

funding and supporting health care for our veterans; by passing and implementing a new GI Bill of Rights, which meets the needs of our soldiers and veterans in the 21st century; by realizing our troops lived with the creed that they would leave no one behind in battle and we must leave no veteran behind in addressing wounds suffered on our behalf.

I am proud to support this resolution to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Let our prayers be filled with thankfulness. Let our words be replete with commemorations. And let our deeds be worthy of the sacrifice of the great Americans who answered the call in our darkest hours.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CITY
OF HILLSBORO, OREGON

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of Hillsboro, Oregon and celebrate the dedication of its new Civic Center on July 16, 2005. On this special occasion, I would not only like to reflect upon Hillsboro and Oregon's proud heritage, but the vision of the future that made it possible.

As the Pacific Northwest celebrates the bicentennial anniversary of the achievements of Lewis and Clark and the Corp of Discovery, I find it fitting that Hillsboro is bravely and confidently launching ahead its own future by implementing the Hillsboro 2020 Vision and Action Plan. Mayor Tom Hughes, the Hillsboro City Council, Hillsboro's citizens and various community organizations came together to determine what their community should look like in the coming decades. This forward-thinking plan, like the new Hillsboro Civic Center, will lay the foundation for decades of growth, civic engagement, environmental conservation, and economic prosperity.

America looks to the future with the same pioneering spirit that guided the Corps of Discovery. As we celebrate our return to space with the launch of the Space Shuttle *Discovery*, Hillsboro, a city born from that same pioneering spirit, also celebrates its own launch towards a future of its own making. By focusing on environmentally sustainable designs, the Hillsboro Civic Center is a triumph to conservation, using 100 percent renewable energy in its electricity, 90 percent recycled building material, and the most modern of construction techniques with certified wood from local sustainable forests.

The building techniques and energy efficient design used in construction of the Hillsboro Civic Center earned it a GOLD rating, the highest standard awarded by LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

I applaud Mayor Hughes, the Hillsboro City Council, and citizens of Hillsboro for their vision and commitment to their community, the environment, and the future development of Oregon.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, on July 11, 2005, I was in my district participating in the first meeting of the New Jersey Flood Mitigation Task Force. This Task Force is working to help prevent the devastating flooding that occurred for a number of my constituents earlier this year. Due to the schedule, I missed roll-call votes Nos. 363 and 364. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall No. 363 "aye" and rollcall No. 364 "aye."

CHINA NATIONAL OFFSHORE OIL
CORPORATION LTD'S TAKEOVER
BID FOR UNOCAL CORPORATION
OF CALIFORNIA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a letter I sent on July 13 to the law firm Akin Gump outlining my concerns with regard to the firm's representation of China National Offshore Oil Corporation Ltd. (CNOOC) in its takeover bid for Unocal Corp. of California.

A critical element that has been absent in much of the discussion surrounding free trade is the fact that CNOOC is not a private foreign company. It is a Chinese state-run entity—70 percent state-owned.

Least there be any confusion about who we are dealing with when we speak of the Chinese Communist government, I want to highlight a quote from a July 13 Washington Post article. An adviser to the Chinese central government, who spoke on the condition of anonymity fearing government disciplinary action, said, "No matter if it's rogue or a friend's oil, we don't care. Human rights? We don't care. We care about oil. Whether Iran would have nuclear weapons or not is not our business. America cares, but Iran is not our neighbor. Anyone who helps China with energy is a friend."

Is there no bright line to separate who the lobbyists in Washington will or will not represent?

Mr. R. BRUCE MCLEAN,
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, New Hampshire Ave NW., Washington DC.

DEAR MR. MCLEAN: I write today in response to a packet of information I received in late June, which included a letter from the chief executive officer of China National Offshore Oil Corporation Ltd. (CNOOC) peppered with assurances, aimed at easing growing congressional concern, that CNOOC's bid to "merge" with Unocal Corp. of California was in fact friendly. I must say in all candor that I was shocked that the packet arrived courtesy of Akin Gump—one of Washington's most distinguished and reputable lobbying and law firms.

Having worked in Washington for over three decades, I understand that lobbying is part and parcel of everyday life in the nation's capital. Every day, good people walk the halls of Congress making the case for

their constituency, advocating on any number of issues and causes with great passion and insight. That said, when I noted that CNOOC was one of your newest clients, I immediately thought, "Is there no bright line to separate who the lobbyists in Washington will or will not represent?"

A critical part of the discussion recently surrounding the free market, charges of protectionism and the politicization of trade within the context of CNOOC's takeover bid for Unocal is that CNOOC is not a private foreign company. CNOOC is a Chinese state-run entity—70 percent state-owned. At the end of the day, it has to be obvious that any decisions on the issues of energy, economic and ultimately national security regarding the operations of this company will be based on what is advantageous to the Chinese Communist government. It is noteworthy that a Pentagon report released in January by the Office of Net Assessment has warned that China's need for oil, gas and other energy resources appears to be driving the country toward becoming an expansionist power.

As Irwin Stelzer with the Hudson Institute recently wrote, "China has decided to use its state resources to convert its major companies into important multi-nationals—part of an aggressive policy of projecting Chinese power on a global basis. If that's not political, nothing is. . . . That policy is most noticeable in oil markets. China's acquisition of Unocal's substantial Asian assets will increase its political influence in that part of the world."

But we need not look to "inside the Beltway" policy analysts for insight into China's global ambitions. Chen Yonglin, the high ranking Chinese defector with intimate knowledge of China's worldwide intelligence gathering efforts, has said, "The United States is considered by the Chinese Communist Party as the largest enemy, the major strategic rival."

I recall with great irony the heated annual debates in Congress surrounding Most Favored Nation trade status and ultimately Permanent Normal Trade Relations for China. The coalition that battled granting China this privilege faced an almost certain perennial loss. Even so, it served as a valuable forum in which to highlight just what kind of a country we are dealing with in China. The list of egregious actions laid at the feet of the Communist government of the People's Republic of China is long and spans decades—human rights abuses, religious persecution including torture and imprisonment, slave labor practices, forced sterilization, espionage operations against U.S. businesses, software piracy and intellectual property theft, military spying. At the time many argued with tremendous passion, business interests foremost among them, that trade with China would change China, not the other way around.

But recent reports have painted a grim picture of the purported "information age" in China. Chinese bloggers who have the audacity to type in words like "freedom," "democracy," or "human rights" receive a message, courtesy of Microsoft software, that says, "Prohibited language in text, please delete." It seems China is changing us after all.

And the change is perhaps no where more apparent than in the willingness of American companies and lobbyists to do the bidding of the Chinese government—a government which despite increased "engagement" over the last several years continues to pose a national security threat, blatantly disrespects free trade norms, persistently violates human rights, consistently stifles political dissent and is indiscriminate in its repression, arrest and torture of varied faiths targeting the Uygher Muslim population, the underground Protestant and Catholic house