

direction, they served in and around the city for a period of 4 weeks from March 3–28, 1997. During this time they assisted the mayor's office and city Department of Code Enforcement in removal of trees from homes and cleanup of house debris, while spreading goodwill, faith, hope, and charity wherever they went. Their sacrifice, diligence, and thoroughness conveyed a true sense of brotherly love to the citizens of Little Rock. The experiences these men received while serving will enrich their lives permanently, causing them to become better citizens, and thus have a greater impact in the world around them.

LISTING OF STUDENTS

Joseph Armis (IN), Robert Armstrong (WA), Jonathan Barber (GA), Adam Becker (OH), Jonathan Bendickson (BC), Evan Bjorn (WA), Daniel Boyd (TX), Nathan Bultman (MI), Alex Burrell (MI), Seth Campbell (ID), Shane Campbell (ID), Philip Codington (SC), Reuben Dozeman (MI), Brian Dye (CO), Jonathan Elam (IN), Jonathan Farney (KS), Steven Farrand (CO), Ron Fuhrman (MI), Gerald Garcia (MI), and Ryan Gearhart (TX).

Joel George (CO), Avione Heaps (MT), Burton Herring (MI), Marvin Heikkila (MN), William Hicks (CA), John Iliff (KS), Zachary Jaeger (IA), Caleb Kaspar (OR), Joshua Knaak (AB), David Kress (AL), Stephen Leckenby (IN), Andrew Leonard (VA), Matthew Lindquist (CA), Brandon Lo Verde (NY), Andrew Lundberg (WA), Stephen Lundberg (WA), David Mason (GA), John Munsell (OH), Ryan Petersen (MN), and Timothy Petersen (GA).

Matthew Pierce (MS), Carl Popowich (CO), Daniel Powell (AL), Paul Southall (CA), Kevin Staples (AB), Joshua Syenhard (CA), Nathanael Swanson (NB), John Tanner (MI), Beau Taylor (WI), Joshua Thomas (OR), Daniel Thompson (CA), Seth Tiffner (WV), Roy Van Cleve (WA), Nathan Williams (KS), Joshua Wright (AR), and Jesse Young (AR).

ON WEI JINGSHENG

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in 1995 it took a Chinese court less than 6 hours to convict Nobel Peace Prize nominee Wei Jingsheng of conspiring to subvert the Government. He was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

Wei was first imprisoned from 1979–1993, and has spent most of this last 18 years in solitary confinement. Yet the only crime that he has committed was standing up against tyranny and calling for democracy in China.

Today marks the publication of Wei's book—"The Courage To Stand Alone: Letter From Prison and Other Writings"—in which he writes about his belief in democracy and human rights. But despite international pressure and opposition, people in China continue to be detained and sentenced for standing up for their fundamental rights.

The trial and sentencing of Wei Jingsheng is a gross violation of the core ideals of democracy and freedom. In April 1994 Wei disappeared in the Beijing bureaucracy. For 19 months he was not allowed to communicate with his family, with legal counsel, or with his colleagues. In December 1995 Wei had only a few days to prepare a trial and obtain a lawyer.

Today Wei languishes in a cell where he spent the last years of his previous prison term. His health is poor and the conditions are deplorable. He suffers from arthritis, high blood pressure and heart disease, but his request for urgent medical attention have gone unfulfilled.

I applaud Wei's courage and strength to speak out in opposition to the tyranny of his government. I appeal to the Government of China to release this man, guilty only of believing in freedom and democracy. And I call on the President of the United States to continue to press for the release of Wei Jingsheng, and not to relent until he is free.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHOULD LISTEN TO FBI DIRECTOR FREEH**HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the evidence and implications keep piling up around President Clinton's administration regarding fundraising abuses which potentially led to breaches of national security and economic espionage. I know I have been heard many times in this section of the RECORD and during various congressional debates, but that is only because of the grave concern I have about the depth of the potential foreign influence and infiltration into our Government. And I don't doubt that there are many people of all political persuasions who share my concerns based on these developments.

I feel I can say that Mr. Speaker because I know that Director Freeh of the FBI has been investigating these very serious matters for months and hopes to get to the roots of the scheme both here and abroad. Another reason I feel we have reached a sort of critical mass is because of the response of the media over the last 6 months or more who have helped uncover and draw attention to the dealings of fellows like John Huang, Charlie Trie, and Johnny Chung within this administration, the White House, and the Democratic National Committee. Included is the New York Times who has repeatedly called for an independent counsel, almost as much as I have, to investigate these matters. The bottom line is, we are dealing with what is turning out to be a sensitive investigation of our national security and economic security that may have been compromised for political gain. We need to remove those politics and handle it with the seriousness of purpose it deserves and I hope the President and his Attorney General, Janet Reno, would feel the same. And they don't have to listen to me, they can listen to Director Freeh and the following editorial from the New York Times which I would like to submit to the RECORD.

[From the New York Times, May 9, 1997]

GOOD ADVICE FROM MR. FREEH

According to numerous news accounts, the head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Louis Freeh, has given Attorney General Janet Reno some sound advice for carrying out her duty in the White House fund-raising scandals. Unfortunately, Ms. Reno still refuses to heed it, despite the mounting damage to the Justice Department's reputation and her own.

Mr. Freeh has urged Ms. Reno to seek the appointment of an independent counsel to conduct the investigation into possibly corrupt fund-raising practices in President Clinton's 1996 re-election drive. He cited the gravity and sprawling nature of the case, plus early evidence pointing to high-level White House involvement. In addition to offering this wise counsel, the F.B.I. Director has just shown his concern about the widening campaign-finance inquiry by more than doubling the number of bureau employees assigned to it.

Of course, Mr. Freeh's agency faces its own internal problems, and in advising the Attorney General of the need for an independent counsel, he was only relaying what has been apparent for months now, and not just to Republican partisans in Congress. Still, it is reassuring to know that at least someone high up in the Justice Department understands the serious nature and sensitivity of the White House fund-raising mess, and the unavoidable conflict of interest it has created for Ms. Reno and the Justice Department.

Less reassuring is Ms. Reno's response. In defending her refusal to seek an independent counsel, she has expressed confidence in the expertise and judgment of law enforcement professionals within the Justice Department's criminal division. These professionals have argued against shifting the investigation from their control to an outside prosecutor, based on a dubious reading of the known evidence and the applicable campaign-finance laws. Now it turns out that Mr. Freeh, one of the nation's highest-ranking law enforcement officials, has been offering precisely the opposite advice.

Yesterday Ms. Reno tried to downplay the significance of this conflict within her department over the need for an independent counsel. But she has yet to give a convincing explanation of why she has chosen to reject Mr. Freeh's counsel.

Senator Orrin Hatch, a Republican and chairman of the Judiciary Committee, who sparred with Ms. Reno at a hearing last week, said he was not surprised by Mr. Freeh's stance. "Who better than the F.B.I. Director could determine whether there are 'grounds to investigate' whether senior White House officials were implicated in violations of the law?" Mr. Hatch asked by way of making a point that Ms. Reno must at long last grasp.

ENHANCING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION PROGRAM**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today Representative WAYNE GILCHREST and I are joining in a unique, bipartisan partnership to promote the next stage of the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort. Over the past 20 years the Federal Government has played a vital role in coordinating and encouraging intergovernmental work to reverse declines in the bay ecosystem. The bills Representative GILCHREST and I are introducing today will build upon the success of this program as the preeminent national model for cooperative, regional environmental restoration. Our joint effort speaks to the importance of both these bills.

The Chesapeake Bay Restoration Act, H.R. 1578, which I introduced with Representative GILCHREST as the lead cosponsor, reauthorizes Federal participation with State and local