

waste dumps, chemical and weapons disposal in every State. We can make sure that somebody is in charge, that there is enough funding, and we get the job done so that no child will be at risk for death, dismemberment or serious illness as a result of the United States Government not cleaning up after itself.

CHINA: FRIEND OR FOE?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress and many before, many of us have heard predictions that have been made regarding China. Advocates last year stated that granting permanent normal trade relations to China would help bring reform to this Communist government, and establish a real friendship between our nations.

Reading the papers last year and this year, this week particularly, I see nothing to support that statement. I think relationships are pretty shaky as they are.

On February 11 of this year, Chinese officials detained an American family. In doing so, they separated the couple's 5-year-old son from his parents for 26 days. After 26 days, little Andrew was reunited with his father and expelled; but his mother is still being held.

President Bush is demanding the release of this Washington-based sociologist. Her family claims that the alleged spying charges are trumped up. The State Department has announced this woman was not even an agent of the American intelligence service.

Now China has detained a second American scholar. This hardly seems like a nation that is becoming cooperative after receiving permanent normal trade relations with the United States. China's already poor human rights record sadly worsened last year. I am pleased that the new administration has recognized that fact and has urged the United Nations to address the widespread oppression in China. The United States U.N. Ambassador stated that the U.S. "should not be silent when those who call for democratic government or more cultural preservation and religious freedom in Tibet and elsewhere in China are suppressed or when advocates of labor rights are thrown in jail." But sadly, this may never take place.

Mr. Speaker, every year since the 1989 killing of student protestors in and around Tiananmen Square, China's delegation has introduced a "no-action motion," therefore successfully stopping all attempts to examine its human rights record. It would seem naive to ask why.

All of this would seem troublesome enough, but now we face even larger concerns. On Sunday of this week, a U.S. Navy plane and a Chinese fighter jet collided over the South China Sea

causing the American craft to make an emergency landing in China and the Chinese plane to crash. Officials from China are claiming that the bulkier, clumsier American plane that is roughly the size of a Boeing 737 rammed the light, agile Chinese fighter jet. This would again seem to contradict our view of common sense. Many U.S. experts agree that the incident was most likely caused by an accident on the part of the Chinese.

Sensitivity to the situation will ultimately result from the Chinese handling of the American EP-3 and its crew of 24. It is a reconnaissance aircraft, so it would seem likely that the Chinese military experts would want to board the aircraft to assess what is there, and I understand this morning that diplomats are meeting with the crew.

U.S. officials state that the Chinese generally intercept one out of every three U.S. patrol flights. Recently, concern has been raised with the Chinese Government regarding the fact that Chinese pilots have "become more aggressive." Now, according to Admiral Dennis Blair, Chief of the U.S. Pacific Command, the U.S. has protested the "pattern of increasingly unsafe behavior," but "did not get a satisfactory response." It is presumed that all 24 crew members are safe, but there is yet to be a direct contact between the crew and American officials. American officials are there and are hoping to get in to talk to the crew.

Navy officials also claim that last week a confrontation occurred between a Chinese warship and a Navy surveillance ship in international waters. The officials describe the incident as threatening.

Other examples showing cracks within our forged relationship with China also bear noting, such as China's involvement with Pakistan's nuclear bomb program and their recent questionable involvement in Iraq, to name just a few.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that our relationship with China needs to be carefully reevaluated. Since PNTR, we have seen aggressive behavior on their part. Our prayers are with the 24 crew members, and I am hopeful that a speedy resolution will occur. I look to the Bush administration to move forward appropriately with China.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO FUND PROGRAMS TO HELP AT-RISK JUVENILES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I have a long list here, and I am not going to read all of it, but we could start in 1994, Union, Kentucky.

1995, Redlands, California; Richmond, Virginia.

1997, Bethel, Alaska; Pearl, Mississippi.

1998, Jonesboro, Arkansas; Edinboro, Pennsylvania; Fayetteville, Tennessee; and Springfield, Oregon, my hometown.

1999, Deming, New Mexico.
2001, Santee, California; Williamsport, Pennsylvania; and El Cajon, California, all in 1 month.

This is, unfortunately, only a partial list of school shootings in the United States over the last decade.

Mr. Speaker, we have got to ask what has been the coordinated and thoughtful response of our policymakers here in Washington, D.C., and I think we would find it lacking. Now, there is certainly no easy answer. There is no one-size-fits-all solution to these problems. But, Mr. Speaker, there are proven programs that are underfunded that could be better funded that might help prevent future tragedies, that might get to one disturbed youth, one at-risk family, that might bring forward some other students before the fact, and we should be doing all we can to encourage and fund those programs.

Mr. Speaker, we often expect that somebody somewhere is going to take care of the violence, is going to make things better, but really who is the somebody here? We all have to take some responsibility, every one of us. In my own hometown of Springfield, there was an incredible community response and a response from other communities, and statewide, and people from other States who came to help us, and even some help from the Federal Government in working through the immediate aftermath. But I fear some of that urgency is gone now, as the violence has gone elsewhere, and now those communities are in a crisis.

Mr. Speaker, we need a more coordinated approach. I am reintroducing legislation today that has a number of parts. It is not comprehensive, but it is a good start at helping to address these problems.

First and foremost, increased funding for Head Start and other early intervention prevention programs, a program for Federal funding for community programs, like the Birth to 3 in my State that intervenes with young, at-risk women and helps them before they become a problem or get into a situation that is a problem with their children. More money for child abuse programs that focus on community-based family preservation and crisis intervention, a funding increase for the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention programs, including court schools.

I visited court schools. It is a tremendous program. We take a kid today who threatens violence or has been expelled from school, and what do we do? There they are, they are out on the street for the most part. Those kids need a more structured environment. For many of them, it does not even seem like punishment to be thrown out of school. They should be removed and placed in a court school, which is a more rigid environment, which brings