

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank a few other people who have been instrumental in the creation of this legislation. Senators MAX CLELAND and CHUCK HAGEL have introduced this bill on the Senate side, and we are hoping towards the tail-end of their session we will be able to bring this up under unanimous consent and see it moved through the United States Senate. They have been instrumental in being able to move this on the Senate side.

I also want to thank, in particular, Steve Kelly and Winston Tabb at the Library of Congress for providing invaluable assistance in the development of the project and for their enthusiasm they have shown for this project.

I want to thank the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion for their support so far in what we anticipate to be a great partnership with those key and important organizations.

I also want to thank Jeff Mazur on my staff, who has sat through countless numbers of meetings and countless number of drafts of this legislation in order to shape it and get it to a point where we were successful in speaking to our colleagues and obtaining close to 250 original cosponsors for this legislation.

But, most of all, I want to thank the veterans of this Nation, those who I personally spoke to and who inspired me and those who I am sure the rest of my colleagues have had an opportunity to meet with and talk to and listen to them tell their stories. Without them, obviously, we would not be enjoying the freedoms and the liberties that we enjoy today. Again, with their support we can make this project what it was intended to be, a living legacy of their service to our country and a gift to future generations.

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, this is a solid, basic bill—with a great purpose.

It is to help honor and remember those Americans who used solid, basic values to perform exceptionally and serve great purposes on behalf of our nation.

Now veterans are modest people. They don't boast. They are matter-of-fact. They feel they "did their job". But the fact is that they did remarkable things—things that we must always remember.

This project will see to that. How?

Simply put, history often records the momentous events. But those momentous events are made up of countless individual storylines. Individual storylines that couldn't all fit into current history books or TV documentaries—stories that need their own archive. This bill will allow the Library of Congress to create such an archive—an archive of videotaped testimonials of the veterans themselves, telling their own stories.

If those stories are not told, recorded, studied, preserved—we risk losing them, and all that they teach us.

This project will seize the moment before us—before too much time has gone by—to go to our veterans and learn of duty, heroism,

sacrifice, fear, humor, patriotism, comradeship, compassion . . . and of darker things and times, almost unspeakable things—and how ordinary Americans stood up to resist them.

Those are lessons we must impart to the next generation. Today, we are helping to see that great purpose is served.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Congressman KIND and Congressman HOUGHTON's bill that allows the public to hear our history directly from the men and women who fought to preserve it.

America's war veterans will be offered the opportunity to share their experiences first-hand by providing an oral history to the Library of Congress.

Most of our history is found in books usually written by those who witnessed or played an active role in the events that made this country what it is today.

Well, this legislation goes a step further and puts a face to the name by video-taping the recollections of our veterans' time in service.

But this bill actually does much more. It allows students, as well as the community, to get involved and learn more about their local veterans.

To actually speak to a veteran who fought for this country, and hear about the events first-hand is the best history lesson anyone can receive.

On Long Island, we have thousands of veterans who answered their country's call to duty and are proud to share their experiences with today's youth.

As someone who lived through the Vietnam era, I remember what a difficult time it was for our country.

I remember watching many of our soldiers leaving to fight with the chance of not returning. Unfortunately, many did not.

For those that made it home, this is an opportunity to talk about the experiences and the sacrifices they endured during this time and share them with the country.

I'd like to commend Representative KIND and Representative HOUGHTON for taking the initiative in drafting this legislation and urge my colleagues to support the measure.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5212 the Veterans Oral History Project Act of 2000. I urge my colleagues to lend this timely and important legislation their support.

This bill would authorize a program within the Library of Congress to supervise and facilitate the collecting of personal histories and recollections of American combat veterans.

These personal histories will include both oral testimony recorded on video-tape, as well as written letters and testimonials from veterans.

As a World War II veteran, I am deeply aware of the importance of my generation recording its stories for those future generations yet unborn.

American veterans played a unique and defining role in shaping the events of the 20th century. The American citizen soldier was responsible for defending the cause of freedom from German aggression in 1917, Nazi tyranny and Japanese imperialism in 1942, and Communist invasion in 1950.

Today, many of these veterans are passing on. There are less than 3,500 World War I veterans alive today, out of a fighting force of over 4.5 million. Moreover, almost 1,500 World War II veterans die each day.

It is vitally important that we gather as many of their personal stories before they are lost to us forever.

This legislation is a good first step toward meeting that goal. It will both help ensure that future generations remember the contributions of those who served in combat, as well as to preserve the triumphs of the citizen soldier over evil in America's 20th century conflicts.

I urge my colleagues to join in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5212, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on H.R. 5212, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

RUSSIAN ANTI-SHIP MISSILE NONPROLIFERATION ACT OF 2000

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4022) regarding the sale and transfer of Moskit anti-ship missiles by the Russian Federation.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4022

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Russian Anti-Ship Missile Nonproliferation Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the forgiveness or rescheduling of any bilateral debt owed by the Russian Federation to the United States until the Russian Federation has terminated all sales and transfers of Moskit anti-ship missiles that endanger United States national security.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) *In February 2000, the first of two Russian-built Sovremenny-class destroyers sold to the People's Republic of China arrived in the Taiwan Strait, manned by a mixed Russian and Chinese naval crew. Currently, the Russian and Chinese Governments are discussing the sale of 2 additional Sovremenny destroyers.*

(2) *Within weeks after the arrival of the destroyers, the Russians are scheduled to transfer the first of several of the ship's most lethal weapon, the radar-guided Moskit (also known as Sunburn) anti-ship missile, which can carry either conventional or nuclear warheads.*

(3) The supersonic Moskit missile, which can be mounted on a naval or mobile land platform, was designed specifically to destroy American aircraft carriers and other warships equipped with advanced Aegis radar and battle management systems. The United States Navy considers the missile to be extremely difficult to defend against.

(4) The Moskit missile has an over-the-horizon range of 65 miles and can deliver a 200-kiloton warhead in under 2 minutes. One conventional Moskit missile can sink a warship or disable an aircraft carrier, causing the deaths of hundreds of American military personnel.

(5) The Russian Federation is helping the air force of the People's Liberation Army to assemble Sukhoi Su-27 fighter aircraft, which are capable of carrying an air-launched version of the Moskit missile, which has a longer range than the sea-launched version. The Russian Federation is reportedly discussing the sale of air-launched Moskit missiles to the People's Republic of China.

(6) Land-, sea-, or air-launched Moskit missiles raise the potential for American casualties and could affect the outcome in any future conflict in the Taiwan Strait or South China Sea. The transfer of the missile by China to Iran or other belligerent nations in the Persian Gulf region would increase the potential for conflict and for American casualties. A Moskit missile mounted on a mobile land platform would be difficult to locate and could wreak havoc on the coastline of the Straits of Hormuz.

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION OF DEBT FORGIVENESS.

(a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President shall not reschedule or forgive any outstanding bilateral debt owed to the United States by the Russian Federation, until the President certifies to the Congress that the Russian Federation has terminated all transfers of Moskit anti-ship missiles that endanger United States national security, particularly transfers to the People's Republic of China.

(b) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of subsection (a) if the President determines and certifies to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate that such waiver is vital to the national security interest of the United States.

SEC. 5. REPORTS ON THE TRANSFER BY RUSSIA OF MOSKIT MISSILES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 6 months thereafter, until the certification under section 4, the President shall submit to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report identifying the status of any contract and the date of the transfer of any version of the Moskit missile, particularly transfers to the People's Republic of China, occurring on or after February 1, 2000.

(b) SUBMISSION IN CLASSIFIED FORM.—Reports submitted under subsection (a), or appropriate parts thereof, may be submitted in classified form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER).

(Mr. ROHRBACHER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in February 2000, just the beginning of this year, a Russian-built Sovremenny class destroyer

sailed through the Taiwan Strait with a mixed Russian and Communist Chinese crew, and the ship sailed to its new home in southeast China.

The ship's most lethal weapon was the supersonic SSN-22 Moskit missile, also known as the Sunburn missile, which was developed by Russia during the Cold War to destroy U.S. aircraft carriers and Aegis class warships.

On his recent visit to Beijing, leaders of the Chinese People's Liberation Armed Forces told Admiral Dennis Blair, Chief of U.S. Pacific Command, that if U.S. aircraft carriers once again sailed close to the Taiwan Strait, just as they did during the cross-Strait tensions of 1996, that the People's Liberation Army would fight a battle "at any cost."

□ 2045

The Moskit missiles now allow the Communist Chinese Navy to make such threats against the U.S. Navy's most powerful platforms, and they allow the Communist Chinese to endanger the lives of thousands of American service personnel. The Moskit missiles, which can be mounted on ships or on land-based mobile platforms, can carry either conventional or nuclear warheads. A new version is being developed to be fired from jet fighters. It is the most dangerous antiship missile, the Russians and now the Communist Chinese have in their fleet.

Our Navy admittedly has limited ability to defend itself against this 20 kilo-ton nuclear-capable weapon, a payload, I might add, that surpasses the bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima during World War II, and they can hit an American target at a range of up to 65 nautical miles.

Each destroyer that the Russians are transferring to the Communist Chinese carries 8 Moskit missiles. This arsenal could destroy an entire U.S. aircraft carrier battle group, killing thousands of American service personnel.

China is scheduled to receive at least three more of these Sovremenny destroyers at the end of 2001. The next delivery is scheduled during the end of this year. Each ship will have a component of at least 18 of these deadly missiles.

H.R. 4022 seeks to deter the Russians from transferring these missiles to the Communist Chinese or any other nation or organization that would endanger U.S. naval vessels. The resolution prohibits the rescheduling of any outstanding bilateral debt owed to the United States by Russia, until the President of the United States certifies that the Russian Federation has terminated all transfers of these deadly antiship missiles that would endanger not only U.S. national security but the lives of thousands upon thousands of our naval personnel.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution does not affect U.S. support for reform and humanitarian aid to Russia. It does not affect U.S. assistance to the Nunn-Lugar program. In fact, it gives Rus-

sian leaders the choice of whether they prefer selling these deadly weapon systems to the potential enemies of the United States, or whether they instead would prefer us to have bilateral debt restructuring and forgiveness, something that would help them out.

This choice makes sense, and it makes sense for us to offer the Russian leadership this choice. Thousands of lives of our brave men and women in uniform who are serving in the Asia-Pacific Theater depend on our vote. And why should we be restructuring Russia's debt, giving them the benefit of not having to pay the money that they owe, if they are going to use that economic largesse on our part to provide deadly weapons that are aimed at one purpose, and one purpose only, the destruction of U.S. naval vessels and the killing of naval personnel, of U.S. naval personnel. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. Russian sales of Moskit antiship missiles to the PRC pose a great threat to the security of Taiwan and to our country. These missiles arrived in China at a time when the mainland has enormously increased the number of other types of missiles on China's coast facing Taiwan.

Taiwan is a vibrant democracy and a key economic player in the Asia-Pacific region, and it is unacceptable that the PRC continues to boast to the world about its missile threat to Taiwan and, by extension, of the United States.

When this legislation was first marked up in our committee, we expressed concerns that the bill did not give the President sufficient flexibility to balance the national security implications of this complicated situation.

On one hand, China's possession of these missiles poses a danger to our Navy and the Taiwan Straits. On the other hand, Russia may need to seek a comprehensive multilateral agreement to deal with its debt burden in the future, without which it may face the prospect of default to key western governments. A Russian default could even force the Russians to sell more missiles to China and to other countries which obviously are of a concern to the United States.

We must balance, Mr. Speaker, the national security implications posed by Russia's missile sales to China with those posed by a further destabilized economic situation in Russia.

For this reason, the committee agreed to an amendment giving the President the national security interest waiver. This waiver allows the President the flexibility to protect adequately U.S. national security interests in this situation.

Mr. Speaker, it is hoped that the President will not need to use this

waiver. Russia should take a careful look at the strong support for this legislation in this House and decide the continued sales of Moskit missiles to China are not in Russia's interests.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no other requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4022, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4022, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H.Con.Res. 390) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding Taiwan's participation in the United Nations, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 390

Whereas Taiwan has dramatically improved its record on human rights and routinely holds free and fair elections in a multiparty system, as evidenced most recently by Taiwan's second democratic presidential election of March 18, 2000, in which Mr. Chen Shui-bian was elected as president;

Whereas the 23,000,000 people on Taiwan are not represented in the United Nations and many other international organizations, and their human rights as citizens of the world are therefore severely abridged;

Whereas Taiwan has in recent years repeatedly expressed its strong desire to participate in the United Nations and other international organizations;

Whereas Taiwan has much to contribute to the work and funding of the United Nations and other international organizations;

Whereas the world community has reacted positively to Taiwan's desire for international participation, as shown by Taiwan's membership in the Asian Development Bank and Taiwan's admission to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group as a full member and to the World Trade Organization as an observer;

Whereas the United States has supported Taiwan's participation in these bodies and, in the Taiwan Policy Review of September 1994, declared an intention of a stronger and more active policy of support for Taiwan's

participation in appropriate international organizations;

Whereas Public Law 106-137 required the Secretary of State to submit a report to the Congress on administration efforts to support Taiwan's participation in international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization; and

Whereas in such report the Secretary of State failed to endorse Taiwan's participation in international organizations and thereby did not follow the spirit of the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) Taiwan and its 23,000,000 people deserve appropriate meaningful participation in the United Nations and other international organizations such as the World Health Organization; and

(2) the United States should fulfill the commitment it made in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review to more actively support Taiwan's participation in appropriate international organizations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER).

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Taiwan have proved that freedom and democracy are not just American ideals, not just European ideals, they are the universal principles that apply to every individual, to every community and every nation as our Founding Fathers stated, that we look at the rights as being God given to all people on this planet.

The United States State Department's report on the Taiwan Policy Review 1994 clearly stated that the U.S. should more actively support Taiwan's membership in international organizations, because Taiwan has lived up to the ideals that we expect of democracies. And President Clinton, however, has not used our influence in international bodies to try to insist that Taiwan be able to participate in these organizations. Congressional support for Taiwan is solid.

Taiwan has made enormous strides towards becoming a full democracy, as I stated, and it is unreasonable for the people of Taiwan to be excluded from the full participation in international organizations due to threats from mainland China. Unfortunately, what we have today is a Communist dictatorship headed by gangsters who have never been elected to anything, who are making demands upon us to mistreat a democratically elected government in Taiwan.

It is embarrassing that our administration seems to be kowtowing to that type of pressure. The United States has supported Taiwan's membership in the Asian Development Bank and its admission to the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation group. Extending United Nations and World Health Organization membership is the next step in dem-

onstrating U.S. support for Taiwan and a United States commitment to those people around the world who believe in democracy and freedom and liberty and justice and have actually moved to make sure their country, as Taiwan has done, enshrines those ideals.

China's continued harassment and intimidation of Taiwan also underlines the urgency and necessity of Taiwan's participation in the United Nations. Taiwan currently does not have access to the United Nations Security Council, and the forum countries whose safety is in jeopardy and they must turn to. Not only that, but after Taiwan has joined the United Nations' responsibility for Taiwan safety and security, it will be shifted solely to the United States as laid down in the 1979 Taiwan's Relations Act to the international community.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and in doing so, strike a very solid note that can be heard around the world in the halls of the dictatorships in Beijing but also in the halls of democracy in Taiwan and in those countries that are struggling to be free that shows the United States is on the side of democracy and democratic people.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution. Taiwan's 40-year journey toward democracy is one of the 20th century's great success stories. The people of Taiwan have proved to the whole world that freedom and democracy are not just American ideals; they are universal principles that apply to every individual, to every community and to every Nation.

We must take steps to reward nations like Taiwan that are making such great progress towards democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I dream of a day when Taiwan is a contributing member of the World Trade Organization, the World Health Organization and the United Nations. I dream of a day when the U.S. will replace its one China policy with a policy of one China, one Taiwan, one Tibet.

H.Con.Res. 390 recognizes that Taiwan and its 23 million people deserve to participate in the UN and other international organizations, such as the World Health Organization.

The U.S. should fulfill its commitment made in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review to more actively support Taiwan's membership in organizations such as the UN and the WHO. This legislation has received broad bipartisan support, 86 colleagues from both sides of the aisle have cosponsored this bill.

Taiwan's growing regional and global significance demands a more active and thoughtful U.S. policy. Our ties with Taiwan must encompass all aspects of Taiwan's security, trade relations and support for the right of self-