

of ideological confrontation. And all these years the idea to conquer the world has dominated as in the Soviet Union as well in the United States of America. But reasonable people from both sides (and their number was not small) understood that there are on the both sides of the "iron curtain" the real alive people, who were ready for cooperation. And overwhelming ideological barriers we were going toward each other creating step by step a bridge of confidence and understanding.

When almost 10 years ago the "iron curtain" has broken we hoped for a strengthening of this bridge, for the sound forces going through it in both direction. Unfortunately this has not happened. The ideology has broken, but in the result of this powerful ideological burst a foam appeared, which has flowed from us to the USA and from the USA to us.

Americans have felt on themselves what is the Russian crime, corruption, they saw "new Russians", our bankers, oligarchs, who have "green cards", huge amounts of money for villa construction, wealthy holidays. Exactly they became to represent the Russian face in the West. And the West has shuddered.

But we also have shuddered. Flow of the people, representing wrong side of American life, started into Russia. We have seen here your expert—economists, whose ideas have not been accepted in the USA as they were not perspective and harmful, but they have found a fertile soil in the Russia. We have seen in our space also American businessmen, who tried to involve us into adventure projects. I personally confronted one of such so called businessman, who proposed to cooperate in a major project on unlawful ground.

Certainly, the roots of many vices such as corruption, stealing, unlawful privatization, drags, pornography, prostitution, are situated also in our ground, but in many respect the people's awareness connect them to America and the USA is not accepted in Russia now as a prospering and educated society.

It seems that we have forgotten 10 Christian commandments. It appears on the border of centuries that a huge charge of mutual good will, which we have had at the end of 80-ty years, has been almost used up. And instead of the "iron curtain" we begin to construct a "stinking trench" behind the rusted barbed wire. Lets look at today's time: as earlier we threaten each other by nuclear restriction and think up limitations, sanctions. We appeared to be in a situation dangerous for the world at the end of XX century.

Meantime the USA and the Russia are playing today a huge role in the establishment of a stable and secure peace, democratic order. It is clear, that being in confrontation we can only negatively influence as on our countries as well on the world as a whole.

I would not like to be a pessimist. We have way out and we can see it if we return with open face to our youth. It is a new growing force of Russia, it is that base on which we can build the world and the order.

"Junior Achievements of Russia" is gaining power by us. One million of young men and girls from 80 regions of Russia, who study economics, business and management are today in its ranks. After 5 years they will be 5 millions. And this is a great power, which is ready for democratic transformation in the country.

Altruism is laying in the base of their activity—one of the best features of Americans

which the Russian youth has accepted and absorbed. As many Americans members of "Junior Achievements" see the highest sense to serve to the society.

Finally, we can learn in our new construction against our businessmen, who are heading this movement. They are those people who a faithful to the principles of "pure business" and they are true to their duty. They are ready to invest into creation of new society.

The resume from my speech suggests itself: experience which has come from "the top" appears to be not quite satisfactory. It came to us with the people who have forgotten the Christ's commandments. But we have sound forces, who not only accept them but they are leaving in accordance with them. We connect the Russia's future with them and the future of Russian-American relations.

I call upon to support the people who have the life principle to serve to the society.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m.)

□ 2048

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 8 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.

JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 241 TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Jim Varey, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY);

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS);

The gentleman from California (Mr. COX);

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON);

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE);

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT);

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST);

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ);

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY); and

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT);

The Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES);

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND);

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG);

The Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER);

The Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON);

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE);

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN);

The Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX);

The Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN); and

The Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG).

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Jesse B. Marehalau, Ambassador to the United States from Micronesia.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 9 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m., the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Wilson Livingood, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and the