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CENTRAL AMERICA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARCHANT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, it has been a little over a year since the Bush administration secretly negotiated a trade agreement called CAFTA, and we had heard that they were going to bring it before the Congress before the Memorial Day break. Of course, that did not happen, and now it appears it will not happen before the Independence Day break because they simply have not been able to twist enough arms to get enough Members of Congress to vote against the interest of the American economy, the American workers and their own constituents.

This is potentially a turning point in trade policy for the United States. The statistics are staggering. Last month we recorded a \$56.96 billion trade deficit; that is, that we borrowed almost \$2 billion a day from foreign interests, foreign governments, in the case of China, to finance consumption of goods produced overseas often with U.S. capital, often by jobs that were formerly filled by Americans here in the United States of America.

Now, if you use the broadest measure of the Department of Commerce, that means that is about 7 million jobs; that sort of a trade deficit on an annual basis means a loss of 7 million jobs. It means the undermining of our industrial base. And increasingly, it means the loss of some of our most sophisticated, highest-technology jobs and manufacturing in the United States of America.

This is simply not a sustainable policy, but the reaction of this administration is this is working exactly as planned. It is making a few multinational corporations and a few others very wealthy. So what if we have lost millions of jobs? So what if the United States of America is going in hock to China and Japan and other countries? They think it is working just fine, exactly as intended, so-called free trade.

So they want to extend our failed NAFTA agreement, which has contributed mightily to this deficit, the agreement with Mexico and Canada which promised to bring 800,000 jobs to the United States and instead caused us to lose a million jobs, mostly to Mexico. They want to extend that throughout Central America so that some companies might not have to go as far as China to find exploitable labor who will work for \$0.25 an hour or less, oppressed by the governments, not allowed to organize, working in unsafe conditions. But until now, Congress is holding firm, and that is good news. And the American people should be contacting their Representatives and their Senators.

I was very disappointed to see both Senators from my State, a State which

has lost a lot of jobs because of NAFTA and these free trade policies, vote to endorse a continuation or acceleration of these failed policies in committee in the Senate just yesterday. But they are not listening to the people of Oregon and the people of America. I am, and a majority of House is today.

So let us make them continue to listen, let us continue to speak out, and let us break the cycle of failed trade policies and begin to work for trade policy that brings and keeps quality jobs, manufacturing jobs, high-technology jobs, high-paying jobs, jobs with good benefits home here in the United States of America.

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

(Mr. GUTKNECHT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise to claim the time of the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

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

There was no objection.

HONORING WENTWORTH CHESWILL

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

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Wentworth Cheswill, the founding father of Newmarket, New Hampshire.

On June 25, descendants of Wentworth Cheswill will gather in Newmarket to pay tribute to him and his contributions to the town of Newmarket. Wentworth served his town in varied capacity every year from 1768 to 1817, including terms as town selectman, justice of the peace and town assessor. During the Revolutionary War, Wentworth acted as the town's messenger, delivering messages between Exeter and Newmarket in a duty quite similar to Paul Revere's. As the town scrivener, he hand-copied the town's records, which date back to 1727. These town records remain a part of Newmarket Historical Society's collection.

Born on April 11, 1746, in Newmarket, the son of Hopedill March and Catherine Kennison Cheswill was named in honor of Governor Wentworth. Two accounts describe him as "colored" as it was reported that his grandfather, a former slave named Richard Cheswill, had married a daughter of the Wentworths of Portsmouth. This union was considered a disgrace to the Wentworth family, who sent them away to the

woods of New Hampshire. It is in part because of his African American lineage that Wentworth truly stands out as a leader in diversity and equality in my State of New Hampshire.

In 1768, Wentworth became active in Newmarket town affairs at the age of 22. His first appointed position was as justice of the peace that same year, and he went on to serve as town auditor, coroner and moderator.

The Massachusetts Historical Society has in its collection a document that is thought to be the earliest archaeological report from New Hampshire. Coauthored by Mr. Cheswill, this report was later sent to the Reverend Jeremy Belknap of Boston to be included in his history of New Hampshire. The undated document is believed to be written in 1790 or 1791 and details the aboriginal artifacts and relics he had recovered in the area surrounding Newmarket.

Many historians agree that Wentworth's writing contains the seeds of modern archaeological theory. Despite the limited scope of Wentworth's writing, scholars defend his title as New Hampshire's first archaeologist.

Wentworth stands for all we admired about our Founding Fathers, integrity, dedication and resolve. Wentworth's legacy has gone uncelebrated for far too long. It is due to the hard work of his descendants and Mr. Rich Alperin, president of the Newmarket Historical Society, that his contributions have finally come to light. I thank everyone for their involvement in restoring Wentworth's legacy to its rightful place in New Hampshire history.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARMY SERGEANT FIRST CLASS NEIL ARMSTRONG PRINCE

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen hero, Sergeant First Class Neil Armstrong Prince, who grew up in my district in Baltimore, Maryland.

This brave 35-year-old Army sergeant was killed on June 11 in Al Taqaddum, Iraq, after a roadside bomb exploded near his vehicle.

Sergeant Prince's convoy was traveling to another city in Iraq when it encountered several improvised bombs. The first bomb did not injure anyone, but as the convoy stopped to secure the area, two more bombs exploded. The last bomb detonated directly under Sergeant Prince's vehicle, killing him and 22-year-old Specialist Casey Byers of Schleswig, Iowa.

Sergeant Prince was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division in Fort Carson, CO. Mr. Speaker, as a committed member of the United States Army for nearly 16 years, he demonstrated his unyielding courage and strong sense of patriotism in serving this country.

I offer my deepest condolences to his family during this time. I, along with the other members of the Maryland Federal delegation, mourn their loss.

Our prayers are with his wife Suzette; his 4-year-old son Jordan; his parents Cecil and Olive Bailey; his brother Aldean Lindo; and three sisters, Ann-Marie Richards, Ava, and Shane Prince.

Sergeant Prince was one of Maryland's finest citizens. I did not know him personally; however, we share an inseparable bond as graduates of Baltimore City College High School. It was at City College where Sergeant Prince decided to pursue a career in the military. He wanted to serve his country and give something back to a Nation that had given so much to him.

Sergeant Prince took his job as a member of our armed services very seriously. It is evident that he accepted each challenge with valor and dignity, regardless of the inherent dangers involved.

While he was in Korea last year, a sergeant in another unit with the same job had a back injury, and Sergeant Prince was assigned to replace him when that unit was deployed to Iraq.

This brave young American knew of the perils of the high-risk areas into which was being sent, but he was proud to be a soldier. He was proud that, by serving in the United States Army, he was not only making a better life for himself, but he was trying to make a better life, a safer life for us all.

When his family expressed justifiable concerns about his safety in Iraq, Sergeant Prince responded with the quiet confidence that defined him. He said, "That is what I joined the Army to do. It is simply my job."

Mr. Speaker, the deadly consequences of war are a reality that we must all face. However, the knowledge of what may happen in war does little to diminish the pain, the anguish when that reality reaches your front door.

Sergeant Prince had three loves in his life: his wife, his son, and his sports. Needless to say, his wife and son will miss him immensely. How do you comfort a wife who has lost her lifelong partner, confidant and friend? How do you calm the fears of a 4-year-old boy who must now come to terms with the fact that his father will never return home? And when young Jordan Prince scores his first touchdown or hits his first home run, his dad will not be in the stands to cheer him on to victory. Jordan has lost his father, the one who is supposed to teach him how to become a man.

Perhaps there is no consolation for a loss so deep. However, there are memories to help ease the pain. This Maryland family has the memories of a man who loved them dearly and loved being a soldier. He had a vision for his life and followed that vision with intensity.

Many of us who are blessed with longevity will spend years upon years never feeling fulfilled and never doing

what we were born to do. There is comfort in knowing that during his brief stay on this Earth, Sergeant Prince lived a life of purpose.

Finally, there is little doubt that his parents named him for the famous astronaut Neil Armstrong because they wanted him to be a part of a legacy of bravery and triumph. They hoped his achievements would pierce the stratosphere and reach out onward to the Moon, just like the astronaut before him. There would be no limit to Sergeant Prince's potential in this country.

They were right. Neil Armstrong Prince reached for the stars. Like all of our men and women in armed services, his courage and his commitment to the defense of our great country were almost not earthly.

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

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CENTRAL AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, 1 year and 1 month ago, President Bush signed the Central American Free Trade Agreement, a cousin of the North American Free Trade Agreement, which would extend the same NAFTA-type trade provisions to six countries, five in Central America and the Dominican Republic.

Unlike every other trade agreement which President Bush has signed, Morocco, Chile, Singapore and Australia, which were signed and voted on by Congress within 60 days, the Central American Free Trade Agreement has simply languished in the halls of Congress. The President has not brought it forward to vote on, in large part because the people of this body, a majority of the Members of Congress, will not vote for it. And here is why.

It is pretty clear, Mr. Speaker that our trade policy is not working. In 1992, the year I ran for Congress, we had a \$38 billion trade deficit, meaning we sold \$38 billion less than we imported, exported less than we imported. \$38 billion. Today, or 2004, that number had increased to \$618 billion, from \$38 billion to \$618 billion in a dozen years.

Mr. Speaker, maybe that is just numbers, but when you look at the trade deficit, and you know what it means, it has meant in large part a huge loss of manufacturing jobs. Just in the last 6 years these States in red have all lost at least 20 percent of their manufacturing. Michigan, 210,000; Ohio, 216-; Illinois, 224-; Pennsylvania, 200-; Mis-

issippi and Alabama 130,000; North Carolina, 228,000. States in the purple here, dark blue, purple, have lost 15 to 20 percent of their manufacturing jobs.

It is clear, Mr. Speaker, that our trade policy is not working. Now, because of that and because the President cannot get nearly enough votes to pass the Central American Free Trade Agreement, they have begun to negotiate side deals, and they have promised bridges and highways as they did in 2001 on the last big trade vote in this Congress, something called trade promotion authority. They have promised to change CAFTA and do something down the road. Trust us, vote for it, and then we will make some provisions later down to help sugar, help textile, to help the steel industry, to protect jobs, to perhaps bring up living standards in Central America.

The latest promise that they have made is to offer \$20 million for enforcement of labor standards. This is the same administration that has cut labor standards in the United States and has dropped the funding for the Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs from \$148 million 4 years ago down to 12 million. They want to put \$20 million back.

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We can play with numbers, but the fact is the enforcement of labor standards in Central America is basically nonexistent under CAFTA and under the President's plans.

At the same time, the International Labor Organization sets standards agreed on by all countries around the world to lift up labor standards so that workers can make a decent wage, that workers can bargain and organize collectively. The ILO standards prohibit child labor, prohibit forced labor, all the kinds of values that we in this country share with our colleagues and our workers in our families. With all of that, the administration is one of only two countries out of 80 in the world that is not fully supporting the ILO and what it wants to do in Geneva with its funding, with its programs, with all that.

So it is pretty clear, Mr. Speaker, that the \$20 million offer to support labor standards is just a fig leaf to try to convince a few Members of Congress to vote for the Central American Free Trade Agreement.

While all those deals have been going on, Mr. Speaker, a group of us had a rally today at the Cannon building in Washington, a group of legislators from the United States and a group of legislators from Central America. They rallied against the Central American Free Trade Agreement, not to kill it but to defeat this Central American Free Trade Agreement and come back with a better Central American Free Trade Agreement that protects the environment, that helps working people in both countries. All of us together have called on Congress to pass a better Central American Free Trade Agreement.