

United States will recognize these accomplishments, will look for their own communities to say: We have some kids that are as bright and as smart as the kids in Fredericksburg, Texas; I wonder why we cannot beat their record, why we cannot put a 35-pound payload 100,000 feet into the air and recover it intact. It is a great accomplishment that is going on in Fredericksburg, Texas. This is a great opportunity to recognize the wonderful things being done by these students, in contrast to all the bad things that we hear in the press.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my Special Order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

LEBANON AND SYRIA LIBERATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, for too long Syria has heard yes from the world. It has sponsored terrorism, and the world answered: Yes. It has built up an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, and the world answered: Yes. And it has stolen from Lebanon its sovereignty and political independence, and, once again, the world answered: Yes.

This week, we are here to tell Syria: No. For over a generation, the world stood silently as the occupation set deep roots in Lebanon, while hundreds of people were murdered by Syrian-supported terrorists like Hezbollah all over the world, and a dangerous stockpile of chemical weapons was developed. Anger grew as guerillas entered Iraq from Syria to kill innocent Iraqis and American soldiers, but it was left to the United States Congress to grab the bull by the horns and devise a policy to free Lebanon and confront Syria.

The Syria Accountability Act and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act, which I wrote, was signed into law in December 2003 and told Syria that things had changed. Until Syria got out of Lebanon, halted its support for terror, ended weapons of mass destruction programs and stanching the flow of extremists into Iraq, it would face sanctions.

Last fall, the United Nations followed our lead. They demanded in U.N. Security Council Resolution 1559 that Syria completely leave Lebanon, and Hezbollah be dismantled. But still, Syria remains in Lebanon, and the terror machine operates from the Damascus sanctuary.

It is remarkable, but it has taken the murder of a former prime minister of Lebanon and mass protests by Lebanese aspiring for democracy for the world to take on the Syria challenge. The Cedar Revolution which has been launched by Lebanese people calling for Syria to leave Lebanon is something that really make us proud.

So this week, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and I introduced a new bill. This is the natural follow-up to the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act. The legislation is called LA SYRIA LA, which means in Arabic, No Syria No. It says that until Damascus gets completely out of Lebanon, stops supporting terrorist groups and ends its weapons of mass destruction programs, the Lebanese and Syria Liberation Act, LA SYRIA LA, codifies existing sanctions against Syria and imposes American sanctions on countries and companies which provide destabilizing weapons to Syria. In other words, third countries will have sanctions against them if they provide destabilizing weapons to Syria. It calls for a State Department report to Congress on Syrian activities, provides for American assistance to pro-democracy and human rights groups in Syria and Lebanon and instructs our government to oppose Syrian bids for U.N. leadership positions and international loans to Syria.

So, today, we stand with the Lebanese people who wish to take back their people by saying no to the Syrian occupiers. We stand with the world and the President of the United States, who is saying no to the Syrian occupation, and we align ourselves with the forces of Lebanese democracy which will deliver the ultimate no to Syria through power of the ballot box, not the barrel of the gun.

Now I must say, today, the newspapers reported that in a sharp policy reversal, the Bush administration is now ready to see Hezbollah in a role in Lebanon at the urging of France. I am sorry to hear, that, if it is true, is ill-advised, and I urged the administration to never acquiesce to terrorist organizations like Hezbollah. Hezbollah is in the same category as al Qaeda, and the President has said time and time again that there are no good terrorists, only bad terrorists, and we cannot compromise with terrorism. I hope this is not the fact. We should not deal with Hezbollah. Hezbollah killed 243 Marines, U.S. Marines, 20 some odd years ago in Beirut and has killed countless number of Israeli citizens by being allowed to conduct a proxy off of Syria against Israel in South Lebanon.

Resolution 1559 of the U.N. Security Council which we sponsored says that Hezbollah and all terrorist organizations in Lebanon must be dismantled and that the Syrians must get out of Lebanon. I urge the administration to

stick to its guns on that and never recognize Hezbollah as anything more than a terrorist group.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my special order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

HONORING THE FAMILY OF EVA BOWMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eva Bowman and her late husband, Ralph, for their commitment to education and, specifically, for their commitment to the Wray School District located on the eastern plains of Colorado.

The Bowmans' dedication to and involvement in the school districts of East Yuma County spans five generations. As a young girl, Eva rode her horse to school southeast of Wray. That schoolhouse was made of sod. It was heated using wood and cow chips. She graduated from Laird High School. Her father, Fred Peterson, was also active in education and served as a member of the Starnes County School Board at the turn of the last century. Ralph attended the nearby East Beecher Island County School, but had to quit after the eighth grade in order to work on the farm.

Because he was not able to finish his education, Ralph felt it was very important for his children and his grandchildren to receive a good education. All three of the Bowman children graduated from Wray High School. The ten Bowman grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren all attend or have graduated from the schools within East Yuma County. By the time the Bowmans' youngest great granddaughter completes her schooling, their family will be celebrating well over 100 years of education within these wonderful educational institutions.

As an additional testament to their devotion, Eva recently donated \$200,000 to the Wray School District wind turbine project on behalf of her late husband, Ralph, and her children, Jean Brophy, Geraldine Baird, and Jack Bowman. Upon completion, the wind turbine project will make Wray the first school district in Colorado to own a renewable energy source.

Recently, when her loving grandson Michael was talking to his grandmother, they commented on the technological changes Eva has experienced during her life. Michael praised his grandmother for her excitement about