

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INDIA, RUSSIA AGREE ON \$10 BILLION IN DEFENSE CONTRACTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on June 4, the Information Times reported that India and Russia have signed \$10 billion worth of defense contracts. This is not good for American interests in the world or for the cause of freedom.

Much has been written lately about the Indian Government's desire to improve its relations with the United States. However, we must not forget that India just recently voted to oust the United States from the UN Human Rights Commission. It supported a Chinese bid to table our resolution condemning Chinese human-rights violations. In May 1999, according to the Indian Express, Defense Minister George Fernandes convened a meeting with the ambassadors to India from Cuba, Communist China, Libya, Yugoslavia, and Russia to construct a security alliance "to stop the U.S." India was an ally of the former Soviet Union and publicly supported its invasion of Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, America's national interests are best served by seeking new allies in south Asia. The best way to achieve that is to support the legitimate aspirations for freedom of the occupied and oppressed nations of South Asia such as Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagalim, and several others by means of a free and fair plebiscite under international supervision on the question of independence. Until India allows that democratic vote and permits all the minorities and every citizen to exercise their rights freely, we should cut off all aid to India. That should focus their attention on practicing democratic principles, not on grabbing every available military technology in pursuit of hegemony in South Asia. These are the best measures we can take to support the cause of freedom in the Indian subcontinent.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Information Times article of June 4 into the RECORD.

INDIA, RUSSIA SIGN ABOUT 10 BILLION DOLLARS DEFENSE CONTRACTS

RUSSIA, 4 June 2001 (VOA): India and Russia have signed defense contracts worth some \$10 billion as the two countries seek to increase their military cooperation.

The signing came during a visit to Russia by Indian Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh.

Singh arrived in Moscow late Sunday for a series of meetings with Russian officials that will also focus on the United States' proposal for a national missile defense system.

Russia opposes the plan, while India has indicated it is open to the idea.

Among the agreements already concluded are major Indian purchases of Russian Su-30MKI fighter jets and T-90 tanks.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Ilya Klebanov says the two countries will sign an agreement later this year to jointly develop a military transport aircraft and a next-generation fighter plane.

Klebanov says contracts for the sale of a Soviet-era aircraft carrier to India will be signed later this year.

India has traditionally been one of the largest customers for Russian weapons.

RECOGNITION OF THE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, in recent years there has been an increased movement to recognize veterans of World War II. Despite improved awareness, there are many veterans whose heroic efforts to preserve this great country are still overlooked. Accordingly, we must continue to take greater strides to demonstrate the appreciation and gratitude these loyal Americans deserve for the sacrifices they made.

During World War II, tens of thousands of U.S. POWs were captured and either killed under unspeakable conditions or forced into slave labor for Japanese companies. After the United States surrendered its forces on the Bataan Peninsula, Philippines in early 1942, the infamous 60-mile Bataan Death March claimed the lives of hundreds of Americans. In fact, more than 14,000 American POWs perished from disease, starvation, injury, brutality or execution at an appalling 40 percent death rate that proved it was more deadly to be a prisoner of the Japanese than to fight in battle. The prisoners who survived the Bataan Death March were joined by other American prisoners who were taken at Corregidor and throughout the Pacific—Guam, Wake Island, and survivors of the sinking of the U.S.S. *Houston*.

Any words used to describe the conditions these American prisoners faced cannot do justice to the pain and suffering that they experienced. Upon arrival in Japan and Japanese-occupied territories such as Manchuria, they were sent to work as slaves for some of Japan's richest companies like Mitsubishi and Nippon Steel—companies that remain wealthy and powerful today.

The U.S. played an instrumental role in the discussions between German companies and their victims during the Holocaust litigation, and it is now time that our government extend the same gesture of gratitude and support for the POW veterans of World War II. As such, I am proud to voice my strong support for H.R. 1198, the "Justice for United States Prisoners of War Act of 2001", introduced by Representatives DANA ROHRBACHER (R-CA) and MICHAEL HONDA (D-CA).

I applaud Representatives ROHRBACHER and HONDA for their leadership in bringing these Japanese companies to justice on behalf of the well-deserving veterans who suffered and lost their lives. The bipartisan legislation will rightfully allow American POW's to sue Japanese companies in U.S. state or federal court for losses and injuries sustained during the time they were imprisoned and forced into slave labor. Moreover, the bill also provides that if Japan enters into peace settlement terms with another country more beneficial to that country than to the United States, those additional benefits will also be extended to the United States.

I believe our POWs, who have given years of their lives to serve the cruel interests of our wartime enemies should at least be allowed the opportunity to have their grievances redressed in an international court of law. As a nation, which has thrived because of the sacrifices of these brave men, we must do everything in our power to recognize and repay their courageous efforts.

We owe it to these POW's—both the survivors and those killed in action—who made immeasurable sacrifices for the brighter future of this great nation. We owe it to their families, who also made sacrifices by losing precious days, weeks and months with loved ones who were off serving, preserving the peace and freedom we have in this country today.

CONSECRATION OF FATHER JACOB ANGADIATH

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to congratulate Father Jacob Angadiath, who will head up the newly created diocese in Chicago to serve Syro-Malabar Catholics in the United States and Canada. The consecration of Father Angadiath as bishop of the diocese will take place on July 1st.

Earlier this year, Pope John Paul II created the new diocese to serve the Syro-Malabarians of North America. The Syro-Malabar Archiepiscopal Church is an Eastern Catholic Church with more than 3 million faithful, and they trace their roots to St. Thomas the apostle, who brought the Gospel to Southern India. Though the vast majority of Syro-Malabarians live in India, about 75,000 live in North America, including about 7,000 in Chicago.

The creation of the new St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic diocese of Chicago is truly a recognition by Pope John Paul II of this faithful community, which refers to itself as "oriental in worship, Indian in culture and Christian in religion." It is the first Syro-Malabar diocese outside of India.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

July 11, 2001

I want to again congratulate Father Angadiath, and wish him the best of luck as he takes on his new responsibilities as bishop. The St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic diocese will provide a spiritual home for the Syro-Malabar Catholics outside of India, and it will be a wonderful addition to Chicago's many other religious communities.

CONGRATULATING STEVE
SAMUELIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steve Samuelian for being presented with the Chair's Award from the United Way of Fresno County (UWFC). The Chair's Award is selected by the Chair of the Board of Directors of the UWFC, and is awarded to the board member who has demonstrated outstanding service to community improvement.

The main goal of the United Way is to maximize financial resources in order to build a healthier community while improving the quality of life. Steve's exemplary service to the UWFC has helped advance the mission, values, and goals of the United Way. In addition to his work on the Board of Directors, Steve recruited and chaired the Leadership Giving Committee of the United Way of Fresno County. The Leadership Giving Committee is the group that recruits and handles major donors to the United Way of Fresno County. The amount of contributions to this committee has doubled under Steve's guidance.

Steve serves on the Board of Directors of the Clovis District Chamber of Commerce and participates in the National Education Association's Read Across America Program. He is also a member of the Resource Development Committee for the Fresno Leadership Foundation. In addition, Steve is actively involved in the Armenian-American community, and serves on the Board of Advisors for the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Steve Samuelian for earning the United Way of Fresno County Chair's Award. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Steve Samuelian's contributions and dedication to the community.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL TIMOTHY
M. DANIEL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate and pay tribute to Colonel Timothy M. Daniel, who recently retired from the United States Army Corps of Engineers where he served as Chief, Commander's Planning Group. He has distinguished himself, the Army, and our nation with dedicated service.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Colonel Daniel, originally from Wyoming, enlisted as a soldier in 1970. Following his tour of duty as a construction surveyor and instructor, he returned to the University of Wyoming where he graduated in 1975. He accepted a ROTC commission and reentered active duty in July 1975.

Colonel Daniel is a graduate of the engineer officer basic and advanced courses, Command and General Staff College. He holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations. A master's degree in Public Administration and attended Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government as a fellow in their national security program.

Prior to his assignment as Chief, Commander's Planning Group, United States Army Corps of Engineers, he served as the Garrison Commander of the United States Army Garrison, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. His other commands include the 35th Engineer Battalion and company command at the United States Army Engineer Center, serving again at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Other assignments of Colonel Daniel include Long Range Planner, Strategic Plans and Policy Division, Office of the Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans at Headquarters, Department of the Army; Area Engineer for Israel; executive officer, 14th Combat Engineer Battalion, TRADOC Liaison Officer to the French Corps of Engineers, Angers, France; and Group Engineer, United States Army Artillery Group, Cakmakli, Turkey.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Daniel has dutifully served our nation. As he prepares to spend more time with his wife Carol and his children, Thomas and Kelly, I know the members of the House will join me in expressing appreciation for his years of service.

IN HONOR OF ARTHUR MAYER, JR.
WHO HAS BEEN ELECTED NATIONAL
PRESIDENT OF THE BENEVOLENT
AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arthur Mayer, Jr., who formally became President of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks on Saturday, July 7, 2001. Mr. Mayer assumed his presidency at the 133rd Elks National Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Arthur Mayer, Jr. is a native of Bergenfield, New Jersey and has been an active member of the Bergenfield Elks Lodge #1477 for the past 35 years. In 1978, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Northeast District of New Jersey. He also served as President of the New Jersey Elks Association from 1985 to 1986. As President of the New Jersey Elks Association, he managed and supervised over 120 lodges throughout New Jersey.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America is one of the largest fraternal organizations in the country. Currently, over 1.2 million men and

women serve as members of this prestigious association. In the organization's 132-year history, it has disbursed over \$2 billion in goods and services for patriotic and civic programs that assist armed service veterans and students in over 2,000 communities nationwide.

As a result of his hard work and diligent efforts, Arthur Mayer, Jr. has helped improve the lives of thousands of families across the country.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Arthur Mayer, Jr. for his commitment to helping others and for his years of distinguished service at the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
"QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET
RIVERS VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE
CORRIDOR PROTECTION
ACT OF 2001"

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague from Massachusetts, RICHARD NEAL, to introduce the "Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Protection Act of 2001."

The bill would provide for the implementation of a management plan for the Corridor to protect resources critical to maintaining and interpreting the distinctive character of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor.

Created by Congress in 1999, the Quinebaug-Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor (QSHC) encompasses about 695,000 acres in northeastern Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts.

Called "the Last Green Valley" in the sprawling metropolitan Boston-to-Washington, D.C. corridor, the QSHC has successfully assisted in the development and implementation of integrated cultural, historical, and recreational land resource management programs that has and will continue to retain, enhance and interpret these significant features. But much more needs to be done, which is why Mr. NEAL and I introduced this legislation.

The QSHC will embark on two very significant projects. The Green Valley Institute is an expansion of the successful natural resource education program that will serve as a key educational tool for the scores of volunteers who work on the municipal boards, committees and commissions making those important decisions regarding land use and natural resource conservation. The program will also provide much needed information in estate planning, forestland management, and technical assistance in GIS training and other important technology. The Green Valley Institute may be the single most important program that the QSHC can provide its 35 towns.

The other significant project is the planning and consideration of the Gateway Center proposed for I-395 in Thompson, Connecticut. Many entities in northeast Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts are looking to the

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