be able to have a chance to rectify that on the floor of the House of Representatives. That is why I then authored a bill, H.R. 359, and submitted that legislation, because I had that guarantee that they would have a chance to rectify it, because it should not have been in the GATT implementation legislation in the first place.

Guess what, H.R. 359 was tied up in subcommittee for over a year. Eventually what came out of subcommittee was not H.R. 359, but H.R. 3460, which is officially the Moorhead-Schroeder Patent Act, which I am calling, and I think more accurately is reflected by the title, the Steal American Technologies Act. So at least, however, I have been guaranteed that if that bill, H.R. 3460, comes to the floor, that I will have a chance to offer my bill, which restores the American patent, guaranteed patent term, as a substitute for 3460.

Basically, I believe H.R. 3460 would finish the job, and if we take a look at it, this is what the provisions are, it would finish the job of harmonization started with this underhanded change in the GATT implementation legislation. America's huge corporations have apparently bought off on the idea that we should have a global economy, and that our harmonization of patent law with the Japanese is the first step toward this global economy.

I happen to believe that global commerce is a good thing. I am not an isolationist and I am not someone who is a protectionist. I believe in free trade between free people, and I make absolutely no apologies for that. If American companies cannot compete, they should not be protected by the Government.

But we should make sure that we set the ground rules up so Americans are protected from having their technology stolen from them and used against them, and basically H.R. 3460 would take us toward global harmonization, a global economy, by destroying the rights of the American people, by attacking our ability to create a high standard of living in America. In other words, they are trying to bring down the standard of living of the American people in order to achieve a global economy; you know, dilute our rights as Americans. It is ridiculous.

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What does H.R. 3460 do?

No. 1, it demands that any idea, when an inventor comes in and applies for a patent after 18 months if that patent is not issued, that inventor is going to see his ideas published so every thief, every Asian copycat, every pirate in the world will be able to see it and steal it. No. 2, it obliterates the Patent Office as we have known it since it was put into the Constitution and resurrected some quasi-governmental or quasi-private corporation which is basically run under the dictatorship of one man who is appointed by the President but cannot be kicked out without cause, not just for policy disagreements. The patent examiners there will lose their civil service protection and there is an invitation to steal our technology and an invitation to corrupt the whole system at the Patent Office. Basically we will have established a czar of the Patent Office for 5 years.

Mr. Speaker, we do not need czars or dictators or kings in the United States of America. We need Government officials who are accountable to the American people for the decisions that they are making. Basically this is a formula for catastrophe. We are basically trying to remake the American patent system into the Japanese system.

I had a Member of Congress tell me today, ''Well, you know, if those other countries have certainly gotten their systems ahead of ours and they're more modern than ours, we should have a patent system like theirs.''

I wanted to basically explode when I heard this idea that the Japanese system—that has fostered no new improvements, that has kept the Japanese people at the mercy of these huge corporate interests—that that is a better system than ours which was established by our Founding Fathers to guarantee the property rights of our people and has basically given birth to a standard of living and a degree of freedom that the people of the world have never seen before, that the Japanese system is better than ours? Basically there are many people who have influence on the people who will vote on this. There are large corporations, there are people who maybe honestly believe that we have to have a global economy and if it means sacrificing the American people, so be it, because a global economy will bring world peace and all the blah-blah-blah. Well, those people may believe in it. Those people may really believe and there may be some who honestly believe that the submarine patents are so heinous that we can destroy everything in order to get to those few submarine patenters. Let me add this about submarine patenters just to let you know. Ninety-nine percent of all people who apply for a patent in the United States beg and plead to have their patent issued immediately. ''Please give me my patent right away,'' because they know until they get the patent issued to them, they cannot go out and start earning money from it because they cannot get investors, that very few investors will invest in patent pending. But if you have got your patent issued, they will pay attention to you. They are pleading, please, and they know, and these, quote, submarine patenters they are talking about, if they elongate the system, they might find out that they are left behind because new technologies have come along and just left them behind and made their, quote, great technologies obsolete. They know that. The submarine patent issue, some people may believe in it. I hope they listen to the arguments I am presenting because I believe it is a totally fallacious argument that is being used to justify a horrible, horrible change in our system that will bring about terrible consequences for the United States of America. How can we stop this juggernaut? Those people who honestly believe in submarine patents, if they do, they do. You try to give them the logical arguments. But those other people, those other companies, those other corporations and those people, the influence peddlers they hire, we can stop them because democracy works. We can stop them if people will contact the man or woman who represents them in Congress and say, H.R. 3460, the Steal American Technologies Act, has to be defeated, and the Rohrabacher substitute has to be put in its place. If we get enough people doing that, we will make the system work, I believe it will work, and I believe we will triumph over this, because 200 years ago when our Founding Fathers and mothers established this country, there were so many hardships and there were so many challenges and they knew that people would be coming at us just like this. Our Founding Fathers knew this. They knew that people would say, ''Hey, where is America's Achilles' heel?'' They knew that. They knew they would come straight forth. But they also knew you could trust the people, you could count on people to defend their standard of living and their families and their freedom. That is what we are up against today. It is a fight for the future of the United States of America. I hope and I pray that the American people will become activated after the Fourth of July and that we will win the day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. DUNN of Washington (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of personal reasons.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. LONGLEY (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today after 3:30 p.m. and the balance of the week, on account of personal reasons.

Mr. YATES (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today after 5:30 p.m., on account of personal reasons.

Mrs. LINCOLN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of personal business.

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 Member (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material:)