

this body and the other body have been together on national security concerns. Democrats and Republicans have worked hand-in-hand over the years in protecting America's security.

This battle, Mr. Speaker, is between the White House and the Congress. This White House has done things that this Congress has tried to stop and overturn.

Starting tomorrow and continuing through the next year and a half, until the presidential elections and both parties attempt to win the White House, the American people will have to judge as to whether or not our security has been harmed, how extensively it has been harmed, what is going to be the remedy for us to deal with these concerns that we have relative to technology flowing into hands that eventually could be used against America.

I want to caution our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, not to rush to snap judgments. We should not tomorrow when the China Select Committee reports come out and bash all Chinese citizens, or certainly not Chinese-Americans. Some of our most capable leaders in this country are Chinese-Americans. In fact, some of my best friends are Chinese-Americans, leaders in the academic world, the scientific world, the technology world. We must make sure that we let them know that they are solid Americans that we respect. We must not let this report come out and be an effort where Members of Congress come out and trash China and trash our relationship with those Chinese American leaders in our communities across this country.

The problem in the end, Mr. Speaker, is with us. It is within our own government. We should not try to find any scapegoats. We should not try to blame industry. We should not try to just blame the Chinese. We should not just try to blame any one group.

The bulk of the problems I think we will find were caused by our own actions, by our own decisions, to ease up on the control mechanisms, to make technology available for sale. This is not to say there are not cases of espionage, because there are, and they need to be dealt with, as in our laboratories and the network that the Chinese established. But if we are foolish enough to allow China to set up front companies and buy technology from us, who is wrong? The Chinese, who are abiding by our laws and buying technology in many cases that we sell them, or are we at fault for loosening our controls and allowing them to buy these technologies?

The same thing is true with companies. American industry by and large wants to do the right thing, but if we send confusing signals, if we change the regulations, if we loosen up the standards, then most American industry should not be blamed when these very technologies are then sold abroad

because we have allowed those practices to go on.

As I said earlier, there are companies that deserve to be investigated, and two are under criminal investigation right now. But I would hope tomorrow and for the rest of this week as we get ready to celebrate the Memorial Day holiday that we as a Nation step back and begin to seriously consider our national security.

It has not been a high focus for the past 7 years. We have been lulled into a false sense of complacency. The economy is going strong, people are working, inflation is low, unemployment is low, and we have been convinced that the world is safe. Now, all of a sudden, we wake up and see Russia backed into a corner, China involved in technologies that we never thought they should have, North Korea deploying long and short range missiles that now threaten not just our territories, but the mainland of the U.S., Iran-Iraq developing medium range systems with the help of Russia, India and Pakistan saber rattling with nuclear warheads and medium-range missiles.

Where did they get the weapons from, Mr. Speaker? Where? We saw China supplying Pakistan with the M-11 missiles. We saw China supplying Pakistan with ring magnets. We saw China supplying Pakistan with the technology for the nuclear furnaces. We saw Russia supplying India with technology.

Why are we surprised? All of a sudden we come with the realization, we have problems in the world, and we have not dealt with those problems in a fair, open and honest way, in spite of tremendous efforts by Republicans and Democrats in this body and the other body.

It is time to end the spin, Mr. Speaker. It is time for this administration to end the nauseating spin, the spin doctors at the White House, who want to spin everything, to make it look as if they have no role to play, just as they did when they lost the Congressional elections and did not want to accept any responsibility in the White House. It was all the fault of those Members of Congress who were out of touch.

It is about time this administration and this President understand that once in awhile he needs to accept the responsibility for his actions and the collective actions of this administration.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to share with the American people and the Members of the House a special order on Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

As many people know, and it is being widely celebrated in various communities throughout the Nation, May of every year is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I want to thank the previous speaker for making a clear distinction between some of the problems and some of the issues concerning espionage and some of the security issues that we are currently experiencing. Mr. Weldon certainly is one of the body's leading experts on national security, and I serve with him on the Committee on Armed Services, and while we may not fully agree on some of the interpretations given to some of the challenges we face, we are certainly unanimous in the sense that all of this discussion should stay clear of any kind of aspersions cast upon the Asian-American community.

As chairman of the Asian Pacific American Caucus for the 106th Congress, it is my privilege and honor to try to bring to the attention of the body and the attention of the American people the multifaceted contributions of the Asian Pacific American community to American life and society.

As members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus tonight, my colleagues that will participate and I will use this opportunity to honor, remember and celebrate the Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in our country.

In fact, it is important to note that over 65 Congressional districts have a population of at least 5 percent Asian Pacific Americans, and some 28 Congressional districts have over 10 percent Asian Pacific Americans in their home areas.

The history of APA month dates back to some legislation introduced by former representative Frank Horton from New York in 1978 establishing Asian Pacific American Heritage Week to draw attention to the contributions and to the conditions of this growing part of the American population. In 1990 the week was extended to a month, and it was not until 1992 that legislation was actually passed to make APA month a permanent occasion during the month of May.

This is supposed to be the time that America recognizes the heritage that the many communities which actually make up the rubric of Asian Pacific America bring to the cultural complex of America, and it is a very complex contribution, and a series of actually many heritages.

I am a Pacific islander, and with us today are the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) a Pacific islander, and Mr. Wu, a freshman member from Oregon, who is of Chinese ancestry. We represent a wide variety of cultures and civilizations. Actually the area that we draw off account for over half of the world's population. These multiple heritages range from

the ancient civilizations of the Indian subcontinent and China, to the island Pacific, from Japan, Korea, Vietnam and the Philippines. We add our customs and traditions to the beautiful tapestry which makes up American life.

□ 2030

This diversity is good for America. Sometimes we think of minority groups, minority communities as somehow areas of problems to resolve, that there is always some dimension of them that invites solutions to some preceding problem.

I want to happily acknowledge that, as Pacific Americans, indeed all Americans of all races and all ethnic backgrounds should be proud of who they are and the multifaceted contributions that they have made to America's social fabric.

Despite the diversity of the backgrounds that make up the Asian Pacific American community, we are united by a characteristic concern for family, for making sure that we protect and nurture each other, those in our immediate once commonly referred to as nuclear family, as well as in our extended family, whether in education, in business, and just about everything in life, we are working hard not only for ourselves, but for our families, and making sure they get better opportunities and encouraging our young people while we pay attention to our elders.

This concern for family across generations I think is characteristic, good strong characteristic of all of the communities which make up Asian Pacific America, and it is something that we proudly wish to share with the rest of America.

This is the month where we can call attention to the best of our community and to demonstrate to Washington and to the Nation that Asian Pacific Americans are making their mark and making their contributions in all segments of society.

There are people like Vera Wang and Josie Natori, both fashion designers who are internationally renowned for their creations. There are entrepreneurs like Jerry Yang, founder of Yahoo, Incorporated, and Robert Nakasone, president and chief executive officer of Toys "R" Us.

We also shine in the education field. Dr. Chang-Lin Tien is the former chancellor of U.C. Berkeley and has made many outstanding contributions to the field of scientific research and journal publications and government consultation.

In the field of the arts, we have performers like Yo-Yo Ma, a cellist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra who dazzles us with his artistry and has some 12 Grammy awards to his name.

We also have actresses like Ming Na-Wen, who not only starred in critically acclaimed movies such as the "Joy

Luck Club," but also lent her voice to the famous animated musical "Mulan."

In the area of government, we have outstanding civil leaders such as Bill Lann Lee, acting attorney general for civil rights, who has led our Nation's fight for equal opportunity for the past year and a half and has done an outstanding job.

In our armed forces, we have General Eric Shinseki, current Vice Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army, who has had 33 years of military service, won numerous awards, and has recently been nominated to the post of Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army, which would make him the highest ranking officer in the U.S. Army, certainly the highest ranking officer of Asian Pacific American ancestry to rise to that position in our country's history.

In the scientific field, we have innovative doctors such as Dr. David Ho, Times Magazine's 1996 Man of the Year. Dr. Ho is renowned for his groundbreaking research on HIV and AIDS, and he is currently the scientific director of the world's largest independent AIDS research laboratory.

Kalpana Chawla, on the other hand, is renowned in her work on the 1997 Columbia Space Shuttle mission. She is the first East Indian American who has traveled to space.

In the media, we are graced with such talented television journalists as Ann Curry, a two-time Emmy award winning anchor, and she has joined the cast of "NBC Dateline" and the highly popular national morning news show, "The Today Show."

Michelle Kwan's artistry and elegance on the ice have demonstrated to us just how far determination and dedication can take us. On the other hand, the grace of Michelle Kwan is balanced with the agility and force of Junior Seau. American Samoan by ancestry, Junior is a football player with the San Diego Chargers, has been voted for six consecutive Pro-Bowls and was named 1994 NFL linebacker of the year.

We have, of course, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA), who, despite the size of his congressional district, has more players in the NFL than probably any six other congressional districts combined. So I am sure he will tell us a little bit more about that.

Of course we have in politics, we have not as many as we would like, but we certainly have a number of them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to Vice Chair of the Asian Pacific American Caucus, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU), who has recently been featured in a very complimentary article in A Magazine, which is a national Asian magazine. I want to congratulate him for that. He has a number of issues to share. I was certainly glad that he has come to this House to grace us with his presence.

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) for yielding to me.

It is a special pleasure for me to stand here in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I am proud to serve as the Vice Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and it is my great privilege to stand on the floor of this House as the first Chinese American to serve in this body in the 220-year history of this country.

We all may have our small footnotes in history, but I try to keep a touch of humor, and in this town maybe even tougher, a touch of humility about what happens around here.

I would like to share a little story that happened right here in this Chamber. The story is only slightly humorous, but perhaps more importantly, it helps illustrate the point which I would like to make tonight.

When I was younger, I attended one year of medical school, and sometime during the fall of that year decided that I wanted to leave medical school to make a broader difference. When I called home to share that with my father, let us just say that he was not pleased. He was not pleased at all.

During the next year, when I took a leave of absence and worked for a while, I received a stream of articles, newspaper articles from my parents, from my dad in particular, and it was all about doctors, doctors who were doing wonderful things in impoverished neighborhoods, really working in communities where they were needed. It was also about lawyers and those articles about ambulance-chasing lawyers who were up to no good. My father was really, really hoping, I think, that I would go back to medical school.

Now fast forward 20 years, and I was sitting just about there on this floor. It was January 6 of this year. I was about to be sworn in as a Member of Congress, probably the proudest day of my life. My parents were sitting right up there. My wife was somewhere over here. My in-laws were somewhere over here, and I could not see them.

But I could see my father. I could see my father. As I looked up at him, I could not help but think, I wonder if he still wishes that I graduated from medical school?

I am telling that story because I think that it is something very positive in our community, that we have a lot of people who have become prosperous, who are engineers, who are scientists, who are business owners, but very few people who have gone on to fields like law and politics.

But I am proud to say that there is a movement afoot across America, and I am proud to report to the House tonight that there is a very positive trend occurring in Asian American communities. Gordon Quan in Houston, Max Inge in New York City, Barry Chang, whom I just visited in California, Silicon Valley, Charlie Woo, who is visiting in Washington today

but who is starting a movement in Los Angeles, and other places like my home in Portland, Oregon, from Chicago to St. Louis to Washington, D.C., where Asian Americans are recognizing the importance of encouraging the next generation to branch out, to branch out from the traditional professions like science, like engineering, as good as those professions are, from dentistry, from medicine, into new fields like art or journalism or law or even politics.

I believe that it is vitally important for Asian Americans to participate in the political process. We often hear complaints about not being fairly treated in the media or in other public bodies. But I submit to my colleagues that the only way to make a truly lasting and positive and constructive difference is to get involved and to stay involved, to become part of shaping the dialogue and influencing the process ourselves.

That is what is happening across the Nation today, to do what groups across America are doing to continue to instill in our generation and the next the importance of taking school seriously, and not just taking school seriously but taking participation in the political process seriously, to pass on to our young folks what we have learned from our lives and the lives of our parents: that the opportunity to participate in the American dream is a gift of the American spirit, and that we should not let any part of this gift slip away. We must fully participate in the process.

I am grateful every day to share in that process. I do my job each and every day with the faith that we are serving a larger process. We all need to participate as Americans. This is the message being brought to other Asian Americans, to urge them to get involved and to stay involved.

Each new immigrant group that comes to America has learned, sometimes the hard way, that to be a voice at the table, we must make sacrifices. We as Asian Americans are clearly in the early formative stages of political participation.

Like every other group that has come to America before us, so many sacrifices have been made already. But one more sacrifice is left to be made. I add this to Asian Americans of the older generation, to those of my parents' generation, perhaps to anyone who is older than I: You who have made so many sacrifices already, you have come to a foreign country, learned a foreign language, you have worked hard to make your families prosperous. You have really helped your children get an education and helped them become Americans.

That is perhaps one of the largest sacrifices that you have made, to encourage your children to grow up in this country, to be a part of this cul-

ture and, in so doing, to become different from you. It is a great sacrifice for any parent to make, and countless generations of immigrants before you have made that sacrifice.

But I am here to ask you to make one more sacrifice, and that is to encourage your children to pursue their passions, no matter what that passion is, whether that is to become a doctor or become a dentist or teacher. But if they choose to become an artist, a journalist, a lawyer, or even to enter into public life, to encourage them in the pursuit of that passion, to make one more sacrifice for your children.

I will say to your children that it is a two-way street. When I was young, my parents encouraged me to keep up my Chinese and to study hard. There was always something better to do, whether it was to go out and play with my friends or because the ice cream truck was coming by.

I say to the younger generation, listen to what your parents have to say. Keep in touch with the culture and the language. It is good for you, and your parents are asking something that will be ultimately good for you, and you will appreciate it in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand on the floor of the House tonight on the occasion of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and report to my colleagues that, while much still remains to be accomplished, we have made great progress, and we will continue to make that progress year by year, generation by generation.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU) for his remarks, and he certainly tried to encourage generations, the younger generation, to increase their level of participation in the public and political life in this country.

During this past week, as part of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, there were efforts here to help train some locally elected officials from various parts of the country who are of Asian Pacific American heritage, and that is a very important contribution. I think it is good not only for those communities, I think it is good for America and certainly will help to strengthen America.

□ 2045

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to be permitted to include therein extraneous material on the subject of this special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALDOMAEGA), my fellow

Pacific Island brother, for any remarks he might add. I am proud to say that he went to school on Guam in middle school.

Mr. FALDOMAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague for the opportunity to hold this celebration to commemorate the rich and diverse heritage of Asian-Pacific Americans who call our great Nation, the greatest democracy in the world, home.

I want to further commend our host, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), chairman of the congressional Asia-Pacific Caucus and my fellow Pacific Islander, for his tremendous leadership of the Asia-Pacific Caucus and his magnificent job in coordinating this event today.

And I certainly would like to commend my colleague, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU) and also the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK), who will also be participants, as they will be participating in this dialogue.

A few years ago, I was privileged, along with my Asian-Pacific colleagues on Capitol Hill, to attend a special White House ceremony where President Clinton signed an official proclamation declaring the month of May as "National Asian-Pacific Heritage Month."

Today I am privileged again to be here before my colleagues to speak to the Nation and to our colleagues and to share this occasion honoring the enduring legacy of those Americans whose roots extend from the soils of nations in the Asian-Pacific region.

Mr. Speaker, in honoring this month as our national Asian-Pacific Heritage Month, it was my privilege to have been invited recently to speak before our men and women in uniform stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Fort Knox, Kentucky, and also at Edwards Air Force Base in California to share with them an historical perspective on the contributions of the Asian-Pacific community as part of our Nation's heritage.

Mr. Speaker, I want to personally thank Major General Robert Clark, the Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division; Colonel Virgil Packett, II, the Assistant Division Commander; and Command Sergeant Major Luni Savusa, both members of the 101st Airborne Division. I want to thank these gentlemen for the courtesies, the briefings, and the hospitality that were extended to me during my visit.

And my commendations also go to Colonel Scott Feil, Commander of the First Armored Training Brigade; Colonel George Edwards, the Garrison Commander; Mr. Jack Eubanks, the Chief Protocol Officer; and Sergeant First Class Emani Masaniai of Fort Knox, Kentucky.

These gentlemen received me during my visit at Fort Knox, and they did a splendid job in making the proper preparations for the special event and the opportunity to meet with the active

duty and retired military personnel and their families. I thank them for my visit to Fort Knox.

Last but not least, Mr. Speaker, I want to also extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Major General Richard Reynolds, the Commanding General of the Edwards Air Force Base Flight Test Center; Mr. Jim Papa, the Executive Director of the Air Force Flight Test Center; Ms. Mary Jane Gugliotte, the Protocol Officer; Ms. Leonila Marcelino of the Asian-Pacific Employment Office; Mr. Nuu Moa of the Samoan community; and Air Force Major Kevin Toy from the Air Force Congressional Liaison Office. I want to thank them all for making my stay at Edwards Air Force Base a positive experience that I will not forget.

In particular, I want to thank General Clark of the 101st Airborne Division and General Reynolds of the Edwards Air Force Base Test Center for the depth of their knowledge of our Nation's security needs. And I thank both of these gentlemen for the outstanding leadership roles that they demonstrate not only to the airmen and soldiers under their commands, but more importantly their commitment to provide as best as possible for the needs of our men and women in uniform and especially their families.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged today to be here before my colleagues to speak to the Nation and to share this occasion in celebrating the contributions of the Asian-Pacific American community, well over 10 million strong and among the fastest growing demographic group in the United States today.

During this time for celebration, it is only fitting that we honor our fellow citizens of Asia-Pacific descent, both from the past and from the present, that have blessed and enriched our Nation. I submit that the Asian-Pacific Americans have certainly been an asset to our country's development, and it is appropriate that we make this recognition accordingly.

As many of you are aware, immigrants from the Asia-Pacific countries are amongst the newest wave to arrive in the United States in recent years. However, they are merely the latest chapter in the long history of Asian-Pacific Americans in our nation.

The people of Asia-Pacific have contributed much to America's development in the field of sciences and medicine. For example, nothing exemplifies this more than Time Magazine's selection of a Chinese American in 1996 as its Man of the Year, Dr. David Ho, head of the prestigious Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center at New York City's New York University Medical School.

Dr. Ho's journey started as a 12-year-old immigrant from Taiwan. Gracing the cover of Time Magazine has given hope to millions of people around the world afflicted by the HIV virus. His

story is a stirring testimony to the significant concrete contributions that Asian-Pacific American immigrants have made to our Nation. Dr. Ho's scientific advances continue a long record of service by Asian-Pacific Americans.

In 1899, a Japanese immigrant arrived on the shores of this Nation. After years of study and work, this man, Dr. Hideyo Noguchi, isolated the syphilis germ, leading to a cure for the deadly, widespread disease.

For decades, Dr. Makio Murayama, a Japanese-American, conducted vital research in the United States that laid the groundwork for combating sickle cell anemia.

In 1973, Dr. Leo Esaki, another Japanese-American, an immigrant also to our country, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in physics for his electron tunneling theories.

And in engineering, Mr. Speaker, few have matched the architectural masterpieces created by the genius of Chinese-American, I.M. Pei.

In the field of business and commerce, the names of prominent Asian-Pacific American corporate leaders and legal scholars are too numerous to mention. One only need read our Nation's top periodicals and newspapers to document that Asian-Pacific American students, both in high school and at secondary and post-secondary levels are among the brightest minds that our Nation has produced.

In the entertainment field and sports, American martial arts expert Bruce Lee, the late Bruce Lee, captivated the movie audiences of this Nation while destroying the stereotype of that passive, quiet Asian-American male.

World class conductor Seiji Ozawa has led the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra through some brilliant performances over the years.

About 70 years ago, Mr. Speaker, a native Hawaiian named Duke Kahanamoku shocked the world by winning the Olympic Gold Medal in swimming, followed by Dr. Sammy Lee, a Korean-American who also won an Olympic Gold Medal in high diving.

And the strange thing about Dr. Sammy Lee, Mr. Speaker, at the time when the Olympic members of our team were practicing for the Olympics at that time, Dr. Lee was not even permitted to practice along with his fellow divers, American divers, simply because he was not white.

Then there was Tommy Kono of Hawaii, also an Olympic Gold Medalist in weightlifting. And, yes, perhaps the greatest Olympic diver ever known to the world, a Samoan-American by the name of Greg Louganis, who recorded a record in gold medals and national championships that will be in the books for a long, long time.

And, yes, the enthralling Olympic ice-skating performances of Japanese-American Kristi Yamaguchi and Chi-

nese-American Michelle Kwan continue the legacy of milestone achievements by our Asian-Pacific community.

In professional sports, of course, we have Michael Chang blazing new paths in the sport of tennis. Pacific Islanders, and I know some of our fellow Americans are not well up on the sport of rugby, but by mentioning names of Pacific Islanders like Brian Williams and Jonah Lomu and Michael Jones and others of Polynesian descent.

And, yes, in the field of professional American football, as has been alluded to earlier by my colleague from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), we currently have approximately 21 American-Samoans who play in the NFL. And I am humble enough to say that we probably produce more NFL players, Mr. Speaker, than anybody here in this country.

Yes, Junior Seau, the perennial all-pro linebacker from the San Diego Chargers. I am sorry to say that Jesse Sapolu of the San Francisco Forty-Niners just recently retired.

I can go on, Mr. Speaker, but my colleagues might be bored by their hearing these remarks.

In the field of professional boxing, I would suggest to my colleagues and to my fellow Americans to keep an eye on this young Samoan heavyweight boxer by the name of David Tua. Yes, David Tua. He now ranks among the top 10 in the world in the heavyweight division in boxing.

And one of the brightest stars to emerge recently from our community, Mr. Speaker, is none other than Tiger Woods. Yes, Tiger Woods, the professional golfer. I think Tiger Woods could not have said it better. He is part American Indian, he is part black American, he is part white; but his mother is from Thailand. And he said this is what makes him the best golfer there is in the world.

Tiger made history, of course, in one of the world's most important golf tournaments. And before his career is finished, I submit, Mr. Speaker, he will reinvent the game of golf.

We also have Asian-Pacific Americans who are making their mark in history not in our country, but in the Far East. Yes, a Samoan-American by the name of Salevaa Atisanoe weighs over 578 pounds, participates in the ancient sport in Japan called sumo wrestling and wrestles by the name of Konishiki. Yes, he weighs only 578 pounds, Mr. Speaker, but he can bench press 600 pounds. Figure that out. Konishiki was the first foreigner in Japan's centuries-old sport to break through to the rarified air of sumo's second highest rank.

And another of Tongan-Samoan descent, Mr. Leitani Peitani, who now is known basically as Musashimaru, has also gained prominence in the sport of sumo wrestling.

And, yes, we also have native Hawaiian Chad Rowen, who wrestles by the name of Akebono, the first foreigner to

achieve the highest ranking in this ancient sport and the rank of Yokozuna.

Mr. Speaker, in honoring the Asian-Pacific Americans that have served to enrich our country, I would be remiss not only as a Vietnam veteran, but as a former member of the 100th Battalion 442nd Infantry Reserve Unit in Hawaii if I did not honor the contributions of the Japanese-Americans who served in the U.S. Army's 100th Army Battalion and 442nd Infantry Combat Group.

Mr. Speaker, history speaks for itself in documenting that none have shed their blood more valiantly for America than the Japanese-Americans who served in these units while fighting enemy forces in Europe during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, the records of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Infantry are without equal. These Japanese-American units suffered an unprecedented casualty rate of 314 percent and received over 18,000 individual declarations, many awarded posthumously, for bravery and courage in the field of battle.

Given the tremendous sacrifices of lives, a high number of medals were awarded to these units: 52 Distinguished Service Crosses; 560 Silver Stars; 9,480 Purple Hearts. I find it unusual, Mr. Speaker, that only one Medal of Honor was awarded.

Nonetheless, 442nd Combat Group emerged as the most decorated combat unit of its size in the history of the United States Army. President Truman was so moved by their bravery on the field of battle, as well as that of black American soldiers who served in World War I and World War II, that he issued an executive order to desegregate the armed services.

I am proud to say we can count on the Honorable DANIEL INOUE and the late Senator Spark Matsunaga, both from the State of Hawaii, as not only Members of Congress that distinguished themselves in battle as soldiers with the 100th Battalion and 442nd Infantry. It was while fighting in Europe that Senator INOUE lost his arm and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest medal for bravery, as it is noted today.

These Japanese-Americans, Mr. Speaker, paid their dues in blood to protect our Nation from its enemies. And it is a shameful mark, Mr. Speaker, on the history of our country that when the patriotic survivors of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Infantry returned to the United States, many of these soldiers were reunited with their parents, their brothers and sisters, who were locked up behind barbed wire fences living in concentration camps.

□ 2100

My colleagues on the hill might be interested to know that the gentleman from California (Mr. MATSUI) and former Representative Norman Mineta were children of the concentration

camp. Mr. Speaker, I do not know if I am ever able to perform what these Japanese American soldiers could do. If you could well imagine coming home from war, facing the reality that you might never return and then when you come home, you have to find your parents and your brothers and sisters in these concentration camps, I say, Mr. Speaker, something was awfully wrong at that time in our country.

The wholesale and arbitrary abolishment of the constitutional rights of these loyal Japanese Americans will forever serve as a reminder and testament that this must never be allowed to occur again. When this miscarriage of justice unfolded in World War II, while some Americans of German and Italian ancestry were discriminated against, these Americans were not similarly jailed en masse like Japanese Americans. Some declared the incident as an example of outright racism and bigotry in its ugliest form. After viewing the Holocaust Museum recently, Mr. Speaker, in Washington, D.C., I understand better why the genocide of some 6 million Jews has prompted the cry, "Never again. Never again." Likewise, I sincerely hope that mass internments on the basis of race will never again darken the history of our great Nation. I am also told that probably one of the reasons why the Italian Americans were not also placed in concentration camps, can you imagine if Joe DiMaggio's father was given the same treatment at the time when Joe DiMaggio was the great American baseball player and hero of all the people? That is exactly what happened.

To those that say, "Well, that occurred decades ago," I say, we must continue to be vigilant in guarding against such evils today.

I am pleased to announce for the first time, as has been mentioned earlier by my colleague from Guam, that President Clinton has nominated General Eric Shinseki, an American of Japanese descent from the State of Hawaii, to become the new Chief of Staff for the Army. General Shinseki is currently the Vice Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army. Previous to his current position, General Shinseki was formerly Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe, Commander of Allied Land Forces in Central Europe and was Commander of the NATO Stabilization Force in Bosnia.

I am pleased by General Shinseki's appointment. It was not long ago we had the case of Bruce Yamashita, a Japanese American from Hawaii who was discharged from the Marine Corps officer training program in an ugly display of racial discrimination. Marine Corps superiors taunted Yamashita with ethnic slurs and told him, "We don't want your kind around here. Go back to your own country." The situation was made worse when the Commandant of the Marine Corps at the

time who appeared on television's "60 Minutes" stated, "Marine officers who are minorities do not shoot, swim or use compasses as well as white officers."

After years of perseverance and appeals, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Yamashita was vindicated after proving he was the target of vicious racial harassment during his officer training program. The Secretary of the Navy's investigation into whether minorities were deliberately being discouraged from becoming officers in the Marine Corps resulted in Yamashita receiving finally his commission as a captain in the United States Marine Corps.

I am also disturbed, Mr. Speaker, by events of recent years involving campaign funding where the integrity of the Asian Pacific American community has been unfairly tarnished in the media for the alleged transgressions of a few.

I find this racial scapegoating to be repugnant and morally objectionable. Playing up fears of the "Asian connection" serves to alienate Asian Pacific Americans from participating in our political process. Moreover, this negative reporting acts to marginalize Asian Pacific American political empowerment at a time when we are coming of age in American politics.

When whites raise money for whites, it is called gaining political power. But when Asian Pacific Americans begin to participate, we are accused of being foreigners trying to infiltrate the mainstream of our Nation's political system. On this note, Mr. Speaker, remember the Oklahoma City bombing incident? Americans of Arab descent were immediately targeted and investigated by local Federal law enforcement agencies. Mr. Speaker, I submit it is simply wrong and unAmerican to react this way.

To protect America's greatness, we should all be sensitive to the fact that democratic participation by people of all races and backgrounds, including Asian Pacific Americans, is crucial to our Nation's health and vitality.

I believe Yamashita's case and the hysteria surrounding the Asian Pacific American contributions bear implications not just for the military and the media but for our society as a whole. It asks the question, how long do we have to endure the attitude of those who consider Asian Pacific Americans and other minorities as lesser Americans?

I applaud Captain Yamashita and others like him who have spoken out to ensure that racial discrimination is not tolerated. During this month as we recognize the diverse experiences and contributions of the Asian Pacific American community to our Nation, I would hope that we will all take inspiration from this example.

When I envision America, I do not see a melting pot, Mr. Speaker, designed to reduce and remove racial differences.

The America I see is a brilliant rainbow, a rainbow of ethnicities and cultures, with each people proudly contributing in their own distinctive and unique way. That is what America is all about. And Asian Pacific Americans wish to find a just and equitable place in our society that will allow them, like all Americans to grow, to succeed, to achieve and contribute to the advancement of this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I wish there were no labels. I wish I was not considered a Pacific American or an Asian American or a Black American or a Native American. I never hear of people classifying themselves as French Americans, or British Americans. But why these labels?

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I would like to close my remarks by asking, what is America all about? I think it could not have been said better than on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963 in that hot summer when a Black American, an American, by the name of Martin Luther King Jr. echoed this saying, "I have a dream. My dream is that one day my children will be judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from American Samoa for those very inspirational remarks and the cataloging of a number of successes that members of various Asian Pacific American communities have had and their contributions that have been made to this country. Nevertheless we continue to face many serious issues. Sometimes we must address those issues in a way that communities must in order to find ways to resolve problems that continue to exist. Some of these problems are long-standing. Some of them have to do with new immigrant status. Some of them have to do with current practices and current laws and current perceptions.

I know that in that regard and in working on those issues, the gentlewoman from Hawaii has been on the forefront of many of these issues. She has had a very distinguished career here in the House of Representatives and has served as previous chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Mr. Speaker, and in that capacity not only continued the struggle for fairness and justice and equality in this country but continued to serve as a mentor for those of us who are following in her footsteps.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), and I want to express the appreciation of all of the members of the Asian Pacific Congressional Caucus for his leadership and for his effort in making sure that we have this time this evening in which to express our thoughts about Asian Pacific issues. The gentleman from American Samoa

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) has certainly demonstrated in the short time that he took this evening the extensive record that has been accomplished by so many Asian Pacific individuals throughout this country. I know that he just elaborated on a few. If we had time, we could document many, many more individuals who certainly have brought great credit and recognition to the Asian Pacific community throughout this country. I do not think that there is a single individual in the Congress of the United States that does not recognize the contributions that have been made by Asian Pacific individuals, even in their constituencies. But notwithstanding the tremendous accomplishments of so many of our distinguished Asian Pacific brothers and sisters throughout this country, there are still some very nagging problems that confront us, problems that have to do with the way we look and the assumptions that people make because of the way we look, the way we are treated when we enter certain places, how we are looked down upon because of the mere fact of our Asian appearance. The conclusions that are leaped to, that we neither speak English nor have been educated in this country, and that we are undoubtedly immigrants, recent immigrants, or some characterization like that. This is very hurtful for many Asians. And so compounding on this day-to-day experience that we have to endure and suffer throughout our lives, the crescendo of criticism that has been levied upon all of us because of the misconduct of a few or the apparent misconduct of a few among us is an extremely painful experience. As the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU) suggested, we have a huge task, therefore, as Asian Pacific elected individuals in the Congress of the United States to serve as role models, to make sure that the young people who are thinking in terms of government service, of elective office, or seeking high positions in their local communities, that they are not discouraged by this dramatic news coverage that hits us every now and then.

Following the 1996 campaign, there was so much controversy that even the Congress got overwhelmed by a lot of that discussion. Out of it I believe came some of the very, very discouraging amendments that were added to welfare reform legislation and campaign spending reform legislation which singled out people in our society who are legally present in this country, who are legal residents but notwithstanding were somehow characterized by virtue of their status as not worthy Americans. They could not participate in programs, even though they had worked their 10 years and paid their taxes into Social Security, they were somehow unworthy because they had not seen fit to become U.S. citizens and therefore were pushed aside and deni-

grated and certain programs were denied them.

In the campaign spending reform, what was the most egregious provision that was added in a floor amendment was to say that a legal resident could not make a political contribution to a Federal candidate, and that the Federal candidate in receiving a contribution from a legal resident could be held accountable and even criminally found accountable for having received such a contribution. That was the most egregious of all the provisions that have been added over the years. I found that so egregious, that notwithstanding the fact that I was a strong supporter from the very beginning of campaign spending reform, I felt compelled in the end to vote against that legislation because I could not tolerate the idea that we were enacting into law this kind of disparate treatment of people who are legally within the United States.

So I would hope that when we take up campaign spending reform again this year, that that provision is not included or not considered for an appropriate amendment.

My point is that we have achieved a lot as a group, but there are continuing problems as we go through our lives. And it is important for the Asian Pacific community to stand up as a group, to be proud of their contributions to American life, proud of their citizenship, proud of their ancestry and of those who have come in recently, and to always work to defend their right to live here under the Constitution and to be fully protected by all of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States.

I want to take this opportunity this evening to thank the members on both sides, the House and the Senate, in their work in the conference committee in approving the \$4.3 million which is the last funding for the payment of the reparations that the gentleman from American Samoa mentioned had been enacted in 1988 to pay for the great harm, the insult, the travesty that occurred in their being placed in relocation camps during World War II.

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Congress finally said this is a terrible wrong, the Constitution was totally abrogated in this instance, and so for all those who survived, in 1988 they were provided a payment of \$20,000 for each survivor. The funds simply ran out, and there was not enough money in the fund to pay the last several hundred of those that have been found eligible. So the Congress in its wisdom provided the extra dollars to make sure that every single person found eligible received their sum that the Congress had promised.

One added implication to this whole issue was the fact that late in the whole process it became known that

Japanese individuals who were living in Latin America were picked up in the dark of the night and put on board ship, and shipped over to the United States and placed in the same types of concentration camps with the concurrence of the Latin American governments and under the instruction by the United States Government. These individuals have been trying to qualify for the same benefits that have been accorded our own Japanese American citizens, but despite their efforts they were denied under some sort of legal argument that they were not legally here.

Well, how could they be legally here if they were kidnapped in the middle of the night? Most of these individuals, now part of our communities, many of them have become citizens and are part of our community, and they felt very, very much discriminated against when they were excluded from the arrangements that the Congress made in 1988.

Thankfully, Mr. Speaker, the Justice Department entered into a settlement with these individuals, not quite as much as the other AJAs, but at least a recognition of the great harm that had been perpetrated upon these individuals, several thousand of them who were captured in the night and brought here under the assumption that they would be traded with our prisoners of war that were captured by Japan, and indeed about 800 of them were, in fact, bartered in this way and were moved over to Japan and perhaps continued to live there. But nonetheless, the Congress has accepted responsibility, the administration has accepted responsibility for this terrible act in the middle of war and made some measure of compensation.

I would hope, as the delegate from American Samoa said, that there would be continuing lessons to be learned by what happened during World War II, and I think it is our job to continue this education process, and so in moments like this it is important to remind the country about what happened. In another generation it will probably be forgotten. That is the tragedy: We have no place in which this story can be permanently told so that the people in this country can understand what happened, and what a terrible injustice it was and an outright violation of the U.S. Constitution.

So, Mr. Speaker, I hope that there will be efforts to establish a fund, an education fund that will be meaningful and will carry this story not in a negative sense of condemnation, but in a hopeful sense that this kind of history would never be repeated again, ever, to any segment of our population.

Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii for her eloquent statement, and as the gentlewoman will know, tomorrow is going to be a very important occasion whereby the Cox committee is going to

submit a report to the Congress and to the Nation. This is in reference, of course, to the issue of the Chinese government having solicited or gaining access to the secrets and the computers and all of that. And I, as a member of the Committee on International Relations, I thank the gentleman that talked or made his presentation earlier this evening, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON).

The fear that I have in what is going to happen tomorrow and in the coming weeks, and I am just going to simply label it China bashing, and I am very concerned about this because this is going to be exactly the issue that we have tried to discuss this evening where the stereotyping and the labeling becomes so instantaneous, and I must submit that the media is not going to do any better, that we can just see what is going to happen to the Chinese American community. They are all going to be looked upon with suspicion and having some second thoughts about them being not American simply because they are Chinese.

And I sincerely hope that this is not going to be the case, but I am fearful, just as has been my experience in the several hearings that we have held in the Committee on International Relations when we talk about human rights. It seems that we have only focused on human rights violations in China, but not on other countries and other regions of the world. And I seriously raise the issue if there is fairness and equity in the process, just as I would like to submit that in tomorrow's presentation that there should be a firm understanding that this has nothing to do with the Chinese people.

And what I am really puzzled about is that even our own allies have spied upon this government, and there seems to be no word or indication from the media that Chinese are not the only ones that are spying, if they, in fact, are doing this. But I understand through the media that the report is quite firm, with whatever data that they are going to submit, that this did happen. But I am at least grateful to the gentleman from Pennsylvania saying this should not be taken as an attack, not only to our Chinese-American community but even to the Chinese government, because it was our own government and officials that were responsible.

So I think that again I want to thank the gentlewoman for yielding and to allow me to submit this concern that I have in listening to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, the remarks he had made earlier about this report that is going to be submitted tomorrow.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. The temptation is certainly going to be ever present that people will scapegoat and bash and make generalizations about the entire Asian community. If one looked at my colleague, the gentleman

from Oregon (Mr. WU) and my colleague, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), perhaps not so much my colleague from American Samoa, but his mustache, but myself, they probably could not make a distinction. Somebody would probably think we are all Chinese.

Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I have been to Israel, and they think that I am Arab; I have been to Pakistan, they think I am Indian; I have been to India, they think I am Polynesian; and, coming from the islands, they think I am from the Punjab region of India; and the gentlewoman probably remembers, and I remember last year one of my own colleagues right here on this floor of the House addressed me as the gentleman from Somalia.

So I fully understand. There is a little problem of understanding where I come from.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, however we come out on this whole issue of China's connection with what occurred at the labs, I certainly think that it is up to us to be completely vigilant on how this debate is characterized, that when they are talking about the government of China, that they make absolutely clear that they are not disparaging in any way the Chinese American people who are living in the United States. I mean that has to be the bottom line for all of us, to be there, to make sure that the debate, the media frenzy and all of that that will follow does not in any way characterize the loyal, hard-working, diligent, wonderful Chinese Americans who are living within the United States.

Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, the point is well made by the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

A classic example: The gentleman that has been fired from the Department of Energy, supposedly giving secrets, in the media, the first instance, it is a Chinese American. Never say the name of the gentleman, but why does it have to be stated that he is a Chinese American? That is my point, and I think it is wrong for the media to make these types of stereotypes.

I do not hear my fellow Americans saying a French American doing this or a British American or a Scandinavian American or a Balkanese American. Why the labels? And I just think that the media has done a real disservice in adding this frenzy or this hype on this race issue which I really think is not only inappropriate but is just out of place.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, we have our task cut out for us, and I do want to thank the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) again for making this time available to me. I did want to go into the matter of the Filipino veterans and the great inequity

that they have had to endure, but understanding that we are having a special order on that issue alone some time during the week, I will refrain from putting these remarks in at this time and await that other period.

So I thank the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD). I appreciate his leadership in this effort tonight.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank very much the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK), and as she has indicated, we will have a special order on the matter of the Filipino veterans I believe on Wednesday, and the gentleman from California (Mr. FILLNER), who has taken a strong leadership position on that issue, and the gentlewoman's own work in terms of the work of the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus has been remarkable in this. So this is one of the ongoing issues that is a remnant of the war experience, Filipinos who have fought under the U.S. flag, but being denied the veterans' benefits that were promised to them as a result of them fighting under the American flag against the common enemy.

Just to add a little bit more to the issue of how the espionage should be dealt with, it is important, and not just for perceptual reasons, because that in itself is important, but it will have an impact on the employment and contractual opportunities of individuals, and that is where the rubber hits the road on issues like this, in much the same way that was experienced during all the discussion of the fundraising scandals. I know that I heard many reports from individuals who had difficulties having access to elected officials, who had appointments broken, and to the same extent that if we are not careful in how we deal with this particular issue, there will be additional questions asked of Asian American scientists. And in a way it is an ironic contrast to the fact that the technological lead role of this country is due in large measure to the presence of Asian American scientists, and in fact Asian American scientists continue to make this country much more secure, not less secure, and certainly much stronger and not weaker.

The Asian Pacific American Caucus has many serious issues to attend to: the issue of *Filipino Veterans' Rights v. Cayetano*, a native Hawaiian case; an effort to try to get President Clinton to meet leaders of the South Pacific nations; census issues; immigration rights issues; and health issues which we will continue to work on as a caucus. But we tend to look at APA month as a time to bring recognition to this enormous community which has made significant progress in this country and enormous contributions to strengthen this country, and we will continue to pursue those issues.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I join my colleagues of

the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus in recognizing the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

This year's theme, "Celebrating Our Legacy," commemorates the contributions Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent have made to our country. What better place than our nation's Capitol to highlight the historical legacy of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans.

Their contributions, which have enriched our American society and strengthened its core values, are vast and varied. This evening I would like to focus on their valiant efforts to protect our nation.

There is no better example of the critical role Asian Pacific Islanders played in defense of our country than during World War II. Although their families and friends were forcibly being moved out of their homes and put into internment camps encircled by barbed wire, Japanese American men insisted on being allowed to fight for their country. This resulted in the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Among the 442nd's many heroes is Sadao Munemori from Los Angeles. Mr. Munemori received the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously for saving the lives of his fellow soldiers while sacrificing his own.

In Europe, on April 5, 1945, Mr. Munemori led the attack against the last stronghold of Hitler's army in Italy. Thrust into command when his squad leader was wounded, Munemori attacked two German machine gun nests that had pinned down his squad in a minefield. After withdrawing due to heavy enemy fire, Munemori took refuge in a shell crater already occupied by two of his men. When an unexploded hand grenade bounced off his helmet and rolled toward his companions, Munemori jumped on it, absorbing the blast.

In the South Pacific, Filipino American soldiers fought along side American soldiers in some of the bloodiest battles of the war. For almost four years, during the most intense and strategically important phases of World War II, more than 200,000 Filipinos fought side-by-side with Allied forces and willingly sacrificed their lives and well-being in defense of freedom. By holding off the enemy at the Battle of Corregidor for six months, these Filipino American veterans enabled forces to mobilize back home. Moreover, many Filipino American soldiers lost their lives as POW's during the Bataan Death March, demonstrating their ultimate loyalty to our country. These courageous men won the freedom of the Filipino people and made a tremendous impact on our ability to prevail in the Pacific Theater.

There are many more unsung heroes like Mr. Munemori and the Filipino veterans. And it is their legacy that we celebrate during the month of May. Generations of Asian Americans have given us their culture, traditions, and values and greatly enriched American society. I ask all my colleagues to join us in expressing our heartfelt appreciation to all Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent for their contributions to our country.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Asian Pacific American Heritage Month this month and to introduce a congressional resolution which condemns prejudice against

Asian and Pacific Islander Americans and supports the political and civic participation by Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry.

All too often, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans are subject to prejudice and acts of violence that often go unnoticed by the public eye. These Americans have suffered unfounded and demagogic accusations of disloyalty throughout the history of the United States. A 1992 report of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights found that Asian and Pacific Islander Americans are still frequent victims of racially motivated bigotry and violence. As recently as this past weekend, the Los Angeles Times published a story reciting recent and increasing incidence of ethnic prejudice at our nation's nuclear weapon laboratories because of the ongoing investigations at Los Alamos.

Mr. Speaker, we should recognize the rich cultural heritage of the Asian and Pacific Islander American community and all these communities have contributed to America and American values. We must distinguish between the activities of spies and foreign agents and those in the Asian American communities that contribute tremendous energy and knowledge to our nation's economy and defense.

In my Congressional District, which includes Silicon Valley, Americans of Asian ancestry are intimately involved in making the technology sector vibrant and our economy expand. But mine is not the only example we can find. Asian and Pacific Americans are woven into our national and local communities and add cultural diversity, knowledge attainment, and loyalty to America and the values we hold dear.

I'm proud to reintroduce a congressional resolution tonight which condemns all prejudice against Asian and Pacific Islander Americans and supports the political and civic participation by these Americans.

We must not forget the strength our country has gained from the inspiration, the hard work and the loyalty of Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry and what their contributions have meant for a stronger, more prosperous America.

[From the Los Angeles Times, May 21, 1999]

SPY SCARE TAIN'T'S LABS' CLIMATE, ASIAN AMERICANS SAY

(By Nick Anderson)

WASHINGTON.—On the surface the incidents cited by employees in the nation's nuclear weapon laboratories were not explosive: a snide remark here, an ambiguous warning there. It was hardly material for a clear-cut case of workplace discrimination.

But to Asian Americans who work in the labs, the incidents were real and their implications disturbing. Amid congressional espionage inquiries and press reports that a Chinese American lab employee may have helped China purloin vital nuclear weapon secrets, a small, indignant group of scientists and engineers decided that something should be done to defuse the threat of "ethnic profiling."

"There were enough things happening that we were very concerned about suspicions and [whether Asian Americans] were being treated differently," said Raymond Ng, a mechanical engineer for Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque. "There was a lot of fear and concern about what was going on.

Management was not aware of these things. We needed to make it known."

So Ng joined with Joel Wong, an industrial hygienist at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory near San Francisco, to give Energy Secretary Bill Richardson a short list of recent incidents of ethnic insensitivity reported by coworkers who wished to remain unnamed. Richardson, who oversees the labs, said that he considers the reports to be generally true, even if some particulars remain unverified.

In one account, snickering and hushed laughter broke out in a roomful of computer users as a person with a Chinese surname was introduced to lead a session on computer security. In another, a lab manager told an Asian American employee that "personal characteristics" would determine a person's career opportunities in the wake of recent disclosures of security breaches, implying that ethnicity was one such characteristic.

Then there was the teasing. Someone wondered aloud whether an Asian American employee got "rich" by selling classified information, according to Ng and Wong. Someone else said he was wary of sharing information with a colleague of Asian descent who might be a "spy."

Two Chinese American lab employees who insisted on anonymity recounted similar incidents in separate interviews with a Times reporter. One said he had been asked at work whether he had "dual loyalties."

CONCERNS RAISED IN LABS AND ELSEWHERE

Whether an ethnic backlash actually is occurring to any significant degree is hard to determine. But concerns about possible ethnic stereotyping are rising and not just among national lab employees. The subject comes up in government circles, in the scientific community, in the ethnic Asian media, in high-tech business groups and among Asian American civic leaders who fear a replay of the uproar directed at Asian American political donors after revelations of attempts by foreign interests to influence the 1996 elections.

Prominent Asian Americans have met with Richardson four times and once with White House Chief of Staff John Podesta to seek assurances that scientists and engineers in U.S. labs would not be subject to discrimination.

"Asian Pacific Americans are concerned that their loyalty and their patriotism are being challenged," Richardson acknowledged in a speech April 30. "And that's because of racism."

The Energy secretary vowed to protect the rights of all laboratory workers and to visit the labs in person to drive the point home.

In Congress, Reps. Tom Campbell (R-San Jose) and David Wu (D-Ore.), who is the first Chinese American member of the House, are drafting a resolution expressing support for Chinese Americans.

Wu said there is "widespread concern in the Chinese American community and particularly the Chinese American scientific community. These are folks who work very, very hard. They are Americans. By all accounts that I know of, they work hard and play by the rules."

Campbell said that some scientists and engineers in Silicon Valley now worry about traveling to professional conferences in mainland China for fear that they will be suspected of leaking technological secrets to the Communist regime.

Still, many lawmakers assert that the United States must raise its guard against Chinese espionage and set new limits on scientific exchange with China and other countries seeking to develop nuclear weapons.

Their campaign is likely to gain considerable momentum with the release of a House investigative panel's report citing evidence of widespread leakage of sensitive military technology to China. The committee's bipartisan findings are expected to be made public next week by its chairman, Rep. Christopher Cox (R-Newport Beach).

Asian American scientists, engineers and civil leaders hasten to condemn espionage. But they content that some Republican leaders in Congress, aided by unbalanced media reports, have cast a cloud over Chinese Americans—and Chinese nationals—doing legitimate scientific work in the weapons labs and elsewhere.

SENATOR REFERS TO "VERY CRAFTY PEOPLE"

Asked about the extent of Chinese espionage on the NBC program "Meet the Press," Sen. Richard C. Shelby (R-Ala.), chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, said in March: "We've got to remember the Chinese are everywhere as far as our weapons systems, not only in our labs that make our nuclear weapons and development, but also in the technology to deliver them. We've seen some of that. They're real. There here. And probably in some ways, very crafty people."

A spokeswoman for the senator, Andrea Andrews, said that Shelby was referring to Chinese spies, not to Chinese Americans in general. But other read more into his statement. Charles Sie, vice chairman of the Committee of 100, an influential Chinese American group whose founders include the architect I.M. Pei and the cellist Yo-Yo Ma, called Shelby's words a "ridiculous" example of ethnic stereotyping.

Also "ridiculous," said Jeff Garberson, spokesman for Lawrence Livermore, was the request he recently received from a national newsmagazine for a generic photo of an Asian American employee at work "to illustrate a story on espionage." The request was refused.

Leading science periodicals are closely monitoring the espionage issue, especially the possible fallout for foreign-born scientists who may be U.S. citizens, permanent U.S. residents or distinguished visitors. A headline in the June issue of Scientific American read: "Explosive Reactions: A Backlash From a Nuclear Espionage Case Might Hurt Science and Do Little to Bolster National Security."

Many of the top scientists in America in this century have been foreign-born, including some from mainland China or Taiwan. Many more, including several Nobel Prize winners, are of Asian heritage.

Asian American engineers also have been deeply involved in the U.S. defense industry. According to the National Science Foundation, more than 300,000 people of Asian descent were working in the United States as scientists and engineers in 1995, the latest year for which figures are available. That's about 10% of all scientists and engineers and far more than any other ethnic minority. Many Chinese American scientists said that they are most concerned about lasting damage the espionage allegations could have on the career prospects of promising graduate students in engineering or the physical sciences, a significant number of whom are foreign-born or Asian American.

"What one is afraid of are possible future actions with regard to employment promotion, retention of top Chinese American scientists," said Cheuk-Yin Wong, who is chairman of the Overseas Chinese Physics Assn., which has about 400 members nationwide. He is no relation to Joel Wong.

Lab administrators said that they want to prevent such consequences. C. Paul Robinson, head of Sandia National Laboratories, recently told Chinese American employees that they should not be judged responsible for a particular espionage case so long as white Americans, like himself, were not held equally responsible for the disastrous Aldrich Ames spycase.

"Can we all please think extra hard about that?" Robinson implored in an electronic newsletter. "Our work is important; we need all the good brainpower that we can bring to bear in our work and we certainly must not mistreat loyal Americans."

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, but certainly all Members are invited to submit statements for the RECORD in terms of the experiences of their own individual districts and the participation in these social, economic, educational and political life of Asian Pacific Americans in their districts.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ORTIZ (at the request Mr. GEPHARDT), for today and Tuesday, May 25, on account of official business in the district.

Mrs. CARSON (at the request Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of official business in the district.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 60 minutes, today.

Mr. UNDERWOOD, for 60 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. LARGENT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SCHAFFER, for 5 minutes, on May 25.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM, for 5 minutes, today.

A BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on the following date present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title:

On May 21, 1999:

H.R. 1141. Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.