CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

June 8, 1999

capital city, those cacophony of critics that we are certain to hear.

A couple of final notes. It is sad that we now find it necessary to provide for the common defense. If you have a situation where there is some work at cross purposes. It has, on the one hand, deployed American forces to more locations than any other administration in the post World War II era, and, at the same time, it has denied the efforts of this common-sense conservative Congress to provide for our national defense, to provide the weapons systems, to provide the manpower and material. So you have a situation where there is work at cross purposes. Worse still, the actions of this Congress to provide a missile defense system at long last after the news of the Chinese theft, those on the left joined us in bipartisanship, and yet this President is not there. There is a new way to thwart the Chinese that we would not mount a missile defense system.

Madam Speaker, the American people deserve better. It should be the mission of this Congress to make sure we provide for the common defense.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. Biggert). The Chair will remind Members to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to the television audience.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. FORD (at the request of Mr. Gerhard) for after 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 8, on account of personal business.