

of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

(Mr. SCOTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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 addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CHINA SHOULD NO LONGER RELY ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO BLOCK AMERICAN PRODUCTS

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

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, 5 months ago, the American agriculture sector celebrated the signing of groundbreaking market access agreements with China. In April 1999, Chinese Premier Zhou Rongji signed three bilateral agreements with the United States designed to open agricultural markets. These agreements concluded decades of discussions on sanitary and phytosyntax trade barriers which had locked American farmers out of Chinese markets.

Upon signature, China agreed to immediately begin implementing these agreements, permitting access to China's vast markets.

The larger issue of Chinese WTO accession was not resolved in April, but the side agreements were considered a significant victory for American farmers.

China has long relied on technical barriers to block American products. For more than 20 years, wheat from the Pacific Northwest has been banned because of unfounded concerns about TCK smut, a wheat fungus. The rest of the world recognizes that TCK poses no threat to human health and does not affect the quality of the product, yet China has maintained its ban for all of these years.

Meat producers have largely been shut out of the market because China has only allowed imports from five approved U.S. plants and all citrus growers have been locked out because of concerns about Mediterranean fruit flies in certain regions.

In signing the three agreements, China agreed to accept USDA certification for meat safety for U.S. exports of pork, beef and poultry; eliminate the

current comprehensive ban on citrus fruits and eliminate restrictions on the import of Pacific Northwest wheat. All future SPS disputes will be settled scientifically.

The potential consequences of the agreement were tremendous and touched most agriculture districts in the United States. But unfortunately, the disagreements remain only a distant unrealized potential. Three weeks ago, a member of my staff traveled to China to discuss implementation of these agreements. The Director General of American Affairs within the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Corporation indicated that China did not intend, did not intend, to implement the agreements until discussions were concluded on WTO accession.

Such a decision would be in direct contravention of the April agreement, which held that implementation would begin immediately. Agricultural producers should not be held hostage to WTO negotiations, and I expect China to uphold its bilateral commitments.

We as a Congress, we as a country, we as people who care about our agricultural sector, should expect China to uphold its bilateral commitments. This should serve as a test case if Congress discusses permanent normal trade relations with China later this year as a part of a WTO agreement. If China delays action on agricultural agreements that have previously been signed, it raises serious questions about the sincerity of other commitments to implement market access agreements.

The April draft WTO agreement would have resolved a wide range of other outstanding market access issues: trading rights, distribution, quotas, reliance on state trading companies and export subsidies. The U.S. Trade Representative did a great job in moving China toward a tariff based system, with extremely low tariff rates, but if China is unwilling to act on the Sanitary Phytosanitary Agreement, it seems likely that we may see continued reluctance on other aspects of any WTO agreement.

So I am sending a letter to President Zemin and President Clinton urging immediate implementation of the bilateral agricultural agreements, and I urge any Member of this body who represents producers of wheat, pork, poultry, beef or citrus, to join in the signing of this letter. With low prices already hurting our farm leaders across the country, we should not stand by and let them continue to be locked out of one of the largest markets in the world.

China should implement the side agreements; and it should do so immediately, and I would just say to my colleagues, this is an indication, I think, of disrespect for the agricultural sector in our country, which needs exports. We are fighting desperately to get our products into other countries; and now that we have reached this agreement,

it seems to me that China should follow through on what they previously agreed to in April of this year.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. NETHERCUTT. I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT) for his message, for watching this issue so closely. It is important to the agricultural sector; and I think, as the gentleman points out, it is a real test of whether we can depend upon the People's Republic of China to implement their promises on trade. So I thank the gentleman for his diligence on this issue.

Mr. NETHERCUTT. I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for his comments and his commitment to agriculture and his interest and his expertise in trade issues.

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

(Mr. RUSH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CHINESE ESPIONAGE AT OUR NATION'S WEAPONS LABORATORIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, prior to the district work period, I came to the floor to discuss an issue on the minds of many Americans as well as myself, the issue of Chinese espionage at our Nation's weapons laboratories. Over the last month, I spent time with the constituents of the third district of North Carolina, which I am proud to represent, and they gave me further confirmation that the American people are outraged over the loss of our sensitive national security information. But what my constituents expressed even greater concern with, as I am sure many across this country have, is the potential for continued loss of our sensitive nuclear technology.

□ 2045

In response to their concerns, I gave my word that I would do everything as a Member of Congress to ensure the accountability of those who have jeopardized the security of our Nation and protect our security information for the future, and, Mr. Speaker, I mean it too.

In July, I had the opportunity to meet with the former director of Safeguard and Security for the Department of Energy, Colonel Ed McCallum. The Office of Safeguards and Security governs protection of the Department of Energy's national security assets including nuclear weapons, nuclear material, highly classified information