

standard for ground level ozone. As an effect to assist non-attainment areas meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act I am introducing today a bill the Clean Air Investment Act, along with my colleague Representative KEVIN BRADY. This bill is designed to assist all non-compliance areas achieve improved environmental quality while protecting their economic prosperity.

Failure to attain compliance risks losing essential federal highway funding. Many of my colleagues know that Atlanta's federal highway funding was frozen for two years for non-compliance with the Clean Air Act. Now, while non-compliance carries costs, compliance also carries significant costs, some of which are the responsibility of the federal government. A study commissioned by the Greater Houston Partnership has showed that the SIP for the Houston-Galveston area will cost area households \$550 million a year, and could reduce job growth significantly.

Under the law implementation plans are designed by the states, and approval must be made at the federal level by EPA. EPA-regulated sources account for a significant percentage of the NO_x emissions in most non-attainment regions, 40% in the Houston region. These sources are mobile interstate and international NO_x sources, such as automobiles, planes, trains, and ships. In the Clean Air Act, Congress clearly intended for compliance burdens to be borne proportionally by state and federally regulated sources. However, in the forming a plan that would meet EPA approval under the Clean Air Act, the State of Texas through its Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission ("TNRCC") could not incorporate promised EPA reductions into the SIP. Many EPA reductions from federally regulated sources are supposed to exist, but do not because EPA has failed to meet their statutory deadlines. With serious economic burdens looming for 114 non-attainment areas in 33 states, EPA must make allowance for federally pre-empted items for which they have not met their own deadlines. The EPA failure to act, whether due to budget constraints, political resistance, or bureaucratic inertia is not the fault of local communities.

For instance, the EPA had a statutory deadline to produce regulations for all non-road engines in November 1992. Of the six regulations that have been produced the earliest was finalized in 1994, and one has not yet been finalized. The EPA was required by law to issue regulations covering locomotive engines in November 1995, but the rule was not promulgated until three years later. The rule for commercial diesel marine engines, exceedingly important for our area, was not finalized until November 1999. Further emission regulations for commercial marine engines will not be proposed until April of 2002. At this time, we will begin a debate of whether these marine emission standards can apply to foreign-flagged vessels in U.S. territorial waters. As a major shipping and railroad transportations enter, the greater Houston area is very dependent on the EPA to regulate these sources to reduce the burden on the state regulated industrial sources, which are currently being asked to achieve the steepest emission reduction every attempted—90%. I see the Houston area and many other non-attainment areas

around the country engaged full force in a good faith attempt to meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act, and I believe that we owe them some small amount of assistance.

Along with my colleague, KEVIN BRADY, and I am proposing a way for the federal government to assist the state regulated sources that are bearing an increased burden as a result of regulatory delays by the EPA. The U.S. Tax Code provides for tax-exempt bond financing for a number of public and some private entities for a number of purposes that contribute to the public good. Through reduced borrowing costs, the government encourages investment in airports, maritime transport facilities, commuting families, water treatment, solid waste disposal, and local electric transmission. Prior to 1986, investment in air pollution control equipment was also encouraged in this way. However, during the massive rewrite of the tax code in 1986 air pollution was not recognized as a priority. I feel very strongly that at a time when massive air pollution investments are being mandated for the public good, we should allow for some assistance in financing their implementation as quickly as possible.

The Clean Air Investment Act will assist all industries in non-attainment areas finance the necessary investments that we are asking them to make. By reducing the cost of this investment, even by a couple of percentage points, we can help protect our prosperity and save American jobs. All Americans want clean air but we also want a strong economy. By providing lower costs to achieve reduced point service emissions Congress can aid in meeting both of these goals.

REGARDING CHINA, IS IT GETTING PERSONAL?

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member wants to call his colleagues attention to the article by Jim Hoagland in the Washington Post on April 4, 2001. He most assuredly is correct that it is highly unlikely that the collision between a U.S. Navy EP-3E surveillance aircraft and the high performance F-8 fighter interceptor was caused by the American aircraft. That collision, undisputedly, took place in international airspace, so no apology is owed or should be delivered by our Government. The recent harassment of our surveillance aircraft by Chinese interception in the region, as reported by Admiral Dennis Blair, Commander-in-Chief Pacific, in a recent news conference reported that these interceptors have been flying dangerously close to our aircraft and that we had filed a formal protest. Any apology is not the responsibility of the United States. Unfortunately, the immediate comments from the highest level of the Chinese Government informed the Chinese people and the world that the U.S. aircraft invaded Chinese airspace, but it didn't inform them that was the case only after the EP-3E pilot sought the closest landing base for his damaged aircraft on Hainan Island.

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 4, 2001]
REGARDING CHINA, IS IT GETTING PERSONAL?
(By Jim Hoagland)

For reasons physical and political, the probability that an American spy plane deliberately rammed a Chinese jet fighter over the South China Sea on Sunday runs as close to a perfect zero as mathematics allows. Imagine a fully loaded moving van trying to ram a Harley-Davidson motorcycle on an open plain and you get the picture.

So the official Chinese version of the collision that forced a U.S. Navy EP-3 electronic surveillance warplane into a mayday landing on Hainan Island can be dismissed. The Chinese F-8 pilot who went up to harass American spies at work almost certainly overdid his instructions to be particularly aggressive and accidentally flew into the lumbering propeller-driven craft.

But Beijing's false accusation of U.S. responsibility is revealing nonetheless. It tells us much about the air of confrontation that has quickly developed between President George W. Bush's incoming administration and President Jiang Zemin's outgoing leadership team.

The Chinese lie is a reflexive act of pride, and pride is a driving force for Jiang as he draws an ever-clearer line in the sand for Bush. The underlying strategic tensions between the two nations are rapidly getting personal: Jiang sees American actions suddenly threatening his legacy.

Even the best-laid strategies can be blown off course by stray winds. The spy plane incident is the latest in a series of seemingly unrelated, and unplanned, mishaps in American-Chinese relations since Bush's election. Taken together, these incidents illustrate the force of serendipity in politics and policy.

None of their intelligence briefings or position papers would have prepared Bush or Jiang to anticipate that a senior Chinese intelligence officer would defect to the United States in December. News of that defection leaked into Taiwanese newspapers in March, just as China's deputy prime minister was settling out on a frame-setting trip to Washington and meeting with Bush.

Both the defection and, to Chinese eyes, the suspicious timing of the leak may have put China's heavy-handed security services even more on edge. They terrorized a Chinese-American family visiting relatives in China by arresting the mother, Gao Zhan, on espionage charges Feb. 11, and have arrested at least one other Chinese American scholar since.

Jiang was no more likely to have been consulted on Gao Zhan's arrest than Bush was to have been asked to authorize the specific espionage mission near Hainan that went wrong. But the two leaders must now deal with the consequences of these incidents, and do so at an unsettling moment of dual transition.

Jiang, who is due to retire by 2003, is beginning to gradually yield power, while Bush is trying to grab hold of it with a seriously understaffed administration.

Add to this the reality that China and the United States have never developed the kind of informal crisis-management framework that Washington and Moscow learned to apply to strategic mishap, and the opportunity for the EP-3 incident to become the first crisis of Bush's presidency is evident. It is a time for caution on both sides.

The plane incident comes as Bush moves toward a decision later this month on Taiwan's request to buy new U.S. weapons, including four destroyers equipped with sophisticated Aegis phased radar systems. It was to

head off this sale that Jiang dispatched Deputy Prime Minister Qian Qichen to meet with Bush last month.

Bush refused to give Qian any assurances on a subject that Jiang has made into the make-or-break issue in Chinese-American relations. Pride dictates this stand more than strategic calculation, since the radar systems would take nearly a decade to deliver.

Jiang began his term by promising his colleagues on the Politburo to bring China to the point of reabsorbing Taiwan at a time of Beijing's choosing, according to U.S. intelligence reports. The Aegis sale would be a powerful symbol of failure in Jiang's quest for what he said would be his most "historic accomplishment."

Bush must make the decision on the Aegis sale on its own merits and not allow Jiang to gain leverage over the sale through the spy plane incident. There may be other weapons systems that would meet Taiwan's immediate needs as well as the Aegis, but that decision must be made on military and national security criteria, not under the threat of Chinese blackmail.

The Pentagon may have acted unwisely in sending the espionage plane so close to China at this particularly sensitive moment. But there can be no American apology based on the false Chinese version of events, as Beijing demands. That is not just a matter of pride. It is one of justice.

ISLAMIC EXTREMISTS FIND UNWITTING ALLIES IN CENTRAL ASIAN DICTATORSHIPS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am utterly appalled by the Taliban regime's vicious campaign to stamp out freedom and religious tolerance in Afghanistan. But the Taliban's zeal to propagate a warped version of Islam—and the support for terrorism and drug trafficking that goes along with it—is not limited to Afghanistan. Already, an Islamic movement which was designated as a terrorist group by the United States Department of State has taken root in the Fergana valley area where the borders of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan meet. This insurgency has the full support and assistance of the despotic Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

So far, Kazakhstan has not been directly affected by this insurgency. However, because of its oil and mineral wealth, Kazakhstan is the crown jewel of the region and is thus almost certainly the ultimate target of the Islamic extremists. Kazakhstan's authoritarian regime has taken note of the alarming developments with its neighbors to the south and has taken steps to strengthen its defenses. That's the good news. The bad news, however, is that President Nursultan Nazarbayev has also stepped up domestic repression.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Kazakhstan know that they inhabit a rich country, but they also know that very little of that wealth trickles down to them. They are also not blind to the questionable elections, the stifling of press freedom, and the jailing of opposition leaders that have characterized the country's political life. They are losing hope, and thus they are

vulnerable to the siren calls of the Islamic extremists. The parallel to the situation under Suharto in Indonesia ought to be instructive. Fortunately for Indonesia, Islamic extremists were not the beneficiaries of Suharto's ouster, but the same could not be said for Kazakhstan and some of its neighbors.

In the March 3 issue of *The Economist*, there is an excellent article on Kazakhstan's security situation. The author of the article concludes: "Government repression and mismanagement help to nourish extremism and terrorism in Central Asia. An effort to improve social and economic conditions and freedom of expression might make Kazakhstan less fertile ground for militant zealots."

That, Mr. Speaker, is the crux of the issue. I submit the full text of this article from *The Economist* to be placed in the RECORD following my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, some here in Washington may be tempted to urge U.S. support for President Nazarbayev and the other authoritarian regimes in Central Asia, because they claim to be bulwarks of defense against Islamic extremism. Unfortunately, however, the Central Asian domestic political environment is the problem, not the solution. Only a democratic political system, a free press and respect for human rights will stop Islamic extremists. And the United States must stand with those governments in Central Asia who share these values.

[From *The Economist*, Mar. 3, 2001]

KAZAKHSTAN—IN DEFENSE

When the Soviet Union broke up ten years ago, the leaders of Central Asia's newly independent states felt safe from possible attacks on their region. Their main concern was to promote order, economic reform and the assertion of power for themselves and their families. They were jolted out of their complacency by bomb blasts in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, in February 1999 and an attack by Islamic militants in Kirgizstan in August. Last year Islamists again attacked both countries.

Although Kazakhstan was not directly affected by these attacks, they have alerted the country to look to its defences. President Nursultan Nazarbaev has set about making Kazakhstan's armed forces capable of dealing with what he believes are the main threats to the state: terrorism as a result of religious extremism, and organised crime.

He is strengthening defences in the south, in the mountainous border regions from which an Islamic incursion might come. He wants his soldiers to be more mobile. Sniper groups are being formed. Villagers with local knowledge of the terrain are being recruited as guides. The country's defence budget has been more than doubled this year to \$171m, or 1% of GDP. Soldiers' pay is to go up by 30-40%.

One difficulty is that Kazakhstan's borders were not clearly defined in Soviet times, so it is difficult to decide what is a "border incursion". Kazakhstan has 14,000km (8,750 miles) of borders with neighbouring states. It has agreed on its border with China, but it is still negotiating with Russia, Kirgizstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Bulat Sultanov, of Kazakhstan's Institute of Strategic Studies, worries that "our border troops cannot carry out any operations because there is no legal basis for them."

Last year, Uzbek border guards entered southern Kazakhstan and claimed a stretch

of land. Since then, there have been several brushes between Uzbeks and Kazakhs, mostly villagers unclear about which country they are living in. All this is a distraction from the task of making the south of Kazakhstan more secure.

Then there is Afghanistan. Although Kazakhstan is not a direct neighbour, the fiercely Islamic Taliban who control most of Afghanistan are a worry to all of Central Asia. They are believed to provide training for extremists, among them the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), which wants to set up a caliphate in the Fergana valley, where Kirgizstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan meet. The IMU was said to be behind the attacks in Kirgizstan and Uzbekistan in the past two years and is thought to be preparing another assault before long.

Most of Kazakhstan's military equipment dates back to the Soviet period. Replacing, say, old helicopters used in the border areas will be expensive, but necessary. In January a Mi-8 helicopter crashed in the south, injuring the defence minister, Sat Tokpakbaev, who was aboard. Another helicopter crashed near the Chinese border two weeks ago, killing six people.

Kazakhstan will receive arms from Russia worth \$20m this year as part of its annual payment for the use of a space-rocket site at Baikonur. It is due to receive over \$4m from the United States to improve border security. The government might also consider some nonmilitary measures. Government repression and mismanagement help to nourish extremism and terrorism in Central Asia. An effort to improve social and economic conditions and freedom of expression might make Kazakhstan less fertile ground for militant zealots.

TESTIMONY OF DR. IRVING SMOKLER

HON. LYNN N. RIVERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues, the testimony of Dr. Irving Smokler, presented to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. Dr. Smokler is the president of the NephCure Foundation and testified regarding the need for increased funding for research and raising professional and public awareness on glomerular injury through the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

TESTIMONY REGARDING FISCAL YEAR 2002 FUNDING FOR NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES Presented by Irving Smokler, Ph.D., President of the NephCure Foundation, Accompanied by Brad Stewart to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies—March 20, 2001—10:00 AM

SUMMARY OF FY 2002 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue the effort to double funding for the National Institutes of Health by providing an increase of 16.5%, to \$23.7 billion for FY02. Increase funding for the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) by 16.5% to \$1,518,443,525 for FY02.