Mr. Speaker, they are sounding pretty tough, too. Here is Gordon Wilson, minister of forests from British Columbia: "Why should we turn the energy tap on going south at the same time we cannot export our lumber to the big market we have?" He is talking about cutting off natural gas supplies to the western United States which is already staggering under extortionately high natural gas prices. One Canadian timber executive said United States better "learn to speak Arabic and read by candlelight." Pretty tough words.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the Bush administration could be tougher in the trade war. If we retaliate against Canada for bringing in these subsidized lumber imports, the Canadians will fold in a second. Nationally they are running a huge trade surplus with the United States. They cannot afford irresponsible actions or words like this on the part of one province to undermine their trade relationship with the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I am asking and I have asked the Bush administration, along with a large number of Members of the House and Senate, to continue restrictions on the import of subsidized Canadian lumber. Just a 5 percent increase in this subsidized, unfairly produced lumber coming across our border will cost more jobs in the Pacific North-west. Just a 5 percent increase. And they have got it piled up because part of their sweet deals with these companies, they not only give the timber away, they require them to harvest it away, they require them to harvest it themselves and continue the restrictions that have been in place, that were first put in place under the Reagan administration, continued under the first Bush administration, continued under the Clinton administration, and they must be continued under the Bush administration.

Mr. Speaker, let us not let a bunch of hardliners in British Columbia play an April Fool's joke on the American people in the Bush administration. Let us retaliate against unfair trade practices and continue the restrictions that have been in place, that were first put in place under the Reagan administration, continued under the first Bush administration, continued under the Clinton administration, and they must be continued under the Bush administration. Nothing has changed. They are still competing unfairly, and they are still going to destroy American communities and jobs if the administration does not act.

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. DeFazio) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DeFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 10 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, April 3, 2001, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

So ordered.

Mr. DeFazio. Mr. Speaker, it is not free and fair trade by any measure of the imagination. Nor are there some special interests in the U.S. who would like to wipe out our lumber and sawmill industry and get that cheaper Canadian lumber. They have taken a shortsighted view. After the U.S. industry is gone, the Canadians will probably jack up the price. They will probably still give it away to their companies; but they will jack up the price, just like they have done to us on natural gas.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the home builders and others, who are pushing the Bush administration to back off. It is not in the long-term interest of the United States to not have a healthy and robust industry in this country, and it is also going to cost some customers because those customers will not be buying houses, they will be abandoning houses when those communities close down.

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