

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF UNITED STATES FROM AGREE- MENT ESTABLISHING WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution. To even consider that the United States should leave the WTO would be tantamount to a jockey jumping off his horse in the middle of the race. The United States became a major industrial power at the tail end of the 19th Century. By the end of the Second World War, the United States was the world economy, providing aid to war torn Europe and Asia. Since that time, the U.S. has recognized the intrinsic strategic importance of remaining powerfully engaged in the global economy. With this in mind it is rather irresponsible for us to be considering this resolution at all.

To be sure, I do not agree with every WTO decision. Last Fall, the WTO panel issued a final report that subsidies for Foreign Sales Corporations under U.S. tax laws violated the WTO Subsidies Agreement. U.S. negotiators have since worked in good faith on a proposal to retain many of the tax benefits of the FSC structure, while establishing a new structure which would be responsive to the European Union's challenge.

I am pleased that the U.S. Treasury Department is moving forward despite the recent rejection by the European Union of its proposal by submitting its proposal to Congress in order to meet the October 1 deadline set by the WTO to comply with its ruling.

However, I simply want to express my concern on the manner in which the U.S. export sector has dealt with the U.S. territories that currently benefit from FSCs. That is, the U.S. territories seem to be an afterthought as U.S. companies reap \$3.6 billion in tax benefits annually. In Guam, there are around 211 FSC licensees, generating around \$170,000 to the Government of Guam.

I have conveyed my concerns to Chairman ARCHER and Representative RANGEL and I am pleased that they will work with the U.S. territories as this proposal moves through Congress. I hope that the Administration and the U.S. exporting industry extends to the U.S. territories the same consideration as U.S. strategy on this important issue continues.]

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about international labor rights, worker health and safety concerns, foreign environmental standards, and the convoluted and secret rules and procedures of the WTO. But, Mr. Speaker, none of these urgent areas will get any attention if we pull out of the WTO. As we saw from the protests at the WTOs 3rd Ministerial Conference in Seattle there are many concerns regarding the policies and practices of the organization that seriously need to be addressed. Even President Clinton agrees that

there are many reforms that are needed to the WTO in order that it include greater protection for foreign laborers and the environment.

Nevertheless, in order for the U.S. to reform the WTO, it has to be a part of it. The Council of Economic Advisors has noted that since 1994, approximately one-fifth of U.S. economic growth has been linked to exports. As the world's largest exporter, the United States is the country that gains the most from an open multilateral trading system.

What this body should do is work on a resolution that creates an agenda for the Administration, which comprehensively articulates all the attendant concerns that Congress has regarding the WTO. This constructive approach would no doubt be a more useful instrument of policy than this current attempt at isolationism.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by quoting the Ways & Means Committee report on this resolution, which I support: "H.J. Res. 90 is dangerous and illogical, because it would isolate the United States from this system and damage our leadership in the international economy, thereby undermining U.S. national economic and security interests."

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF LT WIL- LIAM JOSEPH DEY AND LT DAVID ERICK BERGSTROM

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, many years ago Tennyson eulogized the sacrifice of hundreds of young men in the poem, "The Charge of the Light Brigade." Tennyson gave answer to those who wondered why so many young men would give so much. "Theirs not to make reply," Tennyson explained. "Theirs not to reason why. Theirs but to do and die."

The price of freedom has never been cheap. But in America, there have always been those willing to bear the burden and pay the price to keep our nation free. I rise today to honor and pay tribute to two of these men, LT William Joseph Dey and LT David Erick Bergstrom.

On Sunday, June 18th, LT Dey and LT Bergstrom made the ultimate sacrifice when the F-14 they were flying crashed at an airshow near Philadelphia. Both LT Dey and LT Bergstrom were graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy and serving as instructors with VF-101 at Naval Air Station Oceana.

LT Bergstrom served his country honorably during overseas deployments in support of Operations Deliberate Guard and Southern Watch. His tremendous airborne leadership lead to his selection as one of only four aviators chosen for the F-14 flight demonstration team. He is survived by his parents, James and Catherine Bergstrom, and two sisters Karen and Patty. His father James is a retired naval aviator.

LT Dey served honorably aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt supporting Operations Al-

lied Force and Southern Watch. His performance as airborne forward air controller, guiding other aircraft to specific targets while dodging hostile fire was an inspiration to us all. He is survived by his wife Deborah, and 15-month old daughter Kamryn.

America must never forget the dedication our servicemen and women make everyday to preserve our freedom and prosperity even in peace time. To these heroes, America owes its freedom and Congress owes its eternal gratitude.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families, friends and shipmates. May God bless them. And may God bless our service members everywhere.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the following vote. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

June 15, 2000: Rollcall vote 279, on the Sanders amendment to H.R. 4578, I would have voted nay.

CHINESE AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the national convention of Chinese Americans in Atlanta, I am pleased to speak in honor of the many contributions persons of Chinese descent have made to America.

The American system of government is unparalleled in the course of human history, largely because of its eagerness to accept the contributions of men and women from other cultures who choose to become Americans. Chinese Americans provide an excellent example of how that system works.

Whether in war or peace, Chinese Americans have made numerous and diverse enhancements to the American way of life; giving their lives to protect it and working hard to build it.

President Clinton recently awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, our nation's highest award for valor, to several Americans of Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino descent who served with great distinction during World War II. We should all take great pride in the fact that justice was done in the end, and that we moved beyond earlier prejudices. In fact, another unique feature of American society is that our system almost always manages to right itself in the end.

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