the USS *Helena* (SSN 725) in 2015, where he served as the Chemistry and Radiological Controls Assistant, Information Technology Officer, Antiterrorism Officer, and the Assistant Weapons Officer. McCord stood both Junior Officer of the Deck and Officer of the Deck on a dynamic EUCOM deployment from 2016 to 2017, completing multiple missions vital to national security.

McCord holds a Navy Commendation Medal, two Navy Achievement Medals, and has served on a team onboard USS *Helena* that has earned two Navy "E" Ribbons, amongst other personal and unit awards.

Madam Speaker, I commend and thank Lieutenant Cameron McCord on his service to