

his crew mates and his nation that he displayed repeatedly throughout his life. I was saddened, but nonetheless honored, to have an American flag flown over this very building, a shrine to democracy throughout the world, which was draped over Tom's casket and presented to his family at his burial.

Perhaps one of the finest comments on Tom's life was offered by his dear friend and mine, Monroe County Probate Judge Otha Lee Biggs, when he said, "He wasn't happy unless he was present with the employees of that company. They were a part of his family. If they needed him, he wanted to be there for him. And, for the leadership he gave to them, they gave him their support in return. For he was a people's man and he was a working man's executive."

Indeed he was.

Mr. Speaker, I offer this memorial tribute to Tom Tippy with the belief that his legacy of goodness, of sound decisions and of always being a man of his word, will continue in perpetuity. Truly, he lived his life with an enthusiasm toward helping others and in so doing, I believe he inspired the rest of us to try to do a little better ourselves as we approach our fellow man.

Tom is survived by his lovely wife, Rita; three sons, Tommy Tippy, Jr., Bill Tippy and Richard Tippy; one stepdaughter, Melanie Lee Ford; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. My condolences go out to each of them.

DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF
NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT
TO PRODUCTS OF PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my opposition to House Joint Resolution 57 disapproving the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (or normal trade relations) to the People's Republic of China. The continued extension of normal trade relations (NTR) to China will do much to benefit the United States domestically, while engagement with China remains the most powerful means of advancing our interests abroad.

I share the concerns of many of my colleagues over China's record on human rights. In particular, the plight of the people of Tibet is one that we must not ignore. As we engage China economically, we should work to engage China in a policy that allows Tibetan peoples, cultures, and beliefs to flourish. As President Clinton has repeatedly emphasized, engagement with China is one path by which to encourage reform. The Clinton administration and Congress will continue to press China for human rights' reform and democratization of its political process.

Approximately 400,000 American jobs depend on trade with China. Nearly all of China's other major trading partners, including Japan and Europe, currently grant normal trade status to the People's Republic of China. Were

China to retaliate with trade restrictions against the United States, these nations would gain a competitive trade edge against the United States that would jeopardize vast numbers of American jobs.

Additionally, the revocation of China's NTR status would likely simply replace Chinese imports with goods imported from its neighboring nations, harming only the American consumer. Let us also remember that over the past decade, American exports to China have quadrupled to \$14.3 billion, a large portion of which is made up by high-technology imports produced in locations such as my district in Silicon Valley.

It is also possible that China might soon gain entrance into the World Trade Organization (WTO), an action that might result in the critical and historic acceptance by Chinese markets of American agricultural and industrial products. The chances of opening these Chinese markets would be severely diminished if the United States were to revoke NTR status at this point.

China also plays an extremely important role in guaranteeing regional security and stability from the Korean Peninsula to the Indian Subcontinent. China's constructive efforts for peace between North and South Korea, and its push for restraint by India and Pakistan in the wake of their nuclear tests, highlight the positive role China is capable of playing in the international arena. And our policy of engagement has exhibited some meaningful success; as a result of our policy China has signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and joined the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention.

China clearly must take substantial steps to improve its record on human rights and democratize its government if it wishes to be fully accepted by the international community. Yet only further engagement with China will allow the United States the opportunity to advocate on behalf of its own interests and those of the Chinese people. I urge you vote against House Joint Resolution 57.

SUPPORT FOR BULGARIA, H. CON.
RES. 170

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 170 outlines our United States foreign policy towards Bulgaria, notes the objectives of our new, post-Cold War relationship with Bulgaria, and points out some of the positive changes now underway in Bulgaria.

Since elections held in April 1997, the government of Bulgaria has committed itself to making progress on badly-needed economic reforms, fair treatment of all of Bulgaria's citizens, including those from its large ethnic Turkish minority, and Bulgaria's eventual integration into the pan-European and trans-Atlantic community.

However, despite Bulgaria's economic reforms, democratization, and progressive foreign policy, the breakup of the Soviet-domi-

nated "COMECON" economic organization, the failure of the previous Bulgarian government to adequately address corrupt activities, and the imposition of international sanctions on neighboring Serbia and nearby Iraq during most of this decade have placed serious burdens on the Bulgarian economy.

I believe it is important that the United States recognize and commend Bulgaria's efforts to make progress in the midst of its current economic difficulties. House Concurrent Resolution 170 does that and makes it clear that the United States also supports Bulgaria's eventual integration into pan-European and trans-Atlantic economic and security institutions.

Bulgaria is working hard to overcome the legacy of four decades of communist rule and to assume its proper place in the trans-Atlantic community of states. Accordingly, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 170, which I believe to be a recognition of our new relationship with this important country. I submit the text of H. Con. Res. 170 to be inserted at this point in the RECORD.

H. CON. RES. 170

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Elections held in April 1997 in the Republic of Bulgaria brought to office a government committed to full economic reforms, discipline in government budgetary and currency policies, increased foreign, direct investment in Bulgaria, and energetic efforts to combat corrupt and criminal activities that had undermined previous economic reforms.

(2) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has worked to ensure the proper treatment of its citizens, regardless of ethnic background, including those of ethnic Turkish background, many of whom were subjected to forced assimilation campaigns and deportation under the former communist regime in Bulgaria.

(3) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has made Bulgaria's integration into pan-European and trans-Atlantic institutions, including the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the highest priority of its foreign policy, and has undertaken efforts to promote stability in southeastern Europe and the Black Sea region.

(4) The economy of the Republic of Bulgaria has suffered considerable decline due to the disruption of important markets caused by the break-up of the former, Soviet-dominated "COMECON" economic and trade organization, the application of international sanctions on Iraq, and the failure of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria to confront widespread corrupt activities prior to the elections of April 1997 that resulted in the theft of large sums from both government and industry and that bankrupted many Bulgarian banks.

(5) The economy of the Republic of Bulgaria has suffered as well from the imposition of international sanctions on neighboring Serbia and continues to suffer from the conflict in that country, which has disrupted commerce throughout the region of southeastern Europe.

(6) The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria has recently taken steps to finalize bilateral agreements with the neighboring Republic of Macedonia, recognized by the