

under the leadership of its pastor Dr. Pace and his lovely wife. They continue to work diligently as they serve others. I commend them at this celebration of their over 14 years of service to Red Oak United Methodist Church, and I encourage congregation members and friends to join in their appreciation celebration as Dr. and Mrs. Pace continue in their mission.

REGARDING LEGISLATIVE WALK-OUT (TEXAS STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES) MAY 14, 2003

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker I rise to commend the Texas Legislators who staked their political careers on demanding the legislature cease work on a national Republican Party map that would override voters' choices in Congress, re-mapping the state by congressional district just one year after a federal court did the job for them.

Redistricting is a serious constitutional matter; it is not a childish "do-over" when it does not meet your partisan whims. I appreciate the leadership of Jim Solis (D-Brownsville), Rene Oliveira (D-Brownsville), Jaime Capelo (D-Corpus Christi), and Juan Escobar (D-Kingsville) and thank them for their unique patriotism. They are doing a very hard thing and the good people of South Texas appreciate their position.

In a democracy, voters should choose their representatives; representatives should never choose voters. Drawing congressional district lines is an exercise that is mandated once a decade by our constitution. We did this last year; a federal court drew new lines for Congressional districts, and each member of this body from Texas ran in those districts and won elections. To redistrict again, one year later, is unconscionable.

These members of the Texas State Legislature have done an incredibly courageous thing by leaving the state to force the House Republicans to abandon their plans to gerrymander the state of Texas' in Washington's Republican-driven redistricting effort. This effort is part of a national effort across the country, with Colorado also being a target of national meddling in the business of State Legislatures.

I commend these legislators, particularly my South Texas friends, who have the commitment and bravery to take the politically dangerous position of leaving the state Capitol in the midst of the session, a highly extraordinary move borne of a highly extraordinary national political grab. By denying the quorum, they are protecting the rights guaranteed to Texans in the Constitution.

These legislators are being criticized for their actions, yet it is the national Republican leadership that put these events in motion and they are the ones who can end it so Texans can get back to the urgent business of balancing our budget, reforming insurance rates, re-financing education reform, and economic development around the state.

Were it not for high-level, unapologetic tinkering in the state's business, the state legislators would now be working on the issues

upon which they were elected to pursue. As it is, the only members now hard at work on substantive budgetary matters are the Democrats working out of Oklahoma trying to persuade the national republican leadership to pull the redistricting bill so they can proceed.

The legislators are fighting for open participation in government and redistricting, which is precisely the vision our forefathers had when they founded this country.

I commend the political courage of the legislators who staked their careers on the principle of democratic process and one person-one vote.

CROSS-STRAIT RELATIONS: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, C.J. (Chien-Jen) Chen, Taiwan's ambassador to the United States, in an address to the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia earlier this year, spoke on the important issue of "Cross-Strait Relations: Past, Present, Future." I know my colleagues will be interested in reading the ambassador's abridged remarks, which I include in the RECORD:

REMARKS BY REPRESENTATIVE C.J. (CHIEN-JEN) CHEN AT THE FOREIGN POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE—JANUARY 16, 2003

I know that the most pressing international issues at the moment involve Iraq and North Korea and that, in contrast, cross-strait relations appear to be quite tranquil. But, I am also sure that you know cross-strait relations are highly sensitive. Both now and for the foreseeable future, cross-strait relations directly affect not only Taiwan but also U.S. interests in the Western Pacific and peace and security in the entire region. So, this is a topic that merits further discussion.

Of course, to understand where cross-strait relations stand at present and to see where they might stand in the future, one must know something about the historical background of Taiwan's relationship vis-a-vis the Chinese mainland.

I. THE PAST

Over the course of the last four centuries, Taiwan has been transformed from a neglected backwater and unsettled frontier into a prosperous modern democracy of 23 million people. During this time, control over the island has passed through the hands of a succession of masters: indigenous tribes, Dutch colonizers, Han Chinese pioneers, Manchu officials, Japanese imperialists . . . In 1945, the island reverted to Chinese control under the Republic of China government. But just four years later, in a tragic twist of fate, China itself was divided by a Civil War into two parts: the free and capitalistic ROC on Taiwan and the tightly controlled and authoritarian People's Republic of China on the Chinese mainland. Throughout the Cold War, the two sides faced each other across the narrow Taiwan Strait in a tense confrontation marked by enmity, rancor, and distrust. For the past 16 years, my government has been working to break the impasse and facilitate reconciliation with the other side. In some respects, we have made much progress. In others, we have met with disappointment.

For the sake of brevity, I will not delve into all the twists and turns of Taiwan's fas-

cinating history. But, I do want to point out that several factors and historical truths continue to influence cross-strait relations today and will likely shape them in the future.

First, Taiwan is situated on China's strategic periphery at the very nexus of international trade routes that crisscross East Asia. The Taiwan Strait, which is as narrow as 90 nautical miles in some places, is the only geophysical feature separating Taiwan from the Chinese mainland.

Second, the vast majority of people on Taiwan are Han Chinese whose ancestors arrived in Taiwan at different times over the course of the last four centuries. They share many ancestral, historic, cultural and linguistic ties with the people across the strait.

Third, owing to their geographical proximity and cultural affinity, economic exchanges between Taiwan and the Chinese mainland have been nearly unavoidable and usually beneficial to both sides.

Fourth, owing to that fact that Taiwan and the Chinese mainland were united for less than five years in the 20th century and the fact that the PRC regime on the mainland has never ruled Taiwan even for a single day, distinct political, economic, and social systems have developed on each side.

Fifth, the long separation has also produced on either side of the Taiwan Strait different values, perspectives, visions, and even identities.

Sixth, cross-strait relations are dynamic, fluid, malleable. Taiwan's relationship to the Chinese mainland has changed a number of times in the past, is not static at present, and will likely evolve in the future. It is our hope that the relationship will change for the better.

II. THE PRESENT

That certainly was the motivation of our government, which, in 1987, sensed that the time had come to break the impasse between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait by allowing veterans on Taiwan to visit their relatives on the Chinese mainland. In the years following, private exchanges (i.e., travel, mail, phone calls) between the people on both sides have grown enormously as have indirect trade and investment. Along the way, our government unilaterally declared the end of hostilities against the Chinese mainland (1991) and amended ROC laws to recognize that, at present, our jurisdiction covers the Taiwan area only. Just as significantly, both sides of the Taiwan Strait set up liaison agencies to discuss practical issues arising from the various forms of interaction across the Taiwan Strait.

Now let us take a look at current developments—both positive and negative—in the relationship.

Positive

To give you a sense of the scope of that interaction, allow me to cite a few statistics. In addition to exchanging millions of phone calls and letters with people on the mainland, residents of Taiwan have, over the last 16 years, made nearly 27 million trips there, including more than 3 million trips in 2002. And during these trips to the mainland, they have spent roughly 30 billion U.S. dollars. At the same time, thanks to the gradual relaxation of our policy regarding visits from the people of the mainland, they have been able to make 817,000 short trips to Taiwan in the last few years.

Bilateral trade has surpassed 272 billion U.S. dollars since 1987. In just the first nine months of 2002, two-way trade between Taiwan and the mainland rose 26 percent over the same period the year before to 25 billion dollars.

The number of Taiwan-based businessmen investing in mainland China has also risen

rapidly since restrictions on travel to the mainland were lifted in 1987. According to my government, which counts only pre-approved cases of investment, as of June 2002, Taiwan's private sector has invested 24.2 billion U.S. dollars in the Chinese mainland. Other non-governmental sources estimate that Taiwan has actually invested well over 140 billion dollars in the mainland.

This trend may continue to strengthen now that both Taiwan and the mainland have acceded to the World Trade Organization. Under the WTO, Taiwan and the PRC are co-equals. They must abide by the same rules and regulations, meet the same standards, abide by the same procedures, and resolve trade disputes through the same mechanisms.

Other positive developments include some less-publicized events such as the start of the three mini links between our off-shore islands and the mainland coast, my government's decision to allow mainland Chinese to visit Taiwan as tourists, its decision to allow Taiwan-based banks to set up representative offices in the mainland, and the present efforts to establish indirect charter flights between the two sides during the Chinese New Year holiday.

Negative

But there have been negative developments as well.

First and most fundamental has been the PRC's continued insistence that Taiwan is a province of China. And since the PRC equates itself with China, this is tantamount to saying that Taiwan is a part of the PRC and should be subject to PRC leadership. Such a formulation not only runs contrary to the facts on the ground, it also alienates the people of Taiwan.

Second, because it insists that Taiwan is merely a local territory, the PRC also works very hard to deny Taiwan any room in the international community. To this day, the PRC strenuously objects to Taiwan's presence, participation, or even observance in certain non-political international organizations such as the World Health Organization or the International Civil Aviation Organization, not to mention numerous international activities. This has not helped cross-strait relations and has indeed further antagonized the people in Taiwan.

Third, the PRC refuses to resume dialogue with us or our designated liaisons. The PRC insists that no talks can be held unless we first agree to the so-called "one-China" principle. We, on the other hand, have made it clear that we are willing to discuss any issue with them including the one China issue, but that talks should be held without any preconditions.

Fourth, the PRC still refuses to renounce the use of force against us. In recent years, the PRC has deployed more than 350 advanced ballistic missiles along its coastline opposite Taiwan and is increasing the number of these missiles by 50 a year. These missiles are targeted directly at Taiwan and constitute a clear and present danger to us. In addition, they have increased their military budget by more than 17 percent a year for the past two years and they have been acquiring advanced weapons including Russian warships and fighters.

We cannot but increase our purchase of more and better defensive weapons from the U.S. It is most regrettable that resources, which could have been better used for other more meaningful purposes, must instead be used to finance those purchases.

The ROC's Policy Pronouncements

Let me now summarize the current policies of Taiwan and the mainland regarding their mutual relationship.

When President Chen Shui-bian was inaugurated almost three years ago, he declared

that so long as Beijing has no intention of using military force against Taiwan, he would not declare Taiwan Independence, change our national title, push for the inclusion of the "state-to-state" formulation in our Constitution, or promote a referendum on the question of independence or unification. He also said that the abolition of the National Unification Council or the National Unification Guidelines would not be an issue. This policy, which was quickly named the "five noes policy" by media in Taiwan, remains unchanged.

On January 1, 2002, the president further said, "If the Chinese mainland can renounce military intimidation and respect the people's free will, the two sides can begin with integration in the cultural, economic, and trade fields, before further seeking a new framework for permanent peace and political integration."

On January 1 of this year, President Chen reiterated this policy formulation and called upon both sides of the Taiwan Strait to "strive toward building a framework of interaction for peace and stability." The two sides, he said, should "foster an environment conducive to long-term engagement" and "work together, abiding by the principles of democracy, parity and peace in an effort to resolve longer term issues."

Such policy pronouncements, I believe, fully demonstrate our sincere goodwill and pragmatic approach to cross-strait relations.

The PRC's Policy Pronouncements

For its part, the PRC has toned down its rhetoric somewhat.

Last October and again yesterday, PRC vice Premier Qian Qichen also said that the establishment of direct air and shipping links between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait was a purely economic issue that need not be influenced by political factors. But, the PRC still insists on its "one China" principle and refuses to accept the role of our government whose participation is inevitable if links are to be established.

The fact is, the PRC still refuses to renounce the use of force against us. It still seeks to isolate us internationally. It still targets us with missiles, and it still insists that we must accept its "one China" principle before dialogue can be resumed. Just recently, when Jiang Zemin suggested the PRC might consider reducing these missile deployments in return for reductions in U.S. defensive arms sales to Taiwan, it was obviously an attempt to deflect criticism from their unprovoked arms buildup and their refusal to renounce use of force against us. We are glad the American people, and your leaders, see through such cynical gestures.

THE U.S. CAN BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE

Your government, under either Republican or Democratic leadership, has frequently declared that the Taiwan Strait issue should be resolved peacefully, with the freely given assent of our people. It is very clear this policy has broad bipartisan support in your country.

Let me emphasize that we are grateful for American support of our democratic system and right of free choice.

The PRC depends greatly on U.S. trade, investment, cultural, and other relations. So we think Washington can be a very effective, positive influence in persuading Beijing to sit down and resume dialogue with us. Resolute and prudent U.S. policy commitments can go a long way towards preventing aggression and encouraging peaceful talks. Taken together, the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances of 1982, which have governed U.S. policy towards Taiwan for many years, are crucial to the trust underlying our relationship. And they are critical for peace across the Strait.

Let me point out that we have never asked the United States to act as a mediator between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait. But we do hope the U.S. continues to play an active role as a stabilizer to encourage peace across the Strait. We appreciate that the U.S. handles its relationships with both Taiwan and PRC in a very even-handed way. Balanced treatment serves the United States' own interests as well as ours.

III. THE FUTURE

What does the future hold for cross-strait relations? No one can be sure.

Leaders in Taipei and Beijing will no doubt continue fashioning cross-strait policies in light of tangible economic and security interests as well as intangible cultural and value-laden interests. But, cross-strait relations are also influenced by other sets of bilateral relations including our close and friendly relationship with the United States as well as by changes in the international environment.

Furthermore, we must keep in mind that many intractable differences remain between the two sides: (1) Our disparate economic and political systems. (2) Our different standards of living. (3) Our distinctive mentalities and outlooks. And, (4) the lingering sense of misunderstanding and distrust. Until and unless the gaps in those areas can be narrowed and/or until and unless a better appreciation and acceptance of the differences between the two sides can be realized, cross-strait relations can only proceed at a slow and deliberate pace.

And yet, there are also a number of reasons for guarded optimism. For one thing, the governments and the people on both sides seem to understand peace, security, and continued economic development are in the interests of both sides. Secondly, to meet real needs, exchanges are sure to increase. Dialogue, though interrupted, is inevitable. And, with dialogue, the two sides eventually may reach some accommodation. Third, the twin processes of globalization and technological advancement are causing both sides to move toward a higher degree of interaction, understanding, and perhaps common interests.

What is required now is patience, wisdom, and goodwill. These three things we possess in ample quantity, so I am reasonably optimistic and hopeful that a better relationship between the ROC and the PRC is in the cards.

I would therefore encourage you to keep an eye on cross-strait relations, to lend your support for positive change, and to help us bring lasting peace and prosperity to the entire Western Pacific region.

WORKFORCE REINVESTMENT AND ADULT EDUCATION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1261) to enhance the workforce investment system of the Nation by strengthening one-stop career centers, providing for more effective governance arrangements, promoting access to a more comprehensive array of employment, training, and related services, establishing a targeted approach to serving youth, and improving performance accountability, and for other purposes: