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RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 10, 2002 AS THE 91ST NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, On the occasion of Republic of China's 91st National Day, I wish to express my best wishes and congratulations to the leaders and people of Taiwan. While I regret that our government does not have formal relations with Taiwan, we do enjoy a flourishing relationship with Taiwan. I have met with President Chen Shui-bian, and others members of the Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan, and congratulate them on their commitment to maintaining Taiwan as a vibrant democracy and a free market economy.

Indeed, through the free market system Taiwan's economy has grown spectacularly. In terms of Taiwan's trade with us, Taiwan is our eighth largest trading partner and seventh-largest export market. Our exports to Taiwan in 2001 totaled US\$18.2 billion and Taiwan exported \$27.7 billion of goods to us. Taiwan's importance as a world economy can be witnessed in Taiwan's accession into the World Trade Organization (WTO) earlier this year, the culmination of twelve years of collaborative efforts with the government of the United States. Due to its strong free market economy Taiwan is a likely candidate for future free trade negotiations with the United States. The signing of such an agreement could promote even stronger bilateral economic relations.

It is now universally acknowledged that Taiwan is a vibrant democracy and Taiwan should be accorded a proper place in the family of nations. It has been unproductive to keep Taiwan out of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and other major international organizations. Over the past decade, Taiwan has become a successful model of rapid political reform. Taiwan is today home to more than 90 political parties and virtually every political office is hotly contested through free and fair elections. And just two years ago, Mr. Chen Shui-bian, a former political dissident, was elected the tenth president of the Republic of China. Democracy is doing very well in Taiwan.

It is my pleasure to extend my congratulations to the people of Taiwan as they celebrate their National Day this October 10th. It is my hope that our relations with Taiwan will continue to be maintained in friendship, based on the mutual commitment of our peoples to free enterprise, democratic values and respect for individual liberty.

COMMENDING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF COLONEL WILLIAM H. PETTY

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished career of Colonel William H. Petty of the Alabama National Guard who prepares for retirement in the coming months. Colonel Petty has distinguished himself through more than twenty-nine years of service in the United States Armed Forces.

Colonel Petty is best known for his outstanding performance as the director of human resources for the Alabama National Guard. As the human resources officer, his command presence and superb situational awareness helped to ensure all units within the Alabama National Guard, both Army and Air, exceeded personnel standards.

Colonel Petty developed, implemented, and coordinated the State's first reduction-in-force of full-time personnel for both Army and Air AGR programs. Thanks to his efforts, no full-time AGR soldier lost his or her job. His superior application of technical, tactical and leadership abilities earned him the respect and admiration of all soldiers assigned to the command.

In his current assignment as director of human resources, Colonel Petty has fully demonstrated his desire and ability to lead soldiers by example and prepare them for possible mobilization and deployment.

Colonel Petty is a tough, standards oriented officer who always extracts the very best performance from soldiers assigned to his command. Colonel Petty is the epitome of the core Army values and proudly serves his nation, the State of Alabama, and the local community in an unwavering manner.

Colonel Petty's numerous achievements and outstanding dedication to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on himself, the Alabama National Guard, and the United States armed forces.

U.S.-U.K. COOPERATION ON GULF WAR SYNDROME RESEARCH

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to recent developments in the Government Reform Subcommittee of National Security, Veterans, Affairs, and International Relations.

I would like to commend my colleagues, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PUTNAM and Mr. SHAYS, on their trip to London in June, where they met with Lord Alfred Morris of Manchester as well as veterans, parliamentarians and researchers from the United Kingdom. The purpose of the meeting was to examine the status of international cooperation with regard to epidemiological and clinical research into illnesses reported by the United Kingdom Veterans of the Persian Gulf War.

This meeting followed a hearing held by Chairman SHAY's subcommittee last January

that examined Allied research into Gulf War Illnesses and recent progress in that field.

It is only fitting that the United States and Great Britain should pool their respective resources in unraveling the mysteries of Gulf War Syndrome and fight together in learning more about it and how to combat it.

I strongly support the efforts of our British Ally to make the results of their research available to the Congress and to the Department of Veterans, Affairs Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses.

Later tonight, the House will vote on a resolution authorizing the President to use force in Iraq. American and British troops may soon face the prospects of fighting on the potentially toxic battlefields of Iraq. It is therefore of the utmost importance that we continue in our struggle to understand Gulf War Syndrome's causation and cures. We must not withhold information from our allies which might help us to reach these goals, and the level of cooperation between Mr. SHAYS, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. SANDERS and our British Allies, during their meeting in June was very much in the spirit of this idea.

RECOGNIZING THE MOST REVEREND WILTON D. GREGORY AND THE RED MASS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit the homily given by the Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory at the Red Mass to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Bishop Gregory is a constituent of mine from Belleville, Illinois and serves as the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. He delivered the Red Mass homily on October 6 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

The Red Mass is sponsored by the John Carroll Society. This group was created in 1951 to encourage educational, religious and charitable activities in the community. To achieve this, the organization is involved with many projects in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, including the Red Mass.

The Red Mass was first introduced in the United States in 1928 at Saint Andrew's Church in New York City. Since 1953, the John Carroll Society has sponsored the Red Mass annually in Washington D.C. This mass takes place on the Sunday before the first Monday in October, just before the Supreme Court begins its new term to bless those that administer justice in our society.

Bishop Gregory's homily was an eloquent message about the importance of responsibility and fairness in the administration of justice. Furthermore, while some believe there have been signs of darkness in our society in the past year, Bishop Gregory reminds us that we cannot afford to give up our hope and our faith.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bishop Gregory and to commend him for his message of hope and his dedicated leadership.

HOMILY OF BISHOP WILTON GREGORY, RED MASS, SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER, 2002

It is a pleasure and an honor to be able to add to the words of greeting of Cardinal

McCarrick, my own personal recognition to all of the dignitaries who have gathered to pray with us this Sunday morning. You are here, as are we all, to invoke God's blessings upon all those responsible for the administration of justice and upon all our public officials. In doing so, we are recognizing that the exercise of civic authority, the responsibility for the well-being of our citizens, and often of many who are not our citizens, is not merely a work of our own human resources. Rather, it is a cooperative venture with the plan and the will of God Himself.

Everyone who holds a title of civil office is not simply the beneficiary of honor or privilege, although that may accompany the office. More importantly, they carry the responsibility to exercise wisely, fairly, and in a personally disinterested fashion the call for justice and solidarity that God intends for us during our lives on this earth. Indeed, Christ Himself, in His hour of trial reminded His earthly judge that the power, which was given to be exercised over Him, had been given by Heaven itself. For that reason, it is indeed good that we gather at this year's Red Mass to offer our prayers that God give to every civic and public official the wisdom to recognize His influence in their lives and the grace to carry out well the obligations they have accepted.

The Second Vatican Council, which is one of the essential guides for our Catholic thought at this turn of the millennium, has reminded us to "read the signs of the times" (GS, 4) so that we might seek to carry out God's plan in the circumstances in which we find ourselves. As we read the signs of our times, we cannot fail to see how demanding they are, to us as individuals and to those who lead us. In fact, in our time these signs have raised questions about our leadership itself, in many aspects of society.

We are all living daily with the memory of 9/11 as well as with the future responses to that attack. Questions are rightly raised about changes in our personal lives, and about how to react as a people in a manner that is just and moral. We continue, almost on a daily basis, to read the signs about leadership in business and our County's economy. What is the meaning of the failures of leadership summed up by names like Enron and World Com? And I would be injudicious if I did not mention the doubts about leadership that have arisen in our county as a result of the sex abuse scandal that has plagued the Catholic Church in the United States in recent months, and the terrible personal suffering which it has exposed. From a certain point of view, many of the signs of this time in which we live seem to be those of darkness, like endless clouds from storms that seem unwilling to pass.

But we cannot allow matters to remain that way. It is neither our history as Americans, nor our nature as men and women of faith, to give in to pessimism or resignation, somehow burying our heads in the sand, wringing our hands, or doubting the power of God to guide us as we respond to the world in which we live. Because we are people of faith, we must also live as people of hope. We trust that God is not somehow looking away but even in our difficult moments, He is the reason we look confidently to the future.

Do not the signs of this time call for us proudly to acknowledge our roots in faith and to renew our commitment to God in a moment of trial? Moreover, in so doing, we fulfill not only our own personal quest for faith, but we are consistent with the very values upon which this beloved nation was founded. In fact, from the very beginning of our democratic experiment, it was understood that justice, morality and good governance, indeed the essence of leadership, are not the arbitrary re-creations of each gen-

eration. Rather they are based in the will of God Himself.

George Washington, in his farewell address, described his Presidency as a time of "passions, agitated in every direction, . . . liable to mislead; appearances sometimes dubious, vicissitudes of fortune often discouraging, [and] situations in which not unfrequently want of success has countenanced the spirit of criticism". Yet following this somber description, which could easily be applied to our own day, Washington observed that in leading the nation through these obstacles, his path had been lighted by the twin torches of religious faith and moral convictions stating: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. . . . Let it simply be asked, Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths which are the instruments of . . . justice?"

Our first great President continued, "And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education, . . . reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

It is the world's experience that true greatness in leadership, be it religious or secular, is a rare commodity. The combination of spirit, intellect, courage and the gift of being able to motivate fellow travelers in this world are often diminished by sin and the human limitations that each of us knows only too well, both in ourselves and in others.

It is for that reason that we are gathered here today, and gathered in hope as we pray for our public officials and administrators of justice. We do so at this Mass in which we call upon the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God Himself, and we ask that that Spirit be given to those entrusted with our welfare to strengthen them, purify their vision and guide them. Moreover, that Holy Spirit is ready to help us both to understand and to respond to the signs of our times.

As Isaiah tells us in the reading this morning, this Spirit of the Lord is "a spirit of wisdom and understanding". He therefore assists those who must wrestle with the most complex and conflicting legal arguments and proofs, helping them not to be misled by what is superficial, beguiling or false. Isaiah tells us that this is "a spirit of counsel and of strength", guiding the vision of legislators and administrators to look to the greater good, not responsive merely to momentary influences or transient majorities, but seeking to make us a people in solidarity, brought together by the values and the bonds of truth which God has written on the heart of each one of us. This is, as Isaiah says, "a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord. And that Spirit "shall judge the poor with justice and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked."

We must not forget that the Spirit of the Lord for whose presence we pray this morning, that same Spirit, was given to Christ, as we read in the Gospel. And that Spirit brings about a special care, attention and love for those who are in need among us. Christ told His listeners that in their hearing was fulfilled His anointing with the Spirit, so that He might "bring glad tidings to the poor . . . proclaim liberty to captives . . . recovery of sight to the blind . . . and let the oppressed go free". obviously no small agenda, but it is one that we too must embrace as part of the work of our time. And we should not be bashful in proclaiming from the housetops, that

in many places, and under many circumstances, it is precisely churches, synagogues, mosques and temples, in short it is religious faith, that has answered the cry of those who are most in need.

While there is much more still to do, we can be justly proud of the way religion has shaped our response as individuals and as a society in the United States when confronting the needs of the poor. We also know of the importance of members of different religions developing deeper respect for one another, so as to collaborate in shaping the common good. And as President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, while apologizing once more for the cleansing needed within our own house, I would argue most powerfully that those scandals must not silence nor limit the excellent influence that religious voices have in the formation of our governmental and societal policies, whether they be war and peace, the death penalty, stem cell research or questions of poverty. The truth that underlies faith is not diminished because its messengers are human beings with all their faults and failings. The miracle of faith is that truth is proclaimed in spite of ourselves.

All too often in recent years, it has been a sign of our time that some urge that the role of religion in public life be marginalized and even suppressed. And too frequently, men and women of faith have not challenged the assertion that religion is a strictly private matter and that faith in God, and its accompanying moral and social values, have no role to play in our national life. We are even told that our children should not utter God's name when reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, as if that would do them harm or make them less fully Americans. Instead of accepting this claim, our faith in God leads us to another conclusion. As we face the signs of our times—the moral decline in society, the threats against life both from abroad and from within, and the lack of trust in our leaders—we recognize that this time, our time, is a time for religious renewal. It is a time for us to recover our sense of God, of the sacredness of human life and of doing what is right, whatever the cost and whatever the circumstance. It is a time for us to be not more reticent, but more courageous in professing our faith in God and acting upon it.

Pope John Paul II, the outstanding religious and moral leader in the world today, had this to say to visiting Bishops from the United States in 1998, "The survival of a . . . democracy depends not only on its institutions, but to an even greater extent on the spirit which inspires and permeates its procedures for legislating, administering, and judging. The future of democracy, in fact, depends on a culture capable of forming men and women who are prepared to defend certain truths and values. It is imperiled when politics and law are sundered from any connection to the moral law written on the human heart."—(Address of Pope John Paul II to the Bishops of Region X, June 27, 1998).

In gathering today and offering Mass to invoke the Holy Spirit upon those public servants who bear responsibility for the health and well being of our nation, we are inspired by St. Paul who told Timothy that he urged "supplications, prayer, intercessions and thanksgivings . . . for kings and all who are in high positions so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity" (I Tim. 2:1). In doing so, let us highlight one thing more: our gratitude.

The burden of public service, when rightly lived, is indeed a heavy burden. Not all agree to take it up. We need to pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance for our judges, administrators and governmental officials. But as well,

we must pray in gratitude for those who have given a life of service to us. That service is a sacred trust and no small contribution to our ability to live the quiet and peaceable life that St. Paul mentioned.

In gathering this morning for this sacrifice of the Mass, as we place before the altar our very selves, our many needs and our petitions, we must also thank God. We thank Him especially for His providence in the history of our country, raising up in difficult moments leaders, such as Presidents Washington and Lincoln, to help us through our trials. Moreover, we thank God for the leaders and public servants of our own time, who truly strive to protect our country's justice and peace, ensure for us the opportunity to work for the fulfillment of God's plan in our lives and in society.

TRANSATLANTIC SECURITY AND
NATO ENHANCEMENT RESOLUTION
OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 468 which expresses the House's support for the further enlargement of NATO at the upcoming Prague summit. I believe that such an expansion would further U.S. foreign policy interests by ensuring peace and stability in Central Europe.

As during the first round of enlargement in 1999, countries joining NATO must support and implement the democratic principles that serve as the foundation of the countries that established the alliance. It is essential to the continued viability of NATO that new members fully abide by Western values, including respect for religious and national minority rights.

Mr. Speaker, over 2,000,000 Hungarians live as minorities in Romania and Slovakia as a result of borders being drawn without the affected populations allowed to express their views through plebiscites. These minority communities had their religious, educational and community properties confiscated by the Communist regimes. Following the historic changes of the early 1990s, laws had been passed in these countries providing for the restitution of or compensation for these confiscated properties. However, the implementation has been extremely slow, especially when it comes to the return of the properties of Hungarian religious and educational institutions.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is essential that countries seeking to join the alliance of free and democratic countries represented by NATO make significant strides to protect religious and minority rights and expeditiously restore or compensate the minority communities for the illegally confiscated properties. The stability of the region and indeed of NATO requires that the member countries take all measures necessary to ensure ethnic and religious harmony within their borders. Therefore, it is critical that the governments of Romania and Slovakia take immediate measures to ensure religious and minority rights and fully implement the laws designed to restore properties confiscated from the Hungarian and other minorities. NATO members must adhere to these minimum requirements of free democratic societies that the alliance and the United States represent.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOUSE
DEMOCRATS' EARNED LEGALIZATION
AND FAMILY UNIFICATION
LEGISLATION

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, before September 11, 2001, our country's leaders from the Executive Branch to the Congress were actively engaged in exploring a fundamental re-crafting and rewriting of our immigration policies. Due to the horrific events of September 11, 2001, that agenda had to be delayed as our country struggled to find ways to ensure our security, while still respecting the civil rights and essential dignity of the immigrants within our country.

Since September 11, Congress has taken important steps to secure our borders and enhance our nation's security against the terrorist threat. The sound policy rationales that were propelling us to re-craft our immigration laws before September 11 continue to exist today and are even more urgent. To the core values of family unity, fundamental fairness and economic opportunity that we articulated in the Democratic Statement of Principles on Immigration a year ago, we now add a pressing concern—the need to bring the undocumented population out of the shadows and into the light of greater accountability so that they too can aid in effectively securing our great nation. The need for comprehensive immigration reform has not abated, and our resolve to move forward in this effort remains.

EARNED LEGALIZATION AND FAMILY UNIFICATION

Today, Democrats are introducing legislation that will take the first step toward comprehensive immigration reform that will recognize immigrants who have been working and contributing to this country while also increasing our security. Our earned legalization legislation will ensure that hard-working, tax-paying immigrants will be able to adjust their status and live legally if they have resided in the United States for at least five years, have a work history of at least two years and are able to pass a background check.

Our legislation will benefit both America and an immigrant population that has embraced the American Dream. It will streamline the enforcement of our immigration laws and allow us to shift important enforcement resources to tracking down those who have come to the US to do us harm. Reducing the number of undocumented immigrants in the US will enable us to better focus on individuals who pose a real terrorist threat. At the same time, our legislation rewards work by ensuring that qualifying immigrants can move on with their lives free of the fear that one day they or members of their family may be sent away from their adopted country forever.

Our legislation will also speed the reunification of families, so that our immigration system will not force families to choose between long years of separation and undocumented immigration. We value family-based immigration because it solidifies important family ties and creates stronger communities. Yet, our current immigration system puts extreme stress on families, forcing them to wait many years before they can be reunited. We believe it is not in the best interest of our communities to force such long separations.

We must recognize, however, that this is but a first step, and that much more remains to be done. There has been much debate about the need for new and expanded temporary worker programs. Even as we debate the merits of legalizing the hard-working population already in the United States, we acknowledge that a comprehensive immigration policy debate must address future flows of immigrants and their impact on the US labor force. Indeed, President Fox of Mexico continues to press the Bush Administration for movement in this area. We must consider reasonable policy options for regulating, limiting and controlling this future flow of immigrants in a way consistent with our nation's highest values.

As Presidents Bush and Fox resume bilateral migration discussions, and we encourage their efforts, we note that immigrants come from many different countries which highlights the importance of having broad and expansive discussions of the myriad issues presented by immigration trends. As the discussion continues, it is vital that the issues we set forth below are thoughtfully and effectively addressed and are key elements to any future legislative or administrative efforts.

ADJUSTED STATUS FOR WORKERS CURRENTLY IN THE
UNITED STATES AND TOWARDS REGULARIZING THE
STATUS OF FUTURE IMMIGRANTS

Consistent with our original Democratic Statement of Principles on Immigration, we recognize that to achieve the comprehensive immigration reform that we outlined, the status adjustment of undocumented immigrants currently residing in the United States who do not otherwise qualify for our earned legalization proposal must be addressed. We should find a way to place these undocumented workers and their families on the same path to legalization as those who qualify for our earned legalization proposal.

In addition, we must seek to regularize the flow of immigrants who cross our border. By seeking regularization, a legal mechanism could be provided for recent arrivals to the US to work while not undermining the wages, benefits standards and legal protections of US workers and local labor markets. Such an effort should include the following essential elements: (1) a thorough and accurate methodology for determining the need for foreign workers and the application of the most reliable labor market tests; (2) accurate wage determinations based on relevant wage information, union contracts and benefits and the development of new formulas that reflect industry standards; (3) equitable labor protections for foreign and US workers, including the right to organize—foreign temporary workers should not be used to undermine union organizing efforts; and (4) the Department of Labor must be given the necessary enforcement resources and procedures to ensure full compliance and temporary foreign workers must be provided a private right of action to ensure full compliance.

As we move forward in the development of any new efforts, we also recognize the necessity of avoiding the failures of past guest-worker programs. We must ensure that existing visa programs are reformed to function properly and as intended, and we must direct the necessary resources to training for US workers and better link such training to available jobs.