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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. LONGLEY].

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

March 28, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable JAMES B. LONGLEY, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LONGLEY). Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 1995, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority and minority leader limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] for 5 minutes.

IN WELCOME OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND, THE HONORABLE JIM BOLGER

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my colleagues in the Congress to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to the Honorable Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister of New Zealand and members of his delegation. This is indeed an historic occasion, as it has been over a decade since New Zealand's Prime Minister has been invited to Washington to meet with our

President. And I want to commend President Clinton, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Secretary of Defense William Perry, and Assistant Secretary Winston Lord for bringing about this normalization of our relations with the leaders and good people of New Zealand. I also want to welcome our Nation's Ambassador to New Zealand, the Honorable Josiah Beeman, who is also in Washington.

As some of our colleagues may know, in 1987, the United States Government restricted political, military, and security contacts with the nation of New Zealand in response to her adoption of antinuclear legislation that was perceived to be inconsistent with United States military interests in the South Pacific.

Although I can understand why our defense ties and Anzus obligations to New Zealand were terminated, I have never supported an across-the-board snubbing that our country forced New Zealand to endure for years. While we restricted high-level contacts with New Zealand, I find it ironic that our Government had no problem in meeting with leaders from totalitarian states and Communist regimes.

New Zealand is a longstanding and respected democracy that shares our values, and has historically been a close friend of the United States for most of this century. The people of New Zealand and America are much alike and have much in common—including a shared language, a common heritage of multiculturalism, and a firm commitment to the principles of free market economies.

Our two nations, as allies, have fought at each others' side against aggression in virtually every major conflict in recent times. From World War I and World War II, to the Korean, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf wars, New Zealand has joined with America to combat those forces that have

threatened democracy and undermined international security and peace.

As a member of the U.N. Security Council, New Zealand has actively supported the United States in multilateral collective security efforts. This has included joint operations with America in U.N. peacekeeping missions to Cambodia, Somalia, Rwanda, and Haiti, as well as contributions to U.N. peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia, Angola, and Mozambique.

In the Asia-Pacific, both New Zealand and the United States support the Asean Regional Forum, which provides the best promise for engaging the major Pacific powers in a new multilateral security architecture for the region. In furtherance of nonproliferation controls, New Zealand early on supported United States negotiations resolving the North Korean nuclear crisis, and has strongly worked with the United States for indefinite extension of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Moreover, New Zealand has played an active and positive role in supporting United States efforts in international economic fora, such as the Uruguay round of GATT, APEC, the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, and the Pacific Basin Economic Committee.

Given the nature of this long and extraordinarily deep relationship between our democracies, I strongly applauded the Clinton administration's policy change last year to resume senior-level diplomatic contacts with New Zealand for discussion of political, strategic, and broad security matters. The removal of New Zealand's diplomatic handcuffs has been long overdue.

Although several Members in both Houses of Congress lobbied the administration for years to lift the unfair restrictions, certainly Prime Minister Bolger deserves a good part of the credit. During the Seattle APEC summit,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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



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