

authorities continue to investigate whether PRC officials copied the contents of a government computer during a trip to China by the Secretary of Commerce, and just this month, Senator NELSON's office reported three separate instances of cyber attacks from China, which follow multiple instances last year.

In addition, a routine Thanksgiving holiday port call by a U.S. aircraft carrier, the USS Kitty Hawk, to Hong Kong was inexplicably cancelled at the eleventh hour. Most recently, five Chinese vessels harassed an unarmed U.S. naval ship.

Mr. Speaker, this House has refused to respond to that attack as yet. I am troubled at the prospect for miscalculation or unnecessary escalation of one of these situations if China does not act in a transparent and responsible manner that is expected of a rising global power.

For that reason, I introduced H. Con. Res. 72 with Congressional China Caucus cochair MADELEINE BORDALLO, urging China to avoid necessary escalations that could harm U.S.-China relations and to condemn their attack on our unarmed U.S. naval ship, but so far, the leadership of the House has not found time to allow that resolution to come to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, it bothers me that today, when China had a proposal for a new global currency to replace the dollar, that Secretary of Treasury Geithner said that he was open to the proposal and that White House economic adviser Austin Goolsbee declined to rule it out.

Mr. Speaker, if we don't know our positions on these issues, we are inviting the Chinese to push us further and further. The future course in U.S.-China relations hinges on China's ability to provide the necessary transparency with regard to its military buildup and cyber warfare capabilities. Mr. Speaker, I hope that we will continue to push for that kind of transparency.

HONORING ARCHBISHOP JOHN CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable institution that stands as a center of academic and spiritual excellence in the Seventh Congressional District of Pennsylvania. That the motto of this school is "Pro Deo et Patria" tells us much about its tradition and about the wisdom of its founders. That the school nickname is the Patriots tells us even more about the values and principles of its students, faculty, administrators, parents, and alumni. However, in the past year, this school has also established a new and unprecedented standard for athletic excellence. I am speaking of the community that is Archbishop John Carroll High School of the Philadelphia Catholic League.

Last weekend, both the boys' and girls' basketball teams won their respective Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Athletic Association State championships. In that remarkable feat, the Archbishop Carroll coaches, players, trainers, parents, families, and fans fulfilled a covenant to one another. Well before the season began, they pledged that, although other teams might seem to have more advantage, none would ever out-work, out-think, or out-cheer the Patriots of Archbishop Carroll.

The people of the Philadelphia region are renowned for their knowledge of sports, and it is well established that championships are not won in a tournament. They are the products of thousands of hours of practice, conditioning and study long before the first game. Thereafter, championships are won by the team that establishes the strongest bonds of trust and respect among one another and the ability to overcome every adversity. Throughout a grueling season of 62 games, the young men and women of both teams showed that the physical and mental preparation, teamwork and, above all, character are rewarded.

Archbishop John Carroll High School offers faith- and values-based education under the leadership of President Reverend William E. Grogan and Principal David R. Dickens that confirms the wisdom of the great John Wooden, who remarked, "I always tried to make clear that basketball is not the ultimate. It is of small importance in comparison to the total life we live. There is only one kind of life that truly wins, and that is the one that places faith in the hands of the Savior. Until that is done, we are on an aimless course that runs in circles and goes nowhere."

Mr. Speaker, the young men and women we honor today are on the right course. They are on course in a journey to lead, to teach, to solve difficult problems in the arts, sciences, businesses, and most importantly, to raise wonderful children who will carry on the proud traditions of Archbishop John Carroll High School.

To the players of these magnificent teams and their classmates, this Chamber and our Nation wish you Godspeed on your journey. We are proud to know you, and look forward to even greater challenges and victories that await you.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING PMA GROUP

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, in just a few minutes, I will introduce a privileged resolution, the purpose of which is to have the House Ethics Committee look into the relationship between the PMA Group—a lobbying firm that has been raided by the FBI—earmarks re-

ceived by the raided firm for their clients and the source and timing of campaign contributions made by the raided firm to Members of the House.

Mr. Speaker, this will be the sixth resolution that I have introduced on the same topic. I want to stress again that this is not a partisan resolution. These resolutions have not been introduced at the behest of any Republican or of any Democrat. No Member of Congress is mentioned in these resolutions. No party is mentioned either. This is a problem that this House simply must address.

The bottom line, Mr. Speaker, is that, as long as Members of Congress have the ability, which we currently have, to award no-bid contracts to individuals or organizations—nonprofit or for profit—then you are going to have problems, and that is what we are seeing with the investigations that are going on with the PMA Group.

The PMA Group is a powerhouse lobbying firm that last year had revenues in excess of \$17 million. That firm, as I have mentioned, has been raided by the FBI, and is now in the process of disbanding. By the end of this month, in just a few days, it will be gone, from \$17 million—boom—overnight to nothing because somebody got on to them and because they were able to get earmarks for their clients who should not have been awarded in this way.

We simply should not have the ability here in Congress to award no-bid contracts to anyone, let alone those who turn around and make big contributions back to our congressional campaigns. That is what we are asking the Ethics Committee to look into.

Right now, the Ethics Committee has issued guidance, saying that, when you want to request an earmark, you have to sign a certification saying that you have no financial interest in the earmark that you are signing—that you don't have a spouse working for the firm or that money is not somehow going to come back to you. The Ethics Committee has also said that that does not include campaign contributions.

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Yet we have examples of just thousands of dollars, hundreds of thousands of dollars coming back to those who have requested these earmarks from the firms who got the earmarks, the lobbying firms who requested the earmarks for the client and from political action committees established by the lobbying firm. That doesn't reflect well on the House.

As I said, this is not a Republican problem or a Democratic problem. This is a problem that all of us have here, and it needs to be addressed by the bipartisan Ethics Committee. That's the purpose of the resolution that I will offer in just a minute.

As I mentioned, this is the sixth one. The five prior to this have been tabled. I don't know what the fate of this one will be. Perhaps it will be tabled as well. But if it is, we need to come back