

These goals further reflect our recognition that the threats of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction endanger the security not only of the United States and Kazakhstan, but of the world at large. We therefore seek to develop our security cooperation to address these challenges and foster cooperation among Kazakhstan, its Central Asian neighbors, the United States, and our European friends, partners, and allies. In pursuit of these objectives, we are determined to deepen cooperation bilaterally and within NATO's Partnership for Peace.

We reiterate our intent to cooperate in the war against terrorism to its conclusion and within the framework of the international coalition. We underscore our support for a broad-based Afghan government at peace internally and with its neighbors. We also pledge our readiness to cooperate in Afghanistan's reconstruction.

Recognizing that Kazakhstan was the first country to renounce its nuclear-weapons status voluntarily, we reaffirm our mutual commitment to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Both sides agree on the need for urgent attention to improving the physical protection and accounting of all nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons materials in all possessor states, and to preventing illicit trafficking in these materials. We pledge to expand our cooperation on these matters under the United States-Kazakhstan Cooperative Threat Reduction Agreement.

In the spirit of partnership, Kazakhstan and the United States intend to strengthen joint activity in ensuring security and stability in Central Asia. We agree that the expansion of trade and economic ties among the states of Central Asia, and deepening of regional integration in important areas, such as the environment, water resources, and transportation systems are a basis for regional security. The United States will consider enhancing assistance programs to Kazakhstan to strengthen border security and to increase the defensive capabilities of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

We recognize that free market economies and the rule of law provide the most effective means to advance the welfare of our citizens and the stability of our societies. The United States and Kazakhstan pledge to advance our bilateral economic, trade, and investment relations, including through expanded contacts between the business communities of our countries. We will strive to further develop an attractive, transparent and predictable investment climate. Achieving this goal requires removal of legislative and administrative barriers to investment, strengthening respect for contracts and the rule of law, reducing corruption, and enhancing Kazakhstan's strong record on economic reform.

We also intend to cooperate to advance Kazakhstan's integration in the global economy by supporting Kazakhstan's accession to the World Trade Organization on the basis of standard and agreed criteria, and its graduation from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

We affirm our desire to strengthen our energy partnership to diversify export options for Kazakhstan's oil and gas and to diversify global energy supplies. We share the view that a key element of this effort is development of multiple pipelines that will ensure delivery of Caspian energy to world markets, unfettered by monopolies or constrained by geographic chokepoints. We welcome the recent opening of the Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC) Pipeline and underscore our support for development of the Aktau-Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil export route on commercial terms. We will also work together to

protect the rights of foreign investors and to abide by decisions of courts, particularly of international courts of arbitration.

Recognizing that democracy is a cornerstone of long-term stability, we reaffirm our desire to strengthen democratic institutions and processes, such as independent media, local government, pluralism, and free and fair elections. We also reiterate our mutual commitments to advance the rule of law and promote freedom of religion and other universal human rights as promoted by the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, of which we are both members. Finally, we pledge to enhance understanding between the citizens of our two countries by promoting people-to-people exchanges, initiatives of nongovernmental organizations, and contacts between business people.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MORLEY BALLANTINE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Morley Ballantine and thank her for her contributions to the State of Colorado and the Durango community. Morley will always be remembered as a dedicated pillar and leader of the community. She has been honored and idolized throughout the years for her hard work and commitment to preserving the Southwestern heritage and culture. As we celebrate her exceptional honor of being inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame, I would like to take the time to highlight her career and bring several of her accomplishments to the attention of this body of Congress.

Morley became a member of the community when she and her husband, Arthur, relocated to Durango in 1952 and established a local newspaper, the Durango Herald. Their passionate, lifelong pursuit of providing quality, trustworthy news to Colorado citizens has been rewarded and praised throughout the region for over fifty years. As the Durango Herald passes this recent milestone, it enjoys the ranking as one of Southern Colorado's most influential news sources in the region. Morley, along with son Richard, have led the paper's efforts to produce quality journalism and are additionally responsible for several other successful outlets, notably the Mancos Times, the Cortez Journal, and local magazine Inside/Outside.

In their quest to continue and promote our Western roots, the Ballantines have dedicated their resources and energy to preserving our historic cultures. Beginning in 1964, the family contributed \$10,000 to fund the Center for Southwest Studies located at Ft. Lewis College in Durango. The center is responsible for the collection and maintenance of artifacts, records, and accounts of Colorado history, most notably the ancient Anasazi Indian culture. Their initial donation was just a prelude to the enormous and generous donations of \$500,000 over the last century.

Mr. Speaker, Morley Ballantine, as well as her family, have been model citizens and icons of the State of Colorado. Throughout her life, Morley has dedicated her time and energy to improving her fellow citizen's lives through

organizations such as the Colorado Forum, Women's Foundation, and ensuring our younger generations are provided with a quality education as a trustee emeriti for Fountain Valley School in Colorado Springs. She has been a true leader for Colorado and her efforts certainly deserve the praise and adulation of this body of Congress, and this nation. Congratulations on your recent honor Morley, and good luck in your future endeavors.

NATIONAL LAMPOON ARTICLE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to take a moment to read the following article from the satirical website magazine, National Lampoon Dotcom. Sometimes irony is the most revealing truth.

[From the National Lampoon, Jan. 29, 2002]
COMPANIES LINE UP TO HIRE ARTHUR ANDERSEN

NEW YORK—Accounting firm Arthur Andersen stunned observers when, in the wake of the Enron scandal, the red-faced auditors reported a huge leap in new business.

"We were worried that the allegations of signing off on fake partnerships, covering up millions in losses and shredding documents would tarnish our image," stated Andersen CEO Joseph Berardino. "But it turns out that a lot of companies have seen that we here at Arthur Andersen are willing to go the extra mile for their business."

Business experts agree.

"There are a lot of companies, particularly on the NASDAQ, that could stand to have \$600 million in bogus profits right now," noted Mike Farnsworth, CEO of Temblor Telecommunications. "It makes management look good."

"Look, most of my compensation is based on options," continued Farnsworth. "Why would I hire an accounting firm that might insist on the spirit of the law, when I could hire Arthur Andersen and cash out? Those guys are pros! When I saw that guy [David Duncan] refuse to testify in front of Congress, I knew that the boys at Andersen had balls. There's no 'I' in 'Team' with them."

The rest of the big 5 accounting firms have taken note.

"At KPMG, we're not just a rubberstamp," stated Global Chairman Stephen Butler. "We're a respected rubberstamp."

Farnsworth is unmoved. "I'm going to stand in front of all my employees this afternoon and tell them that there's no better time to buy our stock, even though at the same time, I'll be dumping my shares faster than I ditched my second wife. The only reason I can do this is because I can rest-assured that the \$500 million of debt hidden in off-shore partnerships will be just between me and Arthur Andersen."

"Every time they invoke the 5th Amendment, they prove they're a name I can trust," finished Farnsworth.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM HERMAN FAIRBROTHER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to William Herman