civil service, they will continue to pay them less than even the prevailing wages in that community.

This has happened on Guam, and it is ironic that if one was a foreign worker coming to Guam, and this disincentive that is created under the Guam prevailing wage one would be getting more money today than they would under this Navy-induced contract with Raytheon. It is an outrage.

I call again upon the Department of the Navy and the Pentagon to halt this contract, to call for an Inspector General investigation, and I call for a congressional hearing on this matter.

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ANY PARTICIPATION IN MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT AFFECTS THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF UNITED STATES IS WRONG AND SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, many have asked me why I have cosponsored House Joint Resolution 90, which gives Members of this body the opportunity to vote on the United States continued participation in the World Trade Organization. A simple answer: I firmly believe that any participation in multilateral organizations that in any way affects the independence and sovereignty of these United States is wrong and should be discontinued.

Unfortunately, it has become obvious that the WTO will be able to remove jurisdiction over virtually any economic activity from Federal, State, and local governments. Global elitists have gravitated to the new centers of power, the transnational corporations, believing that we are evolving beyond the nation state. If that is the case, we are moving from a condition of rule under law, created by representative government, representing all the needs and interests of society, toward rule by unelected elites representing only the most powerful of interests, the only entities which have the power and reach across the world to really influence new international forms such as the WTO.

Corporate governance, in fact, is the newest concept being pressed forward at the WTO, the OECD, the IMF, and the World Bank. There has been little written on the topics outside the confines of independent governance organizations. The independent state is to be replaced with the corporate state; the concept of the people as sovereigns replaced by the notion of corporations as the new sovereigns.

The increasing centralization of industries, through monopoly mergers and acquisitions, has been given much of its global impetus through the mechanism of the WTO. This anti-competition evolution, when far enough along, will end any sense of free enterprise being the normal global market norm. Corporations are not good or evil, but corporate boards prioritize actions that increase the profitability and power of the corporation. Their officers increasingly speak and act as if they do not affiliate or identify with any one country or any one home.

Do the large transnational corporations have the same degree of concern for the defense of the United States as the average citizen? What about environmental standards which are the product of our system of governance, or hard-fought labor protections jeopardized by drastic wage and labor standard differentials between the United States and the Third World? What decisions will be made by the unelected, corporate-influenced members of the WTO in the long run?

Corporatism never implied a need for democracy. We hear about the WTO adhering to recognized international core labor standards, but we do not hear how little the wages of foreign workers have increased, how often they have fallen to new lows, just how little the standards of living have changed for the average citizens of these countries. The only way to protect American jobs from further disappearing to lesser developed countries is by foreign workers receiving higher wages. Lowering trade barriers is lowering standards, period.

When we read about the growing irrelevancy of national governments in dealing with the transnational corporations, we must ask where does that leave the citizens of our Nation? Every nation that is a free republic, based upon democratic principles, has a citizenry who are the sole sovereigns. If they are not sovereign, there is no true democracy. This is why the word sovereignty has real meaning. This is why this fight for the sovereignty of the United States, challenged by the emergence of the WTO, is a real fight for the constitutional rights of each and every American. Many believe the undemocratic WTO, ruling far from our homeland, can be reformed. I sincerely doubt this, and I ask, are we really willing to take that kind of a gamble with American independence, with the liberty that we aspire to for each citizen? I hope not.

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OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ARE EXTENDED TO THE FAMILIES OF MAJOR GRUBER AND ALSO STAFF SERGEANT NELSON

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. Mr. Speaker, I have been coming to the floor once a week for the last 2½ months to talk about our men and women in uniform that are on food stamps and how I think it is unacceptable that this Congress, and this government quite frankly, would ask anyone that would be willing to die for this Nation to be on food stamps; but tonight, Mr. Speaker, I am here on the floor because there was a tragedy on Saturday night. I think we all know that a V–22 Osprey on a training mission in Arizona went down and 19 Marines were killed. It so happens that two of those Marines were from eastern North Carolina.

Major Brooks Gruber was a pilot on the mission and also there was a Staff Sergeant William B. Nelson, who was stationed at New River Air Station in Onslow County, North Carolina.

I just started thinking, as I heard about the terrible tragedy, that many of us, not just talking about Members of Congress but those of us around this Nation, we do take our military for granted. I do not think we intend to do that, but it is just maybe because out of sight out of mind. But when we hear about a training accident where men and women are killed, in this case it was 19 men, that it does remind us that our freedoms are guaranteed by those who are willing to serve.

I just wanted to come to the floor tonight, and I am sure all Members of Congress would join me in extending our deepest sympathy to the families of Major Gruber and also Staff Sergeant Nelson, as well as the other 17 men that were killed on this training flight in Arizona.

I think that it is a reminder to all Americans that the members of the United States military make the ultimate sacrifice on a daily basis, whether it is here in this country or outside of the borders of the United States of America. It is a tragedy, because we think that our men and women in training are always going to be safe and protected, but it does not always happen that way. Certainly there is an investigation going on now. We will find out soon what happened to the V–22 that made it fail in the air and kill these wonderful, brave American military Marines, it happens to be in this case.

I am going to cut my remarks short tonight because, again, I sense the sadness from talking to the Marines in the liaison office today as I am saddened myself; and again I am sure each and every Member on the floor tonight is saddened. I do hope, as I close, after extending my deepest sympathy to the families of these 19 Marines, that those of us in the House will remember that we do have those on food stamps and that we will do something before this session of Congress ends to make sure that we do show those 7,000 men and women in uniform on food stamps that we care about them and we are going to do something to help them so they will not be so dependent on food stamps.

Mr. Speaker, I do again extend to the families of these 19 my deepest sympathies on behalf of my colleagues who serve on the floor of the United States, the House of Representatives, and in a very trivial way say thank you for giving that son to this country and may God be with you and God bless you through this time of sadness.