

Less than a year ago, the Cox Committee reported that China stole classified information regarding advanced American thermo-nuclear weapons.

Additionally, Beijing has exported weapons of mass destruction to Iran and north Korea, in violation of treaty commitments. Finally, China's record of human rights abuses is well documented.

A recent Harris Poll revealed that fully 79% of the American people oppose giving China permanent access to U.S. markets until China meets human rights and labor standards. On this issue, Congress should respect the wisdom of the American people. Now is not the time to grant Permanent Normal Trade Relations to China.

Sincerely,

JAYSON L. SPIEGE,
Executive Director.

NAVAL RESERVE ASSOCIATION,
Alexandria, VA, May 9, 2000.

Hon. FRANK R. WOLF,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE WOLF: The Naval Reserve Association and the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association work together as affiliates to represent 37,000 officers and enlisted members from the Naval Reserve services. They are representative of the 89,000 Selected Reservists, the 4,500 non-pay Drilling Reservists (VTU), and the 91,000 Individual Ready Reservists (IRR), as well as the Retired Reserve community.

As a resource to the U.S. Military, our membership is concerned with our relationship with China. Decisions made today will be affecting the political-military balance in the Pacific for the next 50 years. The Peoples Republic of China may well be a rival.

Building its economy on the backs of its People, China is also willing to risk world stability. To generate hard currency, the PRC is selling weapons systems to Third World nations, including many considered rogue states in nature.

China is aggressively building its military. The PRC's ambitions include reunification by force with Taiwan, and territorial claim over the energy resources in the international waters of the South China Sea.

The process of reviewing trade relations with China each year is an opportunity for Congress to influence the behavior of China on matters of national security and human rights.

China is the largest of four surviving Communist governments in the world today. Human Rights of its citizens continue to be violated. Evidence exists of Chinese espionage within the U.S. Government and Industry. The PCR has effected political influence to manipulate U.S. policy. An annual trade review provides an element of counter balance.

Trade between nations helps maintain diplomatic dialogue and exposes a country's citizenry to outside ideas as well as products. Commerce with China is growing in importance for a number of U.S. Corporations. As a nation, we should continue to expand the marketplace, but not *carte blanche*. Now is not the time to offer Permanent Normal Trade Relationships (PNTR) for China.

MARSHALL HANSON,
Director of Legislation.
DENNIS F. PIERMAN,
Executive Director.

MILITARY ORDER OF
THE PURPLE HEART,
May 15, 2000.

Hon. FRANK R. WOLF,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WOLF: The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH), representing the patriotic interests of its 30,000 members and the 600,000 living recipients of the Purple Heart, is seriously concerned with the Administration's proposal to grant Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) status to the Peoples Republic of China.

The MOPH is familiar with the current series of U.S. Government reports concerning China to include: the Cox Committee Report, the Rumsfeld Commission Report, the 1999 Intelligence Community Report on Arms Proliferation, and Chairman Spence's May 2000 HASC National Security Report on China. These and other similar security assessments clearly indicate that China, as an international actor, continues to behave in a manner that is threatening to international stability and U.S. national security interests.

Given the broad consensus that has formed about this issue, to include the recent Harris Poll indicating 79% of all Americans are against granting PNTR status to China, the MOPH believes it both prudent and reasonable to delay the granting of PNTR status to China at this time. Speaking as patriots and combat wounded veterans, we believe that granting PNTR status to China would relieve them from the current pressure caused by annual Congressional review of their trade status. Clearly, Congressional review has caused China to improve its dismal human rights record and to modify to some extent its proliferation of dangerous arms on the world market. Yet these modifications must be seen as the beginning not the end.

Today, China represents the most dangerous of the emerging threats to U.S. national security. Her designs on Western Pacific dominance, her extreme belligerence towards Taiwan, and her persistent espionage and theft of U.S. advanced technologies are behaviors that must be checked before any reasonable consideration of PNTR status can be undertaken.

Many of America's combat wounded veterans sacrificed life and blood to repel Chinese aggression during the Korean Conflict. Fifty years after that war China remains an unabashedly communistic regime. It is time for China to change if she wishes to be a truly welcomed participant on the world's stage. It is also time for Congress and the Administration to reflect upon the sacrifices of its combat wounded veterans and ensure that China will not once again become our enemy. In the view of the MOPH this objective must be reached before PNTR status should be granted to China.

Yours in Patriotism,
FRANK G. WICKERSHAM III,
National Legislative Director.

WARRANT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,
Herndon, VA, May 9, 2000.

Hon. FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress, House of Representatives,
Cannon House Office Building, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE WOLF: On behalf of the membership of this Association I write to express support and appreciation of your actions, and that of several of your colleagues, in opposing Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China.

The USAWOA represents nearly 20,000 warrant officers of the Active Army, the Army Guard, and the Army Reserve. These highly-skilled men and women serve as helicopter

pilots, special forces team leaders, intelligence analysts, command and control computer and communications managers, armament and equipment repair technicians, and in other technical fields critical to success of the modern battlefield. Daily, many of them are in harm's way.

From our perspective, it appears that China has done little to deserve such consideration. Of more concern is the fact that China shows few of the peaceful, democratic traits evidenced by our Nation's other major trading partners. Indeed, China appears to be striving to achieve not only economic dominance of the Pacific Rim but also a significant military advantage over her neighbors, and quite possibly, the United States.

In this instance, trade and economic considerations cannot take precedence over the safety of our Nation and that of our allies and friends. Until fundamental, lasting changes take place in China, normalization of trade relations should not take place.

Respectfully,

RAYMOND A. BELL,
Executive Director.

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP FOR TURKEY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2000

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, last December I sponsored a "Dear Colleague" letter to the EU term President, Martti Ahtisaari, President of Finland, in support of Turkey as a EU candidate. Twenty-six of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle joined me in sending that message to President Ahtisaari. Thankfully, Turkey became the European Union's first candidate for full membership with a predominantly Muslim population later in the month.

I strongly supported Turkey's EU membership became membership would anchor a country who's population has long aspired to be part of Europe. It would also further strengthen the Turkish-U.S. relationship, and help foster a stronger Turkish-Greek relationship.

Turkey is a secular Muslim country with a democratic tradition, whose recent presidential election underscores those ideals. Ahmet Sezer, former Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court, who has devoted his career to democratic principles, the rule of law, and freedom of expression received broad parliamentary support to become Turkey's tenth President. This development was favorably received in European capitals, the European press, and within Turkey.

Turkey is one of the U.S. strongest and most reliable allies. For over fifty years Turkey and the United States have fought for shared principles through the Korean War, the Cold War, the crisis in Iraq, the Balkans, Kosovo, and elsewhere. In addition, Turkey is a major ally in combating terrorism, Islamic fundamentalism, and injustice around the world. In Kosovo, Turkey not only was instrumental in the NATO operations, but its humanitarian assistance to refugees was key to helping ease the suffering of the victims.

EU candidacy has also fueled the rapprochement between Turkey and Greece. While the respective foreign ministers had started to meet, the tragic earthquake in both

countries provided the much-needed impetus. In recent months the two countries signed a series of cooperation agreements covering areas as diverse as terrorism, the environment, tourism, cultural cooperation, investment protection, customs, and scientific and technological issues.

Recent press reports indicate that Turkish Armed Forces will take part in NATO maneuvers which will be carried out in Greek territory in May, and that last week, Greece allowed Turkish four F-16 planes to use its air space for the first time, while they were flying to Germany to attend "Elite 2000" maneuvers. These improved relations will not only benefit Greece and Turkey, but also the United States, NATO, and Europe at large.

Mr. Speaker, as a long time observer of Turkey, I continue to support that country's further western integration, and congratulate my friends in Turkey on the election of their new President.

HAYDEN HISTORICAL MUSEUM
NAMED THE CENTER OF GRAVITY

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2000

Mr. HILL of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the dedication of the Hayden Historical Museum's "Center of Gravity" marker in Hayden, Indiana. On Saturday, May 20, 2000, I will attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony in Hayden to commemorate nearly 150 years of a phenomenon that has relocated two major transportation systems and caused other unusual events in Hayden's history.

Town historians say the first train rolled into Hardenburg (now Hayden) on July 4, 1854. Allegedly, the train crew reported that the usual amount of steam power needed to "pull out of Hardenburg" would not suffice. Similar reports continued over the years, but no apparent conclusions or solutions were identified as to what "pulled things down" in Hayden. Years later, the railroad relocated to the south side of town where this mysterious force seemed to disappear.

However, the story doesn't end there. In the 1920s, U.S. Hwy. 50 came through town on the road now running in front of the Hayden Historical Museum. Once again, motorists complained of a strange force that slowed them down, caused their engines to misfire, and made it hard to start again if they stopped. After a few years, authorities relocated the highway farther south of town than the railroad and again the problems ended.

Hayden High School teacher and coach Charles "Chuck" Hurley coined the popular phrase "the Hayden Spirit" for a similar phenomenon that seemed to "pull back" people to Hayden just as the trains and cars seemed to be "pulled down" by the infamous force. The "Center of Gravity" is not the only force that attracts people to Hayden, Indiana. Hayden is a great place to live and raise your family. The citizens of Hayden take great pride in their community and work hard to keep their churches, schools and civic organizations strong. The "Hayden Spirit" represents what is best about Hoosier small town life. I am honored the citizens of Hayden have asked me to

join them on Saturday when they mark the point from which this mysterious power emanates—the "Center of Gravity."

The Hayden Historical Museum keeps the Hayden community strong. The museum commemorates Hayden's past accomplishments and helps build its strong future. Elementary school members of Hayden's Little Hoosier Historians and middle school members of Whitcomb's Winners use the Museum every day to study the history of their town and state. The Museum library contains books, authentic letters, and a pictorial history of the town where Hayden's children can learn about the people and history of their small town of 250 people.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the people of Hayden in Congress. I applaud their enthusiastic commitment to education, arts, family, and community. The dedication celebration this weekend honors not only the Hayden Historical Museum's status as the "Center of Gravity," but also the illustrious past and promising future of a remarkable Indiana community.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Law Enforcement Week and to honor the men and women who serve our Nation as Law Enforcement Officers.

America's law enforcement officers are one of our most valuable resources. Almost one million individuals nationwide perform an incredibly important task as they put their lives in danger on a daily basis to protect and serve the people. As a former police officer, and the father to a former police officer, I know the inherent risk involved in the profession and salute these men and women for their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that since 1993, the 12th District of Illinois has received funding for 272 new law enforcement officers under the COPS grant funding program. These additional officers have worked to increase the safety and well being of my constituents.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honor of Law Enforcement Week and our courageous law enforcement officers. These men and women deserve this praise and recognition.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF
DICK DOUGHERTY ON MAY 9TH,
2000

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to take a moment to recognize the 80th birthday of Dick Dougherty, a man who has spent over 50 years of his life involved in journalism in New York State. Currently, he is widely known by the people of Rochester, New York for his editorials in the Democrat and Chronicle, our hometown paper. I consider him to be a national treasure and without

the dose of sanity and humor his column provides me five days a week I would be lost.

According to his wife Pat, Dick's family was not certain about his future success after he flunked out of his first year of engineering school at Duke University. After this, he went on to serve in the military as a soldier on the European front during WWII. When he came home, his perseverance led him to complete a journalism degree at Syracuse University. On June 15, 1948 he began his 50 year career with his first journalism job at the Binghamton Press. After two years with the Binghamton paper Dick came to Rochester as a reporter for the morning Democrat and Chronicle and has remained in our city ever since. In 1975 he was assigned by the Times-Union, a Rochester afternoon paper until 1997, to report on a transcontinental bicycle trip. It was on this trip that he discovered his unique talent and love for reaching out and touching the lives of others with his words.

At the age of 56 when most people are beginning to look forward to retirement Dick began his career as a columnist by writing an editorial three times a week for the Times-Union paper. This column now runs daily in the Democrat and Chronicle as Dick continues to captivate the people of Rochester with his unique point of view and perspective on life. Personally, I love to share his columns with my friends, family, colleagues and I have been known to send them to the President.

It is my distinct privilege to recognize Dick Dougherty as a resident of my home district in Rochester, New York. I offer him my heartfelt congratulations on the celebration of his 80th birthday on May 9th, 2000 and I invite my colleagues to do the same as we acknowledge this significant and important man.

TERRACE COMMUNITY CHARTER
SCHOOL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an outstanding charter school in Tampa, Florida. The reason a Member of Congress from the great state of Colorado would recognize and congratulate the Terrace Community School in Florida is because I have visited the school and heard its principal, Mr. David Lourie, speak eloquently about its successes.

On March 27, 2000, the Education Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing at TCS entitled, "Putting Performance First: Academic Accountability and School Choice in Florida." Chairman Pete Hoekstra of Michigan conducted this hearing as part of his Crossroads 2000 project, a continuation and expansion of his ground-breaking education investigation, which culminated in the Education at a Crossroads report. As a member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and a passionate education reform advocate, I have attended several Crossroads hearings to find out what is working and what isn't in education across the country.

The latest installment of this important examination of American education took us to Florida, where we heard about the exciting efforts to raise the academic achievement for all