

human to come and discuss friends that we will miss. So even after this day of vigorous debate, reaffirming the Democratic tenets of this Nation, I come this afternoon to pay tribute to a fallen personality, one respected and admired by her Houston community, and that is Sydney Seaward, one of the anchors of Channel 51, coming to that station in 1993.

Someone on the national level might not have heard of Ms. Seaward. One did not see her on the national 6 o'clock news. She did not reach CNN. She was a local anchor. But her cause and her personality deserve tribute in this body. She was an American in the true sense of the word, for she never said never. She died recently of cancer, but the cancer became a challenge to educate, to embrace life, to teach others, to not give up.

She touched me in a special way. Beyond her responsibilities as a news person, she always gave me the sense that she would, in fact, survive. A coworker said that everyone enjoyed Sydney, and of course, some would say that that word is used like "nice." But frankly, if it is said in earnestness, it means something. The coworker said, she was a nice part of the day. She made people's days. She took time to personally talk to people and hear them out. She was, in fact, a leader in her trade. Most of all, she was sensitive and she was willing to overcome her own doubts. When this disease was diagnosed her first response I imagine was disbelief and turning inward, until she realized that she could play a special role in educating women and the community about cancer, its devastation, but also one's ability to survive.

For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I come to salute Sydney Seaward for what she has done for our community, but, in fact, how she exemplifies what America is all about. It is, in fact, the can-do attitude. It is, in fact, the recognition that we live in the most wonderful Nation in the world. With all of its ills, with all of our disagreements, we can embrace the right that we live in freedom.

Sydney Seaward exemplified the fact that she was proud to be an American. She took her lumps along with her successes. She took her downs with her ups. She took her good days with her bad days. She took her sunny days with her rainy days. And she said to us, whatever comes your way, remember, we are all blessed to be living in freedom, we are all blessed to have the opportunity to fight whatever we can fight to survive, and we are all blessed to have been able to walk this way, to have touched someone, and Sydney Seaward clearly touched our lives.

Sydney, farewell. Thank you for all that you have done, and may you rest in peace.

SPECIAL COUNSEL INVESTIGATION BLATANTLY UNFAIR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take a moment today to express my feeling for the whole process of the special counsel's investigation of the President for the past 4 years that got us where we are today, and that is that it is blatantly unfair.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago the independent counsel began investigating

what is known as Whitewater. Well, some of us know what it is in the independent counsel's report. Indications are that after 4 years of investigations and \$40 million of taxpayers' money, no crimes related to Whitewater were committed by the President.

So how did we get from there to where we are today? The independent counsel took it upon himself to expand his investigation to allegations presented to him that the President had an extramarital affair. With tapes in hand, he went to the Attorney General asking for authority to continue to expand his investigation, which she granted. Today we have a report within our jurisdiction, and I fail to see why we are in such a rush to release it without giving the President—

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman must be reminded that there should be no references to the President or personal allegations in any debate or discussions on the floor of the House.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I believe I was saying it in the third person; I was not making it directly to any person in particular.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. If the gentleman will suspend, references or inferences are not to be made on the floor of the House and should be avoided. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, such an approach seems fair to me, and I regret that the rule being offered today does not offer that consideration to the President.

INDONESIA'S HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF WEST PAPUA

Mr. Speaker, once again I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to an ongoing struggle presently being waged many miles away in the Pacific by the people of West Papua New Guinea, or Irian Jaya, as it is known by the Indonesian government. In July, the attention of the world was focused, however briefly, on the immense tragedy caused by the Tsunami which caused the devastation of the coastal villages of Papua New Guinea.

In the western half of the same island, some miles away, agonies of another sort were being experienced by the people of Papua New Guinea. It is not my intent, Mr. Speaker, to detract in any way from the horror and the misery inflicted on the people of Papua New Guinea by the disaster which wiped out their coastal villages. Rather, my concern is that we should not forget the devastation wrought by our own fellow human beings.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken on previous occasions about the history of the people of West Papua and about their struggle for independence from Indonesia. On July 3, Indonesian armed forces fired on pro-independence demonstrators at a university in Jayapura, the Capital of West Papua. On July 6, more than 100 people were wounded and

at least 3 people were killed when Indonesian armed forces fired on a crowd of pro-independence demonstrators on the Island of Biak.

Since 1962, Mr. Speaker, the people of West Papua have been under the occupying authority of Indonesia. Over the past 3 decades the use of excessive and lethal force has been a feature of the Indonesian armed forces' response to both peaceful and armed opposition by the people of West Papua.

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The recent events in West Papua have only served to underscore the brutality with which the aspirations of the West Papuan people are being suppressed by the new regime which took power after the resignation of President Suharto.

Mr. Speaker, the recent violence of the Indonesian government against the people of West Papua is part and parcel of a long history of Jakarta's oppression. Papuan people are not Indonesians, they are Melanesians. Their country is not naturally a part of Indonesia, which is more than 2,300 miles away across the ocean, with many island nations in between. West Papuan languages, religions, history, identity, and customs are their own, and bear no relation whatsoever to the rest of Indonesia.

These two nations were cobbled together in 1969 to serve the foreign policy interests of our own Nation and its ally, Indonesia. Indonesia took over West Papua New Guinea in 1963, suppressing the West Papuan New Guinea dreams of freedom and self-determination. There was no natural reason for this union, so it should come as no surprise that it is unraveling.

Since Indonesia took over West Papua New Guinea, the native people have suffered under one of the most repressive and unjust systems of colonial occupation in the 21st century. The Indonesian government has waged an ongoing war against the "Free Papua movement" and their supporters since the 1960s. The civilian populace that has objected to Indonesia's plans for development in West Papua has suffered similar oppression.

Mr. Speaker, incredible as it may seem, estimates are that between 100,000 to 300,000 indigenous Melanesians, West Papuan New Guineans, have been killed or have simply vanished from the face of the earth during the years of Indonesian occupation. I hope my colleagues will appreciate the suppression and the problems the West Papuan New Guineans are now going through with the Indonesian government.

Mr. Speaker, once again I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to an on-going struggle presently being waged many miles away in the Pacific by the people of West Papua, or Irian Jaya as it is known by the Indonesia Government. In July, the attention of the world was focused, however briefly, on the immense tragedy caused by the Tsunami which devastated the coastal villages of Papua New Guinea.

In the western half of the same island, some miles away, agonies of another sort were being experienced by the people of West Papua. It is not my intent, Mr. Speaker, to detract in any way from the horror and the misery inflicted on the people of Papua New Guinea by the disaster which wiped out their coastal villages. Rather, my concern is that in the midst of the devastation wrought by nature we should not forget the devastation wrought by our fellow human beings.

We can only respond after the fact to the devastation brought by a Tsunami. We have the opportunity to respond with more immediacy to the devastation which is caused by our fellow human beings.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken on previous occasions about the history of the people of West Papua and about their struggle for independence from Indonesia. On July 3rd, Indonesian Armed Forces fired on pro-independence demonstrators at a university in Jayapura, the capital of West Papua. On July 6th, more than 1000 people were wounded and at least three people were killed when Indonesian Armed Forces fired on a crowd of pro-independence demonstrators on the island of Biak.

Both of these demonstrations were peaceful, Mr. Speaker. They expressed the desire of the people of West Papua for a just resolution to the matter of their political status. Human Rights Watch has called for a full investigation into the shootings in Biak, where 140 citizens have been detained by the government and where there are reports that wounded detainees are being denied medical care and that their families are not being allowed to visit them.

Since 1962, the people of West Papua have been under the occupying rule of Indonesia. Over the last three decades the use of excessive and lethal force has been a feature of the Indonesian Armed Forces' response to both peaceful and armed opposition. The recent events in West Papua have only served to underscore the brutality with which the aspirations of the West Papuan people are being suppressed by the new regime which took power after the resignation of President Suharto.

Mr. Speaker, the recent violence by the Indonesian Government against the people of West Papua is part and parcel of a long history of Jakarta's oppression. Papuan people are not Indonesian, they are Melanesian. Their country is not naturally a part of Indonesia, which is more than 2,300 miles away—across the ocean, with many island nations in between. West Papuan languages, religions, history, identity and customs are their own, and bear no relation to those of Indonesia.

These two nations were cobbled together in 1969 to serve the foreign policy interests of the United States and its ally Indonesia. Indonesia took West Papua in 1963, suppressing the West Papua people's dreams of freedom and self-determination. There was no natural reason for this union, and so it should come as no surprise that it is unravelling.

Since Indonesia took over West Papua, the native Melanesian people have suffered under one of the most repressive and unjust systems of colonial occupation in the twentieth century. The Indonesian military has waged an ongoing war against the "Free Papua Movement" (OPM) and their supporters since the 1960s. The civilian populace that has objected

to Indonesia's plans for development in West Papua has suffered similar oppression. The thousands of killings associated with the expansion of the freeport copper and gold mines in West Papua are testimony to the brutality of the Jakarta central government.

Incredible as it may seem, Mr. Speaker, estimates are that between 100,000 to 300,000 indigenous West Papuans have been killed or have simply vanished from the face of the Earth during the years of Indonesian occupation. And this pattern of annihilation is being continued by the regime of Mr. Habibie, despite initial promises of reform.

The current Government of Indonesia continues to choose a policy of repression, a policy which disregards the rights of the indigenous people of West Papua. Mr. Speaker, the tragic situation in West Papua is of great concern to me. The recent shooting over the pro-independence demonstrations in Jayapura and on the island of Biak, the violent responses which we have seen to pro-independence demonstrations in towns and cities all across West Papua indicate that this new regime is prepared to continue the repression of the past.

One half of Papua New Guinea is still reeling from the worst natural disaster to hit the island in recent memory. Whole villages and the lives of the people in them have been completely obliterated, wiped off the face of the Earth. In the other half of the same island, the people of West Papua are suffering another form of devastation. Their identity as a people is being obliterated by a brutal regime thousands of miles away.

I would hope that all my colleagues would join me in urging the Indonesian Government to cease these violations of human rights and instead take immediate steps to review the political status of West Papua. The new regime in Indonesia has an opportunity to correct the mistakes of the past, not repeat them. It seems to me that we have an obligation to lend our support to this effort, and I urge my colleagues to protest in the strongest possible terms these continuing violations of basic human rights by the new Government of Indonesia.

THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND RUSSIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I come to the House floor to talk about the international money fund and Russia. I think many of us are very deeply concerned about what is happening in Russia, and there have been calls in the land to have Americans continue funding the international money fund, and the international money fund should help bail out Russia.

But I come here this afternoon to talk about what we really should do. Secretary of Treasury Robert Rubin was quoted recently as saying, "At this point, we don't have a Russian economic team. We don't have a Russian economic plan."

That is unbelievable. We had, in the subcommittee, a hearing on this. I did

not serve on this, but the chairman invited me to listen, and I heard some of the witnesses. I think we all agree that the goal should be to find a way to help Russia, but more importantly, what has gone wrong with Russia's economy, and how has the IMF's policies affected the current economic state of Russia?

As I have mentioned numerous times in the past here on the floor, the economic dilemmas in Asia, in Russia, are not due necessarily to excess capitalism but to the lack of controls, the lack of policing in these nations, and truly, not putting in place a free market system.

There is a great book by Michael Novak called *The Spirit of Democratic Capitalism*. Mr. Novak talks about how the need for successful capitalism in countries depends upon a culture, a culture of honesty and a culture in which, if honesty is not in place, the government polices it and makes sure corruption does not exist. It also talks about democracy, the freedom of a Nation to elect its leaders, and it talks about ownership of property.

These three components make up every successful Nation that deals in the area of capitalism. But in this case, Russia does not have in place a policing system to stop corruption.

Let me quote from Jim Hoagland, who did an article entitled "Russia, a System that Prevailed and Failed." He said, "The fundamental problem in Russia, Indonesia, Malaysia, and elsewhere was not that they went too far in adopting American style capitalism, but these nations did not go far enough."

Then he went on later to talk about Russia, and he said, "Russia demonstrates the perils of trying to skim off the cream of a globalized economy without adopting the checks and controls needed to restrain human appetites and ambitions. Lacking in Russia and Asia was an appreciation of the open and fair competition needed to police capitalism and to make it work."

That is the key. "Since its 1991 revolution, Russia has not developed a risk-based entrepreneurial market economy, and its institutions, to allocate rewards and pain through the efficiency of the marketplace." That has not been in place.

Mr. Speaker, not only have Russia's leaders failed in developing a free market system, they have allowed pure, all-out corruption to guide Russia, and allowed the corrupters to steal billions of dollars to create their own criminal fiefdoms. Official Russian corruption is unmatched anywhere in the world.

Experts say Russia is being plundered through the sale of its natural resources. In a typical scheme, a seller, aided by corrupt officials, sells Russian commodities overseas for higher prices than he reports to the government, and pockets the difference.

A Russian scholar compared reports of such sales filed with the Russian government with known market prices