

public service of Mr. Stanley G. Feinstein, who retires this month from the General Accounting Office. At a time when budget-cutters seek to eliminate the GAO and cripple the Congress's ability to investigate Government waste, Mr. Feinstein's work exemplifies the valuable assistance that this Congress received every day from the GAO.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Feinstein helped document some serious abuses of the public trust. His legal analyses of Federal water projects provided this Congress with the factual information we needed to make significant changes in Federal water policy and in the authorization of specific water projects. Mr. Feinstein helped us to sort out the intricacies of the Colorado River Storage Project Act, the Garrison project, the Oahe project, the Central Valley project, the Colorado River Basin Project Act, to name just a few. He told us what was authorized and therefore legal, and what was unauthorized and therefore illegal.

I first met Mr. Feinstein in 1977 when he served on the staff of the San Luis Task Force, a presidentially appointed task force established to investigate abuses of a major Federal water project in my home State of California. Mr. Feinstein's work on that study uncovered abuses of reclamation law and demonstrated that large corporations were in fact receiving illegal subsidies from the Federal Treasury. These discoveries contributed in large part to the reforms embodied in the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 and the Central Valley Project Improvement Act of 1992.

Mr. Feinstein has for many years demonstrated an incomparable understanding of natural resource law, attesting to the importance of the independent legal analysis that GAO staff brings to the legislative process. His contributions will be missed, and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

CHINA POLICY ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the longstanding and difficult issue of China's atrocious record on human rights and its most-favored-nation-trading status.

As a new Member of the House, I am not oblivious to the serious human rights abuses that China commits against its citizens. I was horrified by the slaughter of the students at Tienamen Square in 1989. And today am very troubled by the arrest of U.S. citizen Harry Wu. The students were crying out for freedom and justice, a practice that we take for granted in this country. Instead of negotiating an end to the demonstration, Premier Li Peng ordered the needless slaughter of unarmed civilians. I consider this an indefensible act beyond explanation.

But, the question remains, how do we as a body and as a country work to bring an end to the practices of the Chinese Government? Do we completely divest and not do business with over 1 billion people? Or, do we continue to invest and hope that by engaging the regime we can effect change from the inside? I fear that this is a difficult problem to reconcile.

I am committed to making sure that human rights are an integral part of U.S. foreign and trade policy. Recently, I have introduced, and passed, an amendment to the Foreign Operations Appropriation bill that brings greater awareness to the human rights violations of the Ethiopian Government. It is in that vein that I wish to discuss the situation with China tonight. Even though the Ethiopians have made improvements in their human rights record, our Nation must continue to encourage and monitor the situation there. This policy must also be for China.

There are many practices that the Chinese Government engages in that anyone would find reprehensible.

Short "show" trials with only cursory attention to the facts of the case;

Executions by a gunshot to the back of the head. The convicted prisoner's family is then charged for the price of the bullet. I have been told that the Government has just increased the price of the bullet;

Gulag style prisons where slave labor is commonplace; and

The organs of executed prisoners are quickly removed for transplant. This begs the question of the motivation for many of executions.

I supported, with an overwhelming number of my colleagues, H.R. 2058, the China Policy Act. This bill, for the first time, requires that the President present a biannual report on the progress of China's human rights.

The China Policy Act has many points and congressional findings, such that:

Charges against American citizen and human rights activist Harry Wu should be immediately dismissed;

China has violated international standards regarding the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

China has engaged in a program of modernizing and expanding its military;

China continues its practice of lengthy detention without trial, torture, and inhumane treatment of prisoners, and has failed to release political prisoners such as Wei Jingsheng, Bao Tong, and Chen-Ziming;

China continues to restrict free speech and trade unions;

China does not allow access to prisons by humanitarian and human rights organizations;

China continues to crackdown on the pro-democracy movement;

China continues to harass journalists and the Voice of America;

China continues to engage in discriminatory and unfair trade practices, including products made with prison slave labor; and

China continues to repress Tibetans and other religious and ethnic minorities.

The passage of the China Policy Act is a step in the right direction. We must continue to pressure the Chinese Government for change. I realize that it is very difficult to balance the necessity to trade with an estimated \$600 billion economy and our Nation's commitment to human rights.

China must treat its citizens with basic decency.

China must stop the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. China must come into line with the rest of the civilized nations.

But, this body and this Nation must also carry the same standards of human rights for other nations with which we deal. Be it China, Cambodia, Bosnia, or Zaire, the United States must continue to be a beacon and champion of human rights for the rest of the world.

As a nation we can demand no less of ourselves and with those who are members of the United Nations and with whom we conduct business.

I am hopeful that China will continue to improve its human rights record. We must assist Harry Wu in his efforts to be free and be diligent in our insistence that China comply with basic human rights standards. Time is running out and the patience of many of my colleagues is wearing thin. Soon, China will no longer be a favored nation. The clock is running and only the Chinese can make it stop. My support and vote for H.R. 2058 along with my colleagues is a start and we must do more.