

It is without question, Mr. Speaker, that we expect to have a brilliant future for the people of China, diplomatically, culturally, economically, and politically.

Our problem is not with the people of China, but with the actions of the repressive Chinese Government, a Government that continues to stifle dissent, to imprison those who dare to speak out, to worship as they please, to organize or to disagree. Eight years ago, the brave men and women who demonstrated for democracy did so in the spirit and the footsteps of our Founding Fathers.

They quoted Thomas Jefferson. They built a monument fashioned after our Statue of Liberty. They looked to the United States as a beacon of hope and of freedom. We looked and still look to them for their courage, their idealism, and their dedication to the establishment of basic human rights and respect for basic human rights.

Tonight in Washington, DC, there will be a demonstration outside the Chinese Embassy. It will be a coming together of many of the groups who have worked in solidarity, human rights groups, labor rights groups, workers rights groups, religious rights groups who have worked together since the time of the Tiananmen Square massacre to call attention to the severe repression that continues in China still today.

□ 1245

As I said earlier, we will gather to honor the pro-democracy activists as we recognize their legacy and the legacy that they obtained from our Founding Fathers. We cannot and must not abandon them in their cause of freedom, both where it is missing and where it currently exists. Where it currently exists, of course, is in Hong Kong, and I will move on to that in a moment.

It is quite clear that by imprisoning those that speak out for democracy, China's leaders have imprisoned part of all who speak out for democratic freedoms. These men and women are the past. The rulers of Beijing are the past. The brave men and women of 1989 and of 1978 and of all the outbursts of freedom, big and small, over the decades in China are the future.

In a few short weeks the world will watch as freedom where it exists now in China, in Hong Kong, is tested. We must maintain our commitment to the people of Hong Kong and to their civil liberties and basic human rights.

In yesterday's paper, Mr. Speaker, it was reported that in Hong Kong there was a huge protest demanding the freeing of the prisoners arrested at the time of the Tiananmen Square massacre. Thousands of people in Hong Kong rallied as the turnover approaches and makes such demonstrations illegal. This rally was first a response to a statement made by a leader in Hong Kong, who said "Forget about Tiananmen Square," and these young

people turned out to say we will not forget about Tiananmen Square. So, again, thousands of people turned out with posters that said "Forget Tiananmen Square? Never."

Mr. Speaker, in observation of the 8-year anniversary. I once again want to call to the attention of our colleagues a book called "The Courage to Stand Alone", written by Wei Jingsheng. Wei Jingsheng has been called the Sakharov of China, and this book was written in a prison cell by him. It is a moving book by the paramount leader and symbol of the ongoing struggle for democracy and human rights in China.

They say the most painful part of being a political prisoner, a prisoner of conscience anywhere, is that your prisoners tell you that nobody cares about you, that nobody knows you are in prison or cares about why you are there. And one thing I want to make certain is that those political prisoners arrested for their peaceful demonstration of their rights at the time of the Tiananmen Square massacre know that they have not been forgotten, all of them, including Wei Jingsheng, indeed a champion of democracy throughout the world.

I would like to read more from the book but my time has expired. More on the subject later. But let us all come together, regardless of what we think about our policy to China, to commemorate the courage of those who gave their personal freedom and indeed their lives for the cause of democratic freedom in China.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NETHERCUTT). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House stands in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

May Your blessings, gracious God, that brighten every place and give peace to every soul, be with all who seek Your presence and ask for Your favor. We seek to trust our own strength and yet we know we can be weak; we wish to endorse our own wisdom, and yet we know our ignorance; we say we pursue justice, and yet we can miss the mark. O loving God, as You have created us and nurtured us along life's way, so fill our hearts with those blessings that show us the way of

truth and the meaning of life. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). Will the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STUMP led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

DISPENSING WITH CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the call of the Private Calendar today.

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

There was no objection.

INTRODUCING RESOLUTION TO DENY MOST-FAVORED-NATION TRADING STATUS TO COMMUNIST CHINA

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

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, today I and a bipartisan group of Members of the House, including Democrats and some of the Republican leadership, are introducing a resolution to deny most-favored-nation trading status to Communist China.

Once again we have witnessed the utter failure of granting favorable terms of trade to China. Here is what it has brought us over the last year:

The purchase of Russian missiles specifically designed to take out American ships and kill American sailors;

A \$40 billion trade deficit, approaching \$50 billion now, mostly caused by the importation of slave-labor goods in this country;

Attempts to buy influence and use U.S. elections and conduct economic espionage against the United States of America;

A renewed crackdown on religion and preparations for a crackdown on liberties in Hong Kong;

But most of all, continued missile and chemical weapons shipments to Iran and Pakistan that will someday kill tens of thousands of innocent human beings, including soldiers who will be called to the rescue, as they were in the Persian Gulf.