

and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, announces the joint appointment of Mr. Dan Crippen as Director of the Congressional Budget Office, effective February 3, 1999, for a term expiring on January 3, 2003.

LET US GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of shocking revelations of Chinese espionage, and the unlawful and unauthorized transfer of nuclear technology from our Nation to the People's Republic of China and the curious coincidence that the Clinton-Gore campaign took Chinese money in the 1996 presidential campaign, let me propose four immediate steps that this House should take.

Number 1, Mr. Speaker, let me call on the President. If he wants to get to the bottom of this scandal, as his spinners suggest, this President should release forthwith the report of this House's select committee headed by the gentleman from California (Mr. Cox) into the entire episode.

Number 2, I should point out, Mr. Speaker, 60 colleagues have joined me in signing a letter to the chairman of our Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss), urging him to conduct his own hearings since the Cox committee will soon lapse.

Number 3, I would call on this Congress to close our national laboratories to these so-called cultural exchanges because what they are are pilfering—our technology.

And Number 4, Mr. Speaker, Sandy Berger must go.

CHINA WILL STOP AT NOTHING

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in 1992 a Russian spy who defected to America said China is determined to destroy America from within. He further said, and I quote, China would buy or steal our industrial and military secrets. He said China would buy American politicians. And the Russian spy further said, and I quote, China will stop at nothing. In spite of all this, China got for free our missile technology, China got naval bases, and China gets and continues to get a sweetheart trade deal financing the next major threat to our sovereignty.

Beam me up. Someone in high places in America is in bed with the Chinese Red Army and the Chinese Communists.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back a \$50-billion-plus trade deficit that threatens our future.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCOTLAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

(Mr. HAYES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to rise today to pay special tribute to Scotland County, North Carolina, as it celebrates in 1999 its 100th anniversary. I also want to recognize this Thursday, March 18, as Agricultural Appreciation Day in Scotland County.

Although Scotland County is relatively young among North Carolina counties, having been created by the North Carolina General Assembly on February 20, 1899, it has a rich and interesting history. Central in the history of Scotland County is the presence of and dependence on agriculture. Agriculture in Scotland County, just like in the rest of America, is recognized as the foundation of our society.

Scotland County Farmers contribute over 40 million dollars to the local economy. There are approximately 125 farms in Scotland County which produce cotton, soybeans, corn, wheat, tobacco, oats and hay; hogs and broilers are also raised in Scotland County.

Scotland County farmers contribute over \$40 million to the local economy. There are approximately 125 farms in Scotland County which produce cotton, soybeans, corn, wheat, tobacco, oats, hay and hogs. Broilers are also raised in Scotland County.

Mr. Speaker, Scotland County farmers are the stewards of the soil and water resources that provide substance to feed, clothe and shelter the American people and those around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with others in Scotland County to honor those individuals involved in agriculture, one of the most noble of professions, and thank each farmer in Scotland County, indeed each farmer in America, for their hard work and commitment to stewardship of the land and providing food and clothing to the world.

KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO VETERANS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the Republican solution to add \$1.9 billion to the administration's proposal to save and improve the health care of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, few things are more sacred and solemn than the promises we have made to our Nation's veterans because we would not enjoy the peace, the prosperity and the freedoms we

have today without their sacrifices. Unfortunately, though, that promise does not mean much to some because they would like to pass a budget that literally is a slap in the face to every veteran we have.

Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago we elevated the VA to a Cabinet level department for a very good reason. We wanted the VA to have the President's ear. But is the President listening?

We need to protect the future of VA health care, we need to protect the future of our veterans. Unfortunately, however, the administration's proposed budget fails to do this.

I encourage all Members to support our Nation's veterans, back the Committee on Veterans' Affairs' budget recommendation and keep the promises we have made to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to this country.

REPUBLICANS TAKING THE LEAD IN MAKING SURE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE WILL BE THERE WHEN PEOPLE NEED IT

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, to make sure that the Social Security and Medicare are there when people need it, the Republican plan locks away 100 percent of the retirement surplus in a safe deposit box.

Now I know that the response of many seniors in my district is, "But I thought that was already the case," or, "Why wasn't that done a long time ago?"

Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer for 40 years of Democrat control of this body, but I can say that Republicans are taking the lead on the issue. While the President's plan takes only 62 percent of the surplus and reserves it for Social Security, the Republican plan takes 100 percent of the retirement surplus and locks it away for both Social Security and Medicare.

Now let me repeat that the Republican plan locks away 100 percent of the retirement surplus and reserves it for Social Security and Medicare. Let us not kid ourselves. The retirement surplus alone will not solve the problems of Social Security and Medicare, but our commitment to strengthen these two programs and protect seniors is clear.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Democrat colleagues to join us in a commitment to protecting these programs for seniors.

PUT THE TRUST BACK INTO THE SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)