

but for associated sites as well. As stated in the bill, by preserving these sites, we will be showing to all Americans and to the world that we are a Nation that can deal honestly with past wrongs and further show that we can learn from our own mistakes. Ultimately, through this preservation program, we will demonstrate the Nation's commitment to equal justice under the law.

When I was a member of the California State Assembly, I had the privilege of passing legislation to create the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program. The measure created an education program to provide competitive grants for educational activities and the development of educational materials to ensure that the events surrounding the exclusion, forced removal, and incarceration of civilians and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry would be remembered.

The Public Education Program has also shed light on how Executive Order 9066, the order paving the way for the internment, impacted others such as the Italian and German Americans as well as people of Japanese ancestry living in Latin America. I know that H.R. 1492 in a similar fashion will add to the depth of knowledge we have regarding the internment period. Only by understanding the causes leading to the internment can we as a Nation put ourselves in a better position to avoid making similar mistakes.

While my State bill in California helped to preserve the stories of the internment period, the legislation that Mr. THOMAS has authored will help to preserve the physical, tangible reminders of this period and will have a deep impact on our ability to make the stories real for future generations.

The internment sites, Manzanar, Topaz, Minidoka, Heart Mountain, Tule Lake, Gila River, Poston, Amache, Rohwer, Jerome, and related confinement sites stand as an important and powerful lesson for this Nation.

I commend the groups making up the Japanese American National Heritage Coalition and the work of Gerald Yamada and Floyd Mori in bringing this issue to Congress. And, again, I truly want to thank Chairman THOMAS for his efforts in making this bill a reality today and thank all of my colleagues who have joined as cosponsors of this measure.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, in conclusion of the debate on this bill, I appreciate my colleagues across the aisle and the wonderful heartfelt comments that have been made. It is deeply moving to hear some of the personal testimonies, and when the gentleman from Samoa spoke saying he wished he were not referred to as a Pacific American, I

was reminded of the events immediately after 9/11. Such a horrible evil thing when evil people filled with hate wanting to destroy innocent Americans came and crashed into our buildings, leaving so many devastated and destroyed and killed.

But I recall the day after 9/11, and like that flower that grows after a terrible event, so many all over America held hands and sang songs. I remember the day after that event there were no hyphenated Americans in the United States anywhere. We were all Americans. And that was one of the few things that we came away from. What a wonderful thing. Race did not matter. Background, socioeconomic conditions did not matter. We were Americans, and we were proud to be Americans.

The other comment that has been made that should be highlighted is that it is important to learn from our mistakes, and that is one of the great things about America. It is one of the very few nations in this world that will stand up and say, you know what, we made a mistake and we are going to fix it. We are going to notice it.

Some say Satchel Paige made the quote that often is used: "Don't look back. They may be gaining on you." But I read that he also had a quote later in life: "It's okay to look back. Just don't stare." This bill will allow us to look back, see that we made a mistake, and make sure that it is corrected.

With regard to our troops that come home from Iraq and Afghanistan who are doing the service of this country, it is important also that we learn from our mistakes, and without regard to race, creed, sex, gender, socioeconomic conditions, we welcome them home; we thank them for their bravery.

In the meantime, this is a good bill. We urge the passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1492, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT RUSSIAN FEDERATION MUST PROTECT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 230) expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation must protect intellectual property rights.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 230

Whereas the protection of intellectual property is critical to the Nation's economic competitiveness in the 21st century;

Whereas Russia remains on the Special 301 Priority Watch List compiled by the United States Trade Representative (USTR), and the Congress is gravely concerned about the failure of the Russian Federation to live up to international standards in the protection of intellectual property rights, a core American asset;

Whereas the Congress wants to ensure that the Russian Federation redoubles its efforts to adopt and enforce aggressive laws, policies, and practices in the fight against piracy and counterfeiting;

Whereas the Congress is particularly concerned that the Russian Federation is, in the words of Senate Concurrent Resolution 28, a place where "piracy that is open and notorious is permitted to operate without meaningful hindrance from the government";

Whereas, according to USTR, enforcement of intellectual property rights in Russia "remains weak and caused substantial losses for the U.S. copyright, trademark, and patent industries in the last year. Piracy in all copyright sectors continues unabated, and the U.S. copyright industry estimated losses of \$1.7 billion in 2004.";

Whereas the Russian Federation must understand that failure to adequately protect and enforce intellectual property rights will have political and economic ramifications for its relationship with the United States;

Whereas accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) represents an agreement to conform one's practices to the rule of law, and to international standards in the WTO Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS);

Whereas notwithstanding some recent legislative improvements, Russia's regime to protect intellectual property rights does not conform with TRIPS standards;

Whereas the United States can ill afford deterioration of the world trading system by permitting the entry of a country into the WTO that has not demonstrated its willingness and ability to conform its practices to the requirements of the TRIPS; and

Whereas the leaders of the G-8, including President Putin of the Russian Federation, recently pledged to reduce intellectual property piracy through more effective enforcement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the Russian Federation should provide adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights, or it risks losing its eligibility to participate in the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program; and

(2) as part of its effort to accede to the World Trade Organization, the Russian Federation must ensure that intellectual property is securely protected in law and in practice, by demonstrating that the country is willing and able to meet its international obligations in this respect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW).

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today I rise in strong support for H. Con. Res. 230. I commend the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) for sponsoring this resolution and focusing congressional attention on this issue.

Russia's copyright piracy problem ranks with China as the two most serious in the world, and it appears to be

getting worse. Russia has become one of the world's largest producers and distributors of illegal compact discs and DVDs. Russia has the capacity to produce more than 20 million compact discs a month, providing ample supply of pirated material for export all over the world. Not only is the Russian Government failing to crack down on piracy, but officials even admit that several illegal plants are on Russian Government-owned classified sites where regular law enforcement is prohibited from visiting.

Intellectual property rights protection is critical to the United States economic competitiveness. According to the United States trade representative, Russia's failure to enforce IPR has "caused substantial losses for the United States copyright, trademark, and patent industries in the last year," estimated by the U.S. copyright industry to amount to \$1.7 billion in losses in 2004 alone.

Russia must understand that failure to adequately protect and enforce intellectual property rights will have political and economic ramifications. Specifically, Russia risks losing its eligibility to participate in the Generalized System of Preferences program, under which the United States provides unilateral duty-free treatment to imports from developing countries to encourage economic growth. In addition, it must ensure that intellectual property is securely protected in law and in practice as part of its effort to accede to the World Trade Organization.

I urge Russia to take immediate and effective steps to properly inspect all optical media production facilities and to shut down illegal plants and Internet sites, strengthen border enforcement, combat piracy and counterfeiting, and address deficiencies in its IPR laws.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H. Con. Res. 230 to tell Russia that it must be a responsible and dependable player in the international marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are considering this resolution today. I am deeply concerned by Russia's failure to effectively confront piracy of DVDs, music, and software. Last year, U.S. companies lost \$1.7 billion as a result of Russia's failure to crack down on piracy.

This is not a new problem. Each year since 1997, the administration has cited Russia in its annual Special 301 Report for failing to adequately protect and enforce intellectual property rights; and, unfortunately the problem is getting worse rather than better.

In 2004, Russia's illegal optical disc production capacity continued to increase so much so that Russia is now supplying other countries with pirated products. Pirated discs produced in Russia have been found in more than 27

countries. The largest commercial Web site of pirated music is also based in Russia, and the Russian prosecutors have refused to initiate a criminal investigation to shut it down.

Mr. Speaker, piracy of intellectual property in Russia means lost jobs and opportunities here at home for American workers and businesses, and it must be stopped. I believe that Congress must send a strong message to Russia that the United States will not stand by while Russia robs U.S. workers and businesses of their intellectual property.

The resolution we are considering today would put Russia on notice that it risks losing its preferential trade benefits under the GSP program if it fails to improve its protection of intellectual property rights. The resolution also would put Russia on notice that Congress takes its intellectual property rights violations seriously and will consider whether Russia is making meaningful progress on this issue when we consider whether to grant Russia Permanent Normal Trade Relations status.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), the author of this resolution.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the chairman, the full committee chairman, and my cosponsor of this bill, Congresswoman WATSON.

We traveled to Russia earlier this year. We saw firsthand that it is not just about piracy; it is about a complete absence of a willingness to enforce that. On the main streets of Moscow, in fact, within sight of Red Square, one can every day see advertisements for movies, DVDs of movies that have not yet been released, impossible to exist, literally not existing in the United States; and yet they exist in Russia, already translated into Russian and, yes, as the chairman said earlier, into many other languages and exported around the world.

□ 1300

The Russians admit that they have more than four times as many optical disk producers as they could possibly justify. And although we often talk about DVDs and music, we also need to recognize that Microsoft and other major software producers are being robbed of countless billions in this process.

Many talk of the WTO accession and whether or not it is appropriate for Russia to be granted that, and I certainly agree it needs to be withheld until there is a showing of a willingness and a proven track record of enforcing these laws.

But I want to make one other closing remark here. We pay, we the world pay world-class prices for oil no matter where we buy it in the world, and today

that is \$60 a barrel. Russia is one of the largest exporters of oil to Western Europe; and yet in a time when they are receiving \$60 a barrel on what costs them less than \$2 a barrel to get out of the ground, they will tell you they cannot afford the intellectual property produced by Neil Diamond, Steven Spielberg or from Bill Gates' company. This is disingenuous.

Mr. Speaker, if they want to be part of a World Trading Organization, they have to recognize that value is not determined by what you are willing to pay; value is determined by what you are willing to pay for the legitimate goods in an arm's length relationship. We pay world-class prices for oil. They should pay world-class prices for intellectual property and not literally steal it from the inventors here in America and in Europe.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON), the co-author of the resolution.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution that I coauthored with the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA). It expresses the sense of Congress that the Russian Federation must do more to protect intellectual property or risk losing its participation in the generalized system of preferences and be prevented from joining the World Trade Organization.

I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), for his hard work in crafting this most-needed resolution and for being such a strong voice on the global protection of intellectual property assets. The resolution came about, as he described, after a trip that we took with other members of the International Relations Committee to Russia in May of this year.

During the trip, we learned firsthand the extent of the IP piracy problem in Russia which has reached epidemic levels, second only to China in the world. Indeed, the U.S. copyright industry lost over \$1.7 billion last year due to Russian piracy and over \$6 billion in the last 5 years, and the situation is getting worse.

When we visited in May, the number of optical disk plants was 36. Now it is 42 with a production capacity that far exceeds Russia's demand for CDs and DVDs. Even by recent Russian government accounts, 16 of these plants are the Russian State (owned) Restricted Access Regime Enterprises where regular law enforcement officials are prohibited from visiting. Such information is truly disturbing.

I represent Hollywood, California, the center of the U.S. copyright and creative industry. My constituents inform me that because of corruption, inefficiency and ineptitude in Russia's justice system, U.S. industry complaints have been routinely dismissed. The few sentences that have been handed down are wholly inadequate and non-deterrent.

I fear that, unless Russia substantially improves IPR law and enforcement practices, Russian participation in the world trade system should be restricted.

This is the reason why I introduced this along with Mr. ISSA to condition Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization on the Russian government's demonstrated commitment in meeting its international obligations and protecting intellectual property rights.

We understand that to curb the proliferation of IPR violations in Russia, it is not enough to focus on how many laws are passed by the Duma and how many raids on optical disk plants are being conducted each year. We have to generate a sense of urgency and motivate the political will of the Russian government.

Simply put, a healthy and vibrant global trade market should not tolerate the ongoing systemic piracy of intellectual assets, and the Russian political establishment must understand that. I am pleased to note that over 100 Members of Congress have cosponsored this resolution. It will send a clear and convincing message that the United States Congress is looking at the issue closely and that real reform must happen now. Once again, I want to thank the congressman for his leadership on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support this critical resolution.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE), the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 230, expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation must protect intellectual property rights.

As co-chairman of the Congressional International Anti-piracy Caucus, I am very concerned about the appalling levels of copyright piracy in Russia. Russia's copyright piracy problem is among the most serious in the world, and it is getting worse. In Russia, 80 percent of all motion pictures and 87 percent of business software are pirated. I have personally witnessed pirated American copyrighted works, movies, music and software, sold openly on the streets in Moscow, even in view of the Kremlin.

Considering that the core copyright industries account for 6 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product and the total copyright industries account for approximately 12 percent of U.S. GDP, it is clear that America's businesses are facing a serious problem in Russia. In fact, the FBI estimates that U.S. businesses lose between \$200 and \$250 billion a year worldwide to counterfeit goods.

We must make sure that each nation recognizes that piracy is a global problem. The growth of piracy among organized crime rings is illustrative of its global scope.

The combination of enormous profits and practically nonexistent punish-

ments by many foreign governments makes copyright piracy an attractive cash cow for organized crime syndicates. Often specializing in optical disks and business software piracy, these crime rings are capable of coordinating multi-million dollar efforts across multiple national borders. Russia has become one of the largest producers and distributors of illegal media material, and the increasing number of optical disk plants in Russia has a production capacity that far exceeds Russian demand for copyrighted works.

Another disturbing trend is the growing willingness of foreign governments to condone the use of, and even use, pirated materials. At its best, government sets the standards for the protection of rights. At its worst, government encourages and even participates in the breach of those rights.

By recent Russian government accounts, 16 optical disk plants are on Russian State (owned) Restricted Access Regime Enterprises where regular law enforcement is prohibited from visiting. In addition, corruption in Russia's justice system results in the routine dismissal of piracy complaints or inadequate and non-deterrent sentences.

We all must realize that copyright piracy and counterfeiting are serious problems that do not merely affect private companies' bottom lines in the short term. They also discourage investment and innovation in the long term which will eventually lead to fewer consumer choices, a repercussion that affects entire societies and economies. Government must work together to reward creators and punish thieves.

In addition, counterfeit goods can pose serious risk of bodily harm and even death. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce estimates that trade in counterfeit goods makes up between 6 and 9 percent of all world trade. With products as essential as airplane parts and car brakes being faked, we must focus attention on this growing problem for the sake of our citizens' safety.

In passing House Concurrent Resolution 230 today, we send a clear signal to the Russian Federation we will not stand idly by while our copyrights are infringed. The Russian Federation must make fighting copyright piracy a priority for the country and law enforcement authorities. And, if Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization is to be approved by Congress, Russia must make meaningful progress against piracy now.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important resolution. I commend the gentleman and gentlewoman from California on this issue.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues from California for pushing this forward.

The abuses of intellectual property are not only harmful economically, but they can be harmful to our physical

well-being and safety, and not just here but also in the Russian Federation.

When Russian companies steal products that are patented, copyrighted or trademarked, but they do not adhere to the proper safety standard such as electrical wiring, car parts and hair driers, consumers can be physically harmed. So there are really two prongs why we must urge Russia to shape up their intellectual property enforcement.

First, because of the harm to our creators and artists; and, second, to the threats to safety since oftentimes the goods that infringe are substandard.

Copyright piracy abroad hurts our economy here and the high-tech industry, since it is such a strong driving force behind our economy, piracy stifles its growth and productivity. Copyright holders should be protected to ensure that we continue to innovate and advance technology both at home and abroad.

Local industries have been crippled when high-quality pirated versions of their products are sold abroad. This can also result in lost tax revenues and lost jobs here at home. The Russian Federation must also work to protect and enforce intellectual property rights for its own good as well.

For example, if the intellectual property rights that encourage innovation and invention are not protected, incentives will be lost, the innovations and inventions will cease; therefore, the Russian Federation as well as the rest of the world will lose out on these life-enhancing innovations.

Nonenforcement of intellectual property rights because of either neglect or greed will figuratively as well as literally kill the goose that is laying the life-enhancing golden eggs.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this very important resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment Ms. WATSON and Mr. ISSA for bringing this most important resolution to the floor in a very fine, but too often rare, bipartisan effort. I urge all Members to vote for it.

In the last 25 years, our relationship with Russia has warmed up considerably and we are enjoying good relations with the Russian Federation. However, to extend this into full trade, we need to be able to respect each other's intellectual property rights. Therefore, I ask for a "yes" vote on this resolution, and I hope the Russian Federation is listening to the United States Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 230.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1315

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE 5 NAVAL AVENGER TORPEDO BOMBERS OF FLIGHT 19

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 500) recognizing the 60th anniversary of the disappearance of the 5 naval Avenger torpedo bombers of Flight 19 and the naval Mariner rescue aircraft sent to search for Flight 19, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 500

Whereas on December 5, 1945, the 5 Avenger torpedo bombers of Flight 19, originating at the Naval Air Station of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and its crew of 14 Navy airmen, disappeared;

Whereas the Mariner rescue aircraft sent to search for Flight 19, originating at the Naval Air Station of Banana River, Florida, and its crew of 13 Navy airmen, also disappeared on that date;

Whereas December 5, 2005, marks the 60th anniversary of the disappearance of Flight 19;

Whereas the loss of Flight 19 occurred during peacetime;

Whereas the disappearance of Flight 19 sparked one of the largest air and sea rescue searches in history covering over 200,000 square miles;

Whereas all investigations of the disappearance of Flight 19 have failed to recover any aircraft, debris, or remains;

Whereas there remain unanswered questions concerning the disappearance of Flight 19; and

Whereas there are continuing efforts with the latest technology to determine the location of the lost aircraft and crews: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 60th anniversary of the disappearance of the 5 naval Avenger torpedo bombers of Flight 19 and the naval Mariner rescue aircraft sent to search for Flight 19;

(2) honors the memory of the 27 Navy airmen lost in these disappearances;

(3) recognizes the historical significance of Flight 19;

(4) acknowledges continuing efforts to determine what caused these disappearances; and

(5) commends the Naval Historical Center for preserving the history of Flight 19.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Pursuant to the rule, the

gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 500, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the loss of 27 men with Flight 19 and the naval Mariner rescue aircraft.

On December 5, 1945, the United States Navy tragically lost 27 of its bravest men to circumstances that are still surrounded in mystery. On that day, Flight 19, comprised of five Avenger torpedo bombers with a total crew of 14 flew out of Fort Lauderdale's Naval Air Station for a routine exercise and never returned.

After having lost contact with Flight 19, the Navy deployed a rescue mission of 13 men, all of whom never returned.

Theories abound about what happened that day with the disappearance of 27 men and their planes, sparking one of the largest air and sea searches in history. Hundreds of ships and aircraft scoured over 200,000 square miles of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The wreckage was never found. Questions have gone unexplained.

Most try to explain away the events by offering the theory that Flight 19 disappeared in the Bermuda Triangle.

After intense investigation, we do know that Flight 19 lifted into the air from the Naval Air Station at Fort Lauderdale, Florida at 2:10 in the afternoon during peacetime. It was a routine practice mission under the command of Lieutenant Charles Taylor. After having completed their objective, the flight plan called for them to fly an additional 67 miles east then turn north for 73 miles and finally back to the Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale, making their distance a total of 120 miles.

While attempting the return flight, a radio transmission from Taylor signaled that his compasses were not working, but indicated he believed himself to be somewhere over the Florida Keys. Flight 19 thereafter lost contact with the tower and was never heard from again.

The Mariner took off approximately at 7:30 p.m. in search of Flight 19 and was never seen nor heard from after takeoff. Based upon a report from a merchant ship off Fort Lauderdale which sighted a burst of flame, it is be-

lieved that this aircraft exploded at sea and sank. However, no trace of the plane or its crew was ever found.

Mr. Speaker, on one tragic day, 27 families experienced excruciating losses of their loved ones, and this Nation lost 27 of its bravest and most dedicated Americans. While the events of that day may go unexplained, the memories of those men will not go unhonored. These 27 men have the thanks of a grateful Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 500, introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW). This resolution recognizes the 60th anniversary of the disappearance of the five naval Avenger torpedo bombers of Flight 19 and the naval Mariner rescue aircraft sent to search for Flight 19, and it honors the memory of those 27 Navy airmen lost in the disappearance.

As the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) said a moment ago, on December 5, 1945, at approximately 2:10 p.m. a squadron of TBM Avenger torpedo bombers departed from Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale in Florida on the first leg of a routine exercise. The five-plane formation turned east and headed out over the Atlantic Ocean and subsequently disappeared off the coast of Florida. A 13-man crew of a PBM Mariner was sent out to search for the men of Flight 19, and they too never returned from the area commonly known as the Bermuda Triangle.

The disappearance of the five Avengers and the Mariner resulted in one of the largest air and sea searches in history. Hundreds of ships and aircraft combed 200,000 square miles of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, while search parties on land looked for evidence on the off chance that the aircraft may have gone down undetected. Nothing was ever found. No wreckage, no evidence was left of the fate of these six airplanes.

Flight 19, Mr. Speaker, became the Lost Patrol and has been associated with myths of mysterious disappearances of ships and airplanes with the legendary Bermuda Triangle. According to the official board of inquiry, the mission was an overwater navigation training hop composed of an instructor, four naval aviators undergoing advanced training, and nine enlisted aircrew, except for one, who were all undergoing advanced combat aircrew training.

The flight, Mr. Speaker, was entitled Navigation Problem Number 1, which departed Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale on a triangular route with a brief stop for some glide bombing practice on the first leg out. The weather for the area was described as favorable. The planes were thoroughly preflighted. All survival gear was intact.