CHINA IS CHEATING ITS WAY TO THE TOP

HON. TED POE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Communist China is a growing threat to the United States and global peace. Its values and interests do not match our own. This is evident by recent reports of a atheist China imprisoning thousands of Muslim Uighurs in reeducation camps and the ongoing persecution of Tibetans and Chinese Christians. China’s interests completely conflict with our democratic principles and the international order that has kept the peace since the end of the Second World War. China is cheating, stealing, and bullying its way towards great power status. It is our duty to stand up to Beijing’s bad behavior.

Two decades ago, America, as the leader of the free world and the largest economy on Earth, gave the People's Republic of China a chance to prove itself as member of the global economy. We believed they were making free market reforms and potentially ending their communist system which had kept millions in poverty. By granting Beijing permanent normal trade relations, many in Congress hope that opening the global market to China would encourage further liberalization within the repressive state. But instead of the world changing China, China has been working to change the world to get ahead. While it did embrace some elements of capitalism, it bent the rules using state-owned enterprises and corruption to cheat. It made investments in innovative American companies so it could steal technology. It forced American companies wanting to do business in China to surrender certain rights, including intellectual property. And Beijing instituted a widespread cyber theft campaign to steal trade secrets and cutting-edge research. Beijing made the decision to cheat the international system it was invited into so that it could gain strategic dominance.

Until now, China’s deception worked. It even tried to export its unfair business practices through the Belt and Road Initiative. But this too proved to be a giant debt trap that Beijing sold to developing nations. Countries like Sri Lanka and Malaysia have ended their participation in China’s ambitious plan because they realized that all of the projects the People’s Republic was building in their countries benefited only China. Even the workers employed to construct Belt and Road infrastructure in these countries were Chinese rather than local workers. By granting Beijing strategic positioning that would also give it a military edge over the United States. By stealing American technology, China has been able field advance weapon systems before our own forces. Meanwhile through Belt and Road, China acquired ports and airports around the globe that can be used as military bases that then enable them to control strategic chokepoints and resources without firing a shot. We have most evidently seen this in illegal island building in the South China Sea. Armed with its rapid military build-up, which will give China a fleet that outnumber the U.S. Navy by 2020, we are quickly losing our military supremacy to China. The ramifications of such a dramatic shift in power from the U.S. to China will be devastating to our way of life, and the world at large. Beijing has targeted the United States, Asia, and Europe using aggressive state capitalism. As Beijing, the world’s second largest economy, implements its Belt and Road Initiative, the world will be watching.

China’s economic malpractice, military aggression, and cyber theft have been partly successful because of political malpractice that has allowed the Chinese Communist Party to dominate the American narrative. Elected officials have often been comfortable ceding to Beijing’s wishes, or not been willing to challenge it. The House has not been immune to this. I am getting fed up with this pattern of passivity. Today I rise to recognize the life of Dennis Wayne Wood.

Dennis served in the United States Army Military Police Corps for 21 years and retired as First Sergeant. He was married to Judy for 53 years and was blessed with three daughters: Kim, Lori and Misty and nine grandchildren.

Dennis owned and operated American Security Systems, a company that employed 100 people. The company was located in Anna, Illinois. While sometimes presenting a stoic façade, Dennis’s subtle charm and hidden humor have painted my office for the last two decades. He has earned the respect of his peers and become an integral and irreplaceable member of Team Royce.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Darrin Schrader for his selfless sacrifice to public service.

IN HONOR OF MRS. PEARL SEIDMAN FOR HER DEDICATED CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. EMANUEl CLEAVER
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and show my utmost gratitude to a deeply valued member of my staff, Mrs. Pearl Seidman. On Friday, December 21, 2018, Pearl will bid her final farewell after a year as my Brookings Legislative Fellow to continue her career at the National Security Agency. Since her first day on the job in January, Pearl has overseen a legislative portfolio that includes: healthcare, energy, environment, natural resources, labor, pensions, social security, and postal issues, some of the most critical issues facing our constituents. Over the past year, Pearl has dedicated her time to serving the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri with nothing short of unconditional integrity and drive. Now, I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks on behalf of myself and the constituents she has served so honorably.

Pearl was born in Newark, New Jersey, however, she spent the majority of her upbringing split between Philadelphia and Baltimore, respectively. Following her graduation from high school, Pearl would embark on a lifelong commitment to learning and serving others. Pearl would go on to receive her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Maryland, a Masters in Applied Behavioral

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was un-avoidably absent on the floor on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on roll call votes 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444 and 445.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, December 20, 2018