

Ironically, Congress has not yet fully “graduated” Russia from the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. I do hope that, regardless of the many difficulties in relations with Russia that we are now experiencing, we will be able to do so in the near future. I am sure Chairman Vanik would agree with me.

Madam Speaker, although I was not acquainted with Chairman Vanik, I know that he left a legacy of deep respect when he retired from this august body. May we all serve our constituents, our Nation, and all those with whom we share this planet as conscientiously as he did.

FY08 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS
EXPLANATIONS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with House earmark reforms, I would like to place into the RECORD a listing of congressionally directed projects in my home State of Idaho that are contained within the report to the fiscal year 2008 Defense appropriations bill.

I'd like to take just a few minutes to describe why I supported these projects and why they are valuable to the Nation and its taxpayers.

The report contains \$3 million for a technology entitled Vacuum Sampling Pathogen Collection and Concentration. Developed by Microbial-Vac Systems in Jerome, ID, the advanced “Vacuum Pathogen” collection and concentration systems are critical to continued advancement of the Department of Defense's applications for manual and robotic sample acquisition and traceability of biothreat agents in food safety and environmental settings. Expansion and centralization of facilities, manufacturing, distribution, and infrastructure support capabilities will provide improved and more economically feasible commercial production capacities, emergency supply storage and expanded quality control capabilities. These measures are critically needed to supply sufficient numbers of the sterilely packaged pathogen collection and rapid processing technology to fill military and civilian emergency immediate and long-term needs during pandemic outbreaks, hostile attacks and post-incident remediation/decontamination monitoring and verification procedures. Improved national defense and food security will be realized by initial second-generation technology development of precise sample location and traceability, robotic field collection and automated rapid processing interfacing capability development. This project has received Federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by Microbial-Vac Systems in Jerome, ID.

The report contains \$2 million for the Idaho Accelerator Center, IAC, at Idaho State University's, ISU's, Small Accelerators and Detection Systems for Defense Applications program. Ongoing work at IAC suggests that transportable accelerators can now be developed to actively identify suspected nuclear materials/packages in the field, neutralize biological/chemical agents when discovered, decontaminate areas where bio/chem agents

may have been released, and detect explosives and contraband in a variety of challenging circumstances. The IAC and the ISU academic community, in collaboration with scientists and engineers from the private sector and national laboratories, has been involved in developing technology for the remote detection of hazardous materials and contraband for more than 15 years. Through these associations the IAC has devised non-intrusive means to identify the contents of containers of various kinds that may contain fissionable material, radioactive material, explosives, hazardous material—biological or chemical—and contraband—FREHC—for homeland and national security applications. This project has received Federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by Idaho State University in Pocatello, ID.

The report contains \$2 million for a program entitled Systematic Hierarchical Approach to Radiation Hardened Electronics, SHARE. Lack of consistent reliable performance of integrated circuits, IC, used in space communication, surveillance, and guidance systems continues to be a potentially debilitating problem for the military services. The problem has been aggravated by the rapid and unsettling contraction of the industrial base needed to design and produce the specialized electronics that must perform in applications requiring high reliability in a challenging radiation-charged environment. As one of the principal users of radiation hardened, RadHard, electronics, the U.S. Air Force is pursuing domestically fabricated technologies that will ensure a ready and economical capability for producing radiation hardened microelectronics using advanced commercial processes. SHARE has been identified by the Air Force as a critical capability that will enable collaboration among circuit designers, simulation software vendors, and foundries under the direction of SEAMS Center AFRL at Kirtland AFB, NM. This project has received Federal funding in previous fiscal years.

This project was requested by American Semiconductor in Boise, ID.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a list of congressionally directed projects in my region and an explanation of my support for them.

(1) \$3 million for Vacuum Sampling Pathogen Collection and Concentration; Microbial-Vac Systems.

(2) \$2 million for Small Accelerators and Detection Systems for Defense Applications; ISU.

(3) \$2 million for Systematic Hierarchical Approach to Radiation Hardened Electronics, SHARE; ASI.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE O.
JACKSON DE LLANO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George O. Jackson de Llano, a noted photographer who is well-regarded for his excellent photographic exhibits of cultural life in Mexico.

Mr. Jackson de Llano was born on October 2, 1941 in Houston, Texas. He has a heritage rich in Mexican culture as a descendant of

Manuel Maria de Llano, who was Mayor of Monterrey and later Governor of the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon. Mr. Jackson de Llano spent much of his youth in Laredo, Texas, when his great-grandfather, Ruben Villarreal, a silver miner in northern Mexico, relocated his family there during the Mexican Revolution. He attended The University of Texas at Austin and graduated in 1961.

Mr. Jackson de Llano did not directly set out on his photography career; he first was an entrepreneur as a successful restaurant owner. In 1971, Mr. Jackson became the associate director of a Houston art gallery that featured prominent American artists of the 19th and 20th centuries. He made the decision to explore his life through his love of photography in 1977 by making consecutive trips to Mexico. He became a full-time photographer in 1984 and was increasingly fascinated by folk culture in Mexico, particularly their festival celebrations which are prominently featured in his photography. He created The Essence of Mexico Project, which was a historical collection of photography featuring Mexican indigenous folk culture that spanned the last ten years of the 20th century. This collection of photographs is featured at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the wonderful creativity and dedication Mr. George O. Jackson de Llano has shown in his photography. He has contributed a great deal to the preservation of indigenous folk culture in Mexico through his photography. I thank you for this time.

HONORING ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY
SERVICES AND THE ETHIOPIAN
COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL
CENTER

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor San Jose-based Ethiopian Community Services and Oakland, California-based Ethiopian Community & Cultural Center for their joint efforts in organizing a celebration of the Ethiopian New Year and Millennium.

During this celebration, the community will share its centuries-old traditions and culture including its alphabet, calendar, music, arts, food and coffee. In addition it will give others an opportunity to experience this rich and diverse historical event and explore and make new friends.

The celebration of the Ethiopian New Year and Millennium is occurring in my congressional district at the Guadalupe River Park in Downtown San Jose, CA. Because of the rich diversity of San Jose, it is a special honor to further emphasize the open minds and warm hearts of the constituents I represent. I commend both organizations for their hard work in this glorious event and extend my warmest wishes for many more years of cooperation and success.