

The Senate intelligence committee said in a report last week that China gained technical information from U.S. companies during satellite launches which will improve its missiles and could threaten the United States.

The report capped a 10-month investigation by the committee into the impact on U.S. national security of advanced satellite technology exports to China.

Senator Richard Shelby, chairman of the intelligence committee, said Sunday, "This is probably the most serious espionage we have had in this country in modern times."

Shelby said his committee's investigation uncovered "very suspicious banking relationships" which would need further investigation. The Republican from Alabama said millions of dollars were funneled to a small bank in the United States from China, possible as political campaign donations.

Bob Kerrey, the ranking Democrat on the intelligence committee, agreed there had been leaks at the Los Alamos lab.

"I have no doubt there has been Chinese espionage at these nuclear labs," the Nebraska senator said. "I have no doubt the efforts to reduce the risk of that espionage was sloppy and not well coordinated and as a consequence has been damaging to the people of the United States."

Despite the breaches, Kerrey said, the threat to Americans was not on the scale suggested by Shelby.

"This is a very serious case of espionage, a very serious breach of security at the labs, but its very important for us not to overestimate the threat," he said.

COMMEMORATING ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to announce that this month, May, is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. This month is meant to celebrate the many contributions of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans to the fabric of American life.

As the Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus for the 106th Congress, I wish to draw attention to this month as a time to honor, remember and celebrate the Asian and Pacific Islander Americans who live in each one of our congressional districts. In fact, 65 congressional districts have a population of at least 5 percent APA and some 28 have over 10 percent APA in their districts.

This celebration dates back to the legislation introduced by former Representative Frank Horton in 1978, establishing Asian Pacific American Heritage Week to draw attention to this population. In 1990, the week was extended to a month, and it was not until 1992 that legislation was passed to make APA a permanent occasion during May of every year.

This is a particularly critical time to reflect upon the conditions and the contributions of Asian Pacific Ameri-

cans. They are a growing part of our population, and they make major contributions to every facet of our life, from science to sports, from education to entertainment, from culture to commerce.

Asian Pacific Americans are major players and major movers in our American life. Yet, despite their success, they continue to experience various forms of discrimination; and some communities experience many difficulties in education and the economy. And they are, of course, subject to the ups and downs of our country's relationships with various countries in Asia and the Pacific.

We should all take the time to celebrate the success of individual APAs, like Junior Seau, the outstanding linebacker for the San Diego Chargers; David Ho, who was Time magazine's 1996 Man of the Year for his research on AIDS; Josie Natori, a highly acclaimed designer who recently received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor; Jerry Yang, the former Stanford Ph.D. student who cofounded Yahoo; and Seiji Ozawa, who is in his 24th season as music director for the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

But we must also take the time to acknowledge that there can be a thin line in American society between celebration and condemnation. Sometimes we are quick to praise individuals from various communities that make up the fabric of American life but we can be just as quick to stereotype and stigmatize the communities from which these individuals come from. Immigrant bashing, hate crimes, wholesale characterizations about this or that group are not only hurtful, they are disrespectful and harm our entire society.

We are in the midst of a series of charges and countercharges about espionage at the Department of Energy labs, alleged fundraising from foreign sources; and our relationship with the People's Republic of China is probably at its lowest point during this decade. We all have a serious responsibility to make clear and understandable distinctions between the activities of foreign agents, criminal spies and the Asian Pacific American communities which help make this country strong and vibrant.

There is much media coverage today about Chinese spying and illegal Chinese fund-raising. It is all too easy to blur any distinction between those who are operating outside the law and at the behest of foreign governments and the Asian Americans who live next door, who work at Silicon Valley and who work tirelessly in defense and energy laboratories around the country. Asian Americans have contributed enormously to our technological lead in the world, and they contribute to our military and economic strength in ways that all of us should be proud of and grateful for.

Let us be clear. The overwhelming and vast majority of Asian Pacific Americans are not just industrious, they are as loyal to America as all their fellow Americans. The preponderance of stories about the espionage may lead to the same result that we had a few years ago when the stories about illegal fundraising first surfaced. Individual Asian American citizens around the country had additional questions asked of them, found it a little more difficult to get appointments with elected officials, were asked to verify the origins of their campaign donations in ways that others were not.

The illegal fund-raising stories had a chilling and direct effect on the lives and the political participation of Asian Americans around the country. Let us make sure that the current rash of stories and the current state of our relationship with China has no impact upon the lives or the economic or employment opportunities of individual Asian Americans around the country.

We in Congress have a special responsibility to make sure that our sentiments about these matters of espionage is clearly separate from any reflection upon the ethnic communities in our country.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Energy Secretary, Bill Richardson, for his sensitivity to APA concerns; and I encourage all Members to attend the numerous planned APA activities in their home district this month. And the APA caucus will also be organizing a special order commemorating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

As we deal with the Cox Report, as we deal with the Department of Energy revelations, as we deal again with the charges about fund raising, let us remember that it is a thin line between celebration and condemnation, between singing praise and stereotyping.

On this note, I take this opportunity to thank Energy Secretary Bill Richardson for his sensitivity to APA concerns, and also on agreeing to speak at the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies Gala.

There are numerous activities planned by Asian Pacific American groups this month to celebrate our diverse heritage. I urge every member's participation in these activities.

The Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus will also be organizing a special order in May commemorating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) at 2 p.m.