

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING
OF CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the opening of the California Northstate University College of Medicine (CNUCOM). CNUCOM was created by a group of doctors, academics and medical professionals in order to train a new generation of doctors. CNUCOM welcomed their first full class of 60 medical students on September 8, 2015 and this weekend the school is celebrating their opening.

CNUCOM is meeting a great need of both the Sacramento region and the State of California by increasing the number of medical students trained in the state. By training at least sixty new medical students each year, CNUCOM is helping address the drastic shortage of physicians that our nation is facing. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, our nation faces a shortfall of over 130,000 physicians by 2025. Almost half of Californians live in an area where primary care doctors are in short supply and far too many California counties have less than the recommended ratio of 60 to 80 primary care physicians per 100,000 residents.

CNUCOM will be training the next generation of medical students by utilizing an integrated approach that focuses on basic science and an understanding of how the human body's systems work, what goes wrong and what patients need to do to stay healthy. Their rigorous curriculum will include two years of classroom study, which will then be followed by clinical rotations at local hospitals, doctors' offices and clinics. It is clear that CNUCOM is providing a cost effective, quality education while also building community partnerships to address clinical training needs and increasing access to high quality medical care in the Sacramento region.

Mr. Speaker, as the California Northstate University College of Medicine opens their doors and welcomes their first class, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their excellent work in the Sacramento region. I am confident that the CNUCOM will be producing the next generation of doctors and acting as a model for a quality medical education for many years to come.

UNCLE SAM

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I am going to leave research to the researchers, and history to the historians and address myself to another, and even more basic aspect, of the issue before you. I am satisfied that when you review the historical data that is being presented here today, you will agree that there is no room for doubt where Uncle Sam Wilson lived and where he died and where he lies buried—in an all but forgotten grave. Troy's claim to Uncle Sam is beyond dispute.

But there is another and, as I said, an even more fundamental aspect to this issue. It might be expressed in the unspoken question which, I am sure, has suggested itself to some, if not all, of the members of this committee. You may well ask: With Congress laboring to resolve the most complex issues, which reflect the crises which face our nation at home and abroad, why all this fuss about Uncle Sam? I should like to try to answer that question.

There was a time when our country passed immeasurable advantages over the rising tide of world Communism. We had technology, we had the production know-how, we had the most advantageous tools of peace—yes, and the most advanced tools of war, including the atomic and hydrogen bombs. But our ascendancy in all these fields has, little by little, been erased or at best reduced.

And, as we pause from time to time, to assess the progress of the never-ending struggle for survival which we call the "Cold War", we would do well to ask ourselves, bluntly and realistically: What do we have today that Communism does not have?

It may be difficult to find a satisfying answer to this question in the areas of purely material progress. Nor is it surprising that Communism, the expression of materialistic philosophy, should be strong in material advantages. But there is a heartening answer to our question when we go a step beyond the purely material aspects of the struggle, into the spiritual aspects which, after all, in the long run, will resolve and decide the issue.

What do we have that Communism does not have? We have our American heritage—a heritage that is reflected in our history, in our tradition, in every detail of the great success story that is the story of America. When Mr. Khrushchev shakes his fist and points to his rockets and his space ships and his legions parading in Red Square, we can stand before the world and point to our American heritage—to our history and our institutions and our principles. And it seems to me, that the nations of the world and the people of the world, faced with a choice, will know which way to go.

When Mr. Khrushchev shouts, "Look what we got," we can reply, "Look what we ARE." And since the Cold War is, in great measure, a struggle for men's minds—a war of propaganda, if you will—one of the most important responsibilities we have is to project the American image in every corner of the world. Gentleman, we have that image ready-made. It's Uncle Sam—that kindly, serious, honest old gentleman in his striped suit and tall hat. In the minds of millions here and abroad, he stands for all the virtues and qualities that are wrapped up in the American dream—honor, initiative, industry, opportunity, freedom, respect for the rights of others, and, above all, regard for the dignity of the individual. It's all there in that picture. And it's worth more in the world struggle than all Mr. Khrushchev's space ships and rockets and nuclear bombs.

But here is the point we must not overlook. What makes the image of Uncle Sam important and vital and compelling, is that Uncle Sam is real. And the world needs to know he is real. The world must be told that he is not a fictitious, shoddy trademark after the manner of an American advertising campaign. He is no cartoonist's whimsy. He is no Madison Avenue gimmick.

Uncle Sam really lived. And from what we know of him, he embodied many, if not all of the qualities and virtues, that make us proud of our American heritage. Not only is Uncle Sam a real, flesh-and-blood American, he is particularly representative of the things that have made America great—initiative, industry, business acumen, Yankee resourcefulness. Going even a step further, when you consider how the term "Uncle Sam" was coined, you find an eloquent representation of the partnership between private enterprise and military effort in one of the most critical moments of our history—the same sort of partnership that made America mighty and respected—yes, and in the councils of the ungodly, feared.

We, in America today, know something about how advertising and propaganda works. We know how difficult it is to sell an idea; any intangible idea or concept, until we clothe it in some image people can see and touch. Well, the people of the world know Uncle Sam. And the better they know him, the more they will respect and love him. And in accepting him, they will be embracing all the principles that go to make up the good life.

Our own people too, need to know Uncle Sam better. Every nation needs its heroes, needs the inspiration and pride that come from a healthy respect for its historical figures. From Uncle Sam, we all can get a deeper appreciation of the American way.

I have just one more point to make and it goes to the heart of all that is being said here today. Never—I say it again, gentlemen—never forget that Uncle Sam is real. Let us not go off waving the picture and leaving the substance behind. Let us never forget that Uncle Sam had a last name too—and that name was Wilson. Let us never forget that Uncle Sam lived among us and worked among us and, when his time came, died among us.

And need I suggest, gentlemen, that his resting place should command the attention and respect of the nation he has come to symbolize. Too long has Uncle Sam Wilson slept, almost unknown and unnoticed, on that grassy hillside overlooking the Hudson River.

Of course we in Troy—whose forebears knew and worked with Samuel Wilson—we in Troy are proud of Uncle Sam. We have marked his grave modestly and have done what we could to make him better known. We feel that, in this effort, we have been doing what the American people would want to do, would insist upon doing, if they knew the story as we know it.

And now we come, gentlemen, to the halls of Congress to ask you as the representatives of the American people to discharge a debt that is long overdue.

Across the nation, we have federal installations of all kinds—among them, navy yards and arsenals and forts and missile bases and atomic testing sites—so many of them grim monuments to the unhappy aspects of our national existence. We have too few monuments to the more inspiring side.

We ask you to add another to the roll. We ask that you create, if you will, a Shrine of Americanism at the grave of the man who has become—after the Stars and Stripes—America's greatest symbol. The military installations are necessary indeed, if only to help us stay alive. But the final, inevitable victory in the great world struggle will be won by the ideals and principles—ideals and principles that are loftier than the highest space shot and more powerful than the most destructive bomb.