As he knows, Congressman Walz has been working hard on this, and I know that he will be very inclined to work with you and with the committees of jurisdiction; and I will certainly be able to work with you as well on this issue because, as I say, Congressman Walz has worked very hard on this. I think all of us agree, as you just indicated, that no Member of Congress ought to be using insider information to trade in the stock market to dis- advantage, obviously, others who are trading in the stock market. So thank the gentleman for his comments, look forward to working with him and, again, in closing, hope that we can reach bipartisan agreement on so many major pieces of legislation that we need to pass prior to leaving this.

I will tell the gentleman I hope his side agrees, my side will not want to adjourn, nor will it support adjourn- ment, until such time as we act on the unemployment insurance and the middle class tax cuts. I yield back the balance of my time.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, December 12, 2011, for morning-hour de- bate and 3 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RIGELL). Is there objection to the re- quest of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

EXTEND THE MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUT

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Nevada’s middle class families. Because of the economic downturn, thousands of Nevadans are struggling to find a job, pay their rent, and put food on their families’ tables. They cannot afford a tax increase.

However, Washington gridlock is threatening just that, a massive tax in- crease on middle class families. Why? Because some Washington Republicans refuse to supply special tax breaks for Wall Street millionaires in order to pay for a middle class tax cut for 1.2 million Nevadans. That’s just not right.

So my message today is this: no hol- iday vacation for Congress without ex- tending the middle class tax cut. We cannot go home while Nevada families are hurting and desperate for this ex- tension of their payroll tax cuts.

However, that’s going to require Washington Republicans to stop pro- tecting Wall Street millionaires and start putting Nevada’s families first. The only fair way to achieve this is to roll back special tax breaks for Wall Street millionaires, not slash Medicare benefits, not layoff thousands of peo- ple. It’s time to stop putting Wall Street first and before Main Street. Wash- ington ought not go on vacation until we take care of this problem.

CHINA ORGAN HARVESTING

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given per- mission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, an arti- cle in last Monday’s Weekly Standard reveals the systematic execution and harvesting of organs in China’s prisons.

The article provides firsthand ac- counts of the targeted elimination of religious prisoners, prisoners of con- science, and political opponents of the regime. Minorities, including Falun Gong, Uyghurs, House Christians, and Tibetans, were targeted, often by organ transplant surgeries—some being performed while the victims are still alive, numbering in the tens of thousands.

Furthermore, foreign companies are already making investments to benefit off of the Chinese transplant market. Pharmaceutical companies like Roche and Isootechnika Pharma have been involved in clinical drug testing of transplant patients. A Brit- ish firm, TFP Ryder Healthcare, is pro- moting a body disposal method that would in- clude an organ transplant center.

Before they follow suit, U.S. compa- nies must understand the unethical cli- mate that exists in China. And our State Department and the U.N. must treat these actions as an abuse of Chi- na’s international agreements and human rights of its own people.


THE XINJIANG PROCEDURE

(By Ethan Gutmann)

To figure out what is taking place today in a closed society such as northwest China, sometimes you have to go back a decade, sometimes more.

One clue might be found on a hilltop near southern Guangzhou, on a partly cloudy au- tumn day in 1991. A small medical team and a young doctor starting a practice in inter- national medical authorities of an organ transplant center. Before they follow suit, U.S. compa- nies must understand the unethical cli- mate that exists in China. And our State Department and the U.N. must treat these actions as an abuse of Chi- na’s international agreements and human rights of its own people.


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Han Chinese constituted only 7 percent of the regional population. Following the flood of Communist party administrators, soldiers, shopkeepers, and construction corps, Han Chinese were in a majority. The party calculates that Xinjiang will be its top oil and natural gas production center by the end of this century.

To protect this investment, Beijing traditionally depicted all Uighur nationalists—violent rebels and non-violent activists alike—as fascists. Shortly after 9/11, that conspiracy theory was tossed down the memory hole. Suddenly China was, and always has been, at war with al Qaeda-led Uighur terrorists. And now, after the switch, the American intelligence community saw an opening for Chinese cooperation in the war on terror, and signals intelligence by allowing Chinese state security personnel into Guantanamo to interrogate Uighur detainees.

While it is difficult to know the strength of the claims of the detainees’ actual connections to al Qaeda, the basic facts are these: During the 1990s, when the Chinese drove the Uighur rebel training camps from neighboring Kazakhstan and Pakistan, some Uighurs fled to Afghanistan where a portion became Taliban soldiers. And yet, if the Chinese government claims that the Uighurs constitute their Islamic fundamentalist problem, the fact is that I’ve never met a Uighur woman who wouldn’t shake hands or a man who wouldn’t have a drink. If you observe my Jewish surname, you might think I am a typical Jew, but I have found during a brief visit to their London embassy: “Enver, you are working fast, not bothering with clamps, cutting with his right hand, moving muscle and soft tissue aside with his left, slowing down only to make sure he excised the kidneys and liver cleanly. Even as Enver worked on an operation in the field, he was also present in the operating room, sketching the cut. Enver glanced questioningly at the chief surgeon. “No anesthesia,” said the chief surgeon. “How far in should I cut?”

Enver stiffened and corrected himself. “No. He’s not dead.”

“Then get it done. Remove the liver and the kidneys. Now! Quick! Be quick!”

Following the chief surgeon’s directive, the team dismembered the body with surgical precision. The anaesthesiologist just stood there, a soft-spoken, husky, Buddha of a man—through the infor- mal Uighur network of London. I confess that my first impression was that he was just another emigre living in public housing. But Enver had a secret. His story began Tuesday in June 1996, when he was a general surgeon in an urumqi hospital. Enver recalled an unusual conver- sation with his immediate superior, the chief surgeon: “Enver, we are going to do something exciting. Have you ever done an operation in the field?”

“Not really. What do you want me to do?”

“Get a mobile team together and request an ambulance. Have everyone out front at nine tomorrow.”

On a cloudless Wednesday morning, Enver, his team, and some cold corpses were strapped into an ambulance and followed the chief surgeon’s car out of Urumqi going west. The ambulance had a picnic atmosphere until they entered the eastern Uighur mountain police district, which specialized in executing political terrorists. On a dirt road by a steep hill the chief surgeon pulled off, and came back to talk to Enver: “When you hear a gunshot, drive around the hill.”

“Can you tell us why we are here?”

“Enver, if you don’t want to know, don’t ask.”

“I want to know.”

“No. You don’t want to know.”

“The chief surgeon has a quick, hard look as he returned to the car. Enver saw that beyond the hill there appeared to be some sort of armed police facility. People were milling about—civilians. Enver half-sar- corpora- tially suggested to the team that perhaps they were family members waiting to collect the body and pay for the bullet, and the team responded with increasingly sick jokes to break the tension. Then they heard a gun- shot, possibly a volley, and drove around to the execution field.”

Focusing on making any sudden moves as he followed the chief surgeon’s car. Enver never really did get a good look. He briefly registered that there were 10, maybe 20 bodies laid out before them, but the fact that the armed police saw the ambulance and waved him over.

“This one. It’s this one.”

Sprawled on the blood-soaked ground was a man, around 30, dressed in navy blue overalls. All convicts were shaved, but this one had a mustache.

“That’s him. We’ll operate on him.”

“Why are we operating?” Enver protested, fearful for the artery in the man’s neck.

“Come on. This man is dead.”

Enver stiffened and corrected himself. “No. He’s not dead.”

“Then get it done. Remove the liver and the kidneys. Now! Quick! Be quick!”
received a 15-year sentence, while another got of eight political prisoners; what struck Bahtiyar's colleagues witnessed the killing in April, the jail became hopelessly over-

Uighur clinic was effectively shut down when unarmed, but, planned or unplanned, the Uighurs gathered in the center of Ghulja. Every Chinese officer had a gun. Every

Uighur officer's gun had a problem. ''Your gun has a problem,'' Bahtiyar was crat who controlled supplies and asked after being released. But Bahtiyar's gun was held list, and looked up at Bahtiyar with an

as a bait-and-switch. Instead of recruiting was a bait-and-switch. Instead of encouraging, by the authorities. Even his re-

treatment was probably watching to make sure fact, a protester. The nurse learned that the ''donor'' was, in

were told. They are

nor.
YUCCA MOUNTAIN

The Speaker pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Shimkus) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. Shimkus. Mr. Speaker, it’s great to get a chance to come back down to the floor to visit with my colleagues and talk about an issue that I’ve been raising seven or eight weeks in a row. I’ll have a little more extended time to go over what has transpired over the past 6 to 7 months, and that’s that this country really needs to address this high-level nuclear waste problem.

I’m glad to be joined with some of my colleagues who I’ll yield to in a couple of minutes.

But just to start in a synopsis, based upon the parts of the country that we visited, for us to move past the logjam that’s in the other body, we have to find 60 Senators who will vote to move forward what we know is Federal law. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 recognized and determined that Yucca Mountain would be the national repository for high-level nuclear waste.

I think a lot of folks would say, well, so if it’s a law, why aren’t we there? Well, the reason we’re not there now is because the majority leader of the Senate has blocked it, along with the President of the United States.

This time is being spent to help educate the American public, Mr. Speaker, on where is the high level nuclear waste, what communities, what States are affected, and what Senators should be held somewhat accountable for the positions they take as far as high-level nuclear waste?

On the chart to my far left, throughout this last half a year, we need 60 votes. We’ve got at least 27 Senators who have already spent a half a billion dollars based upon votes or public statements. We have eight that really have not had a chance to address this by a vote or haven’t made a public statement on it yet. And we have seven “nays” or seven “no” votes.

With that, just because I appreciate my colleagues taking time out, I would like to first yield to my colleague from the State of Illinois, no disrespect to my colleague from the State of Georgia, to go into a discussion about one of the things that we addressed at the first sites we talked about. I figured I’d better come forward and talk about my own State. If I’m going to talk about other States, I better talk about my own State, the State of Illinois.

In the State of Illinois, 50 percent of our electricity is generated by nuclear power. We’re one of the biggest nuclear power States in our country. We picked the facility that’s actually closed, which is Zion Power Plant.

With that, I’d yield to my colleague, Mr. Dold, to kind of talk about Zion, the State of Illinois, and its location.

Mr. Dold. This is absolutely critical for the country. When we look at just the State of Illinois, the State of Illinois has 13 commercial reactors operating on two different sites, both of those on Lake Michigan.

In the State of Illinois, 50 percent of our electricity is generated by nuclear power. We’re one of the biggest nuclear power States in the country. We picked the facility that’s actually closed, which is Zion Power Plant.

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Mr. Dold. I want to thank the gentleman for yielding and certainly for taking this issue up, which I think is so very, very critical not only for just the State of Illinois but for facilities all across the country as we look at how we can best store the used material from the nuclear facilities—the spent fuel rods, more specifically.

If you’ll notice here in Zion, which is just north of the district but certainly affects the district just north of Chicago and the 10th district which I represent, it’s right on the shores of Lake Michigan. The Great Lakes, 95 percent of all fresh surface water in the United States is from the Great Lakes.

When we look at the amount of drinking water that the State of Illinois uses, it’s an enormous percentage. It’s coming from the Great Lakes. Yet, in our infinite wisdom we’ve decided that we want to store the fuel rods just a sheer several hundred feet from the shores of Lake Michigan, 5 feet above the water table, a thousand feet below the ground. A thousand feet above the water table.

This is something that makes absolutely perfect sense, and I welcome the gentleman’s colloquy in terms of talking about not only this site, and I thank you for bringing it up week after week, trying to make sure that we try and get through to our colleagues on the other side of the building to make sure they can move this commonsense piece of legislation forward.

How much have we spent already at Yucca Mountain? I think it’s in the $14 billion range.

Mr. Shimkus. My colleague is correct. We’ve already spent about $14.5 billion dollars in the research, the development, the exploration, the testing. A lot of money, time, effort, and some of our greatest minds have been involved.

I don’t really think you have to be one of the greatest minds. The point I always say is, common sense says in the desert underneath a mountain. Isn’t that where you would want high-level nuclear waste versus right off the shores of Lake Michigan?

Mr. Dold. It seems certainly like common sense to me, and I certainly applaud the gentleman’s efforts and thank you for giving me the time. I just want to make sure that this isn’t just institutional for the folks in the State in Illinois and the folks in Wisconsin, and the people in Michigan that are surrounding the Great Lakes, and specifically Lake Michigan; it’s all the Great Lakes. And it’s not just in Illinois. There are nuclear power facilities all across the country.

We need to have a safe, secure way to be able to store these spent fuel rods, and I think Yucca Mountain has been