

# American NEWS & VIEWS

*A Daily Newsletter from Public Affairs, American Embassy*

---

October 6, 2004

---

<b>Text: U.S. Says U.N. Draft Resolution on Gaza Encourages Terrorism.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Text: Aggressive Nationalism, Ethnic Strife Are Avoidable, U.S. Says .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Text: U.S. Labor Dept. Gives \$110 Million in 2004 to Fight Child Labor.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Text: Lawmaker Says China Report Cites Progress, but Concerns Remain .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Text: Global Refugee Numbers Down as U.S. Admissions Increase .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Text: U.S. Committed to Humane Treatment of Detainees in War on Terror .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Text: Counterfeiting, Organized Piracy Targeted by U.S. Agencies.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Text: Lawmaker Urges Support of Proposed North Korean Human Rights Act.....</b>	<b>13</b>

## **Text: U.S. Says U.N. Draft Resolution on Gaza Encourages Terrorism**

*Amb. Danforth's UNSC remarks Oct. 5 on Mideast vote*

Vetoing an Arab-sponsored draft resolution on Israeli military operations in Gaza, U.S. Ambassador John Danforth said October 5 that the text lacked credibility and balance, was dangerously disingenuous, and ultimately would embolden terrorists and encourage counterattacks.

The draft resolution demanded the immediate cessation of all Israeli military operations in the area of northern Gaza and the withdrawal of Israeli forces. It condemned Israel's military incursions and attacks in northern Gaza. The vote was 11 in favor, the United States against and Germany, Romania, and the United Kingdom abstaining.

Addressing the council before the vote, Danforth said that the resolution did not mention the Qassam rocket attacks against Israel, the Israeli children and civilians killed, the fact that terrorists hide among Palestinian civilians provoking their deaths, or "the complete failure of the Palestinian Authority to meet its commitments to establish security among its people."

"The silence here today is deafening," the ambassador said. "When the rest of the world gangs up on Israel with insidious silence about terrorism, it does not advance the cause of peace. It encourages both sides to dig in; it makes Israel feel isolated and backed into a corner and it discourages dialogue."

The U.S. approach is to recognize that both sides must renounce violence, recommit to the roadmap for Mideast peace, and move quickly to establish a Palestinian state, Danforth said.

Following is the text of the ambassador's remarks:

Explanation of Vote by Ambassador John C. Danforth, U.S. Representative to the United Nations, on the Resolution Addressing the Situation in the Middle East, in the Security Council, October 5, 2004.

We have before us yet another resolution regarding the Middle East situation...And, once again, the resolution is lopsided and unbalanced; it is dangerously disingenuous because of its many material omissions. Because of this lack of balance, because of these omissions, the resolution lacks credibility and deserves a "no" vote.

As you consider the current resolution, I ask you to perform a simple analysis. Consider first what the resolution says,

and then what it fails to say. The resolution "condemns" Israel's military actions in Gaza; it criticizes "incursions" into the Jabaliya refugee camp; it condemns Israeli acts of "destruction," and it laments "extensive human casualties" among Palestinians. It "demands" that Israel, as the "occupying power," withdraw its forces immediately. Tough words.

The United States has no problem with tough words, but only when they are accurate and there is balance.

Now consider what this resolution does not say. It does not mention even one of the 450 Qassam rocket attacks launched against Israel over the past two years. It does not mention two hundred rockets launched this year alone. It does not mention the two Israeli children who were outside playing last week when a rocket suddenly crashed into their young bodies. It does not mention the undisputed fact that Qassam rockets have no military purpose -- that they are crude, imprecise devices of terror designed to kill civilians. It does not mention that Hamas took "credit" for killing these Israeli children and maiming many other Israeli civilians -- calling these deaths and woundings a "victory." It does not mention that the terrorists hide among Palestinian civilians, provoking their deaths, and then use those deaths as fodder for their hatred, lawlessness, and efforts to derail the peace process. It does not mention the complete failure of the Palestinian authority to meet its commitments to establish security among its people. It does not mention any of these facts, nor does it acknowledge the legitimate need for Israel to defend itself. The resolution is totally lacking in balance.

There is an old saying that silence indicates consent. The silence here today is deafening. I said yesterday, and I reiterate today, that when the rest of the world gangs up on Israel with insidious silence about terrorism, it does not advance the cause of peace. It encourages both sides to dig in; it makes Israel feel isolated and backed into a corner, and it discourages dialogue.

The approach of the United States is to recognize that both sides need to renounce violence, that both sides need to recommit to the roadmap, and that both sides need to move quickly to establish a Palestinian state. But until the Palestinians and those claiming to act in their name stop their use of indiscriminate acts of terror, Israel will likely continue to track down the terrorists wherever they may hide, often with the tragic, but unintended result of civilian casualties.

My friend Ambassador Baali reminded me that it is very important to take an even-handed approach when it comes to describing civilian casualties. Civilian casualties are

always tragic. The death of children is especially tragic. It is tragic when they are Israeli children; it is tragic when they are Israeli civilians. It is tragic when they are Palestinian children, and Palestinian civilians. But where the death of civilians is intentional, but where the death of civilians is the sole purpose of the attack, it is not only tragic it is reprehensible.

The resolution today not only encourages the terrorists; it will not do anything prevent the predictable Israeli response. Ultimately, a resolution like this emboldens terrorists, encourages counterattacks, and contributes to the ultimate terrorist goal of derailing the peace process.

The Security Council should reverse the incessant stream of one anti-Israel resolution after the other, and apply pressure even handedly, on both sides, to return to the road to peace. The United States will vote "no" on this resolution.

### **Text: Aggressive Nationalism, Ethnic Strife Are Avoidable, U.S. Says**

*Amb. Napper addresses OSCE Human Dimension meeting in Warsaw*

Aggressive nationalism and ethnic strife are avoidable if governments are vigilant and take steps to prevent and punish violent acts of hate, Ambassador Larry Napper told the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, Poland, October 5.

Napper, the head of the U.S. delegation, said "prevention of aggressive nationalism, chauvinism and ethnic cleansing is necessarily an ongoing process."

He added that the failure of local authorities in the Balkans to apprehend and deliver to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) individuals indicted for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide "is a cause for continuing concern"

Napper attributed this failure to "a lack of widespread political will."

"Aggressive nationalism and ethnic strife are not unavoidable phenomena," he said. "But we must demonstrate vision and determination if we are to eliminate these threats to stability and security once and for all."

The October 4-15 meeting in Warsaw is being held to review the implementation of OSCE commitments in the fields of human rights and democracy -- the human dimension -- by participating states.

Following is a text of Ambassador Napper's statement:

### STATEMENT ON AGGRESSIVE NATIONALISM

As prepared for delivery by Ambassador Larry Napper, Head of the U.S. Delegation Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

Aggressive nationalism and chauvinism were once dominant issues in OSCE discussions. What we learned from countering the aggressive nationalism of the Yugoslav conflicts in the 1990s has been instrumental in reshaping this organization, including our increased focus on field missions. We now know that the OSCE cannot wait to react to incidents of interethnic violence and ethnic cleansing, but rather, must respond immediately and decisively at the first signs of interethnic unrest. We are attacking the roots of inter-ethnic hatred by promoting tolerance education and field activities, such as human rights training for law enforcement officials. The OSCE is also using Permanent Council meetings to urge political leaders to respond swiftly and effectively to manifestations of intolerance.

Prevention of aggressive nationalism, chauvinism and ethnic cleansing is necessarily an ongoing process. The failure of local authorities in the Balkans to apprehend and deliver to The Hague those individuals indicted for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide is a cause for continuing concern. Indeed, there are more than 20 individuals publicly indicted by the Tribunal who still have not been apprehended. In Serbia, some indictees walk around freely; others are tipped off, and others like Mladic remain out of reach of half-hearted attempts to locate them. In Bosnia's Republika Srpska, most of the remaining fugitives are Bosnian Serbs, yet the Republika Srpska has never arrested an indictee. In Croatia, the government has failed to take any meaningful steps to arrest Ante Gotovina.

The United States welcomes the recent positive statements by Serbia and Montenegro Foreign Minister Draskovic, Serbian President Tadic and others regarding the need to cooperate with the Tribunal. The report on Srebrenica released in Republika Srpska similarly offered hope of positive action. The United States also welcomes the recent surrenders of several indictees from Croatia. As Secretary of State Colin Powell said in Sarajevo in late July, however, fulfilling obligations means not just saying the right words, but delivering results. The recent photo images of indictee Goran Hadzic leaving his home in Serbia to go into hiding show the continuing gap between word and deed. These cases also demonstrate that the current lack of cooperation is due not to logistical difficulties with locating and apprehending dangerous persons, but rather, to a lack of widespread political will.

It also needs to be made clear that the delivery of indictees is not an artificial issue intended to hinder European integration. Indeed, it is truly sad that ICTY cooperation is often presented to the Serbian people as a demand from the international community that must be met, rather than as the right thing to do and the best course of action for Serbia's own interests.

Officials in Belgrade and Banja Luka repeatedly warn of the domestic impact of new indictments and arrests. Unfortunately, nationalist political parties, such as the Radical Party in Serbia or the SDS in Republika Srpska, continue to use resistance to cooperation to motivate their supporters. These parties have used false patriotism as a means to maintain a grip on the economic levers they control on behalf of the war criminals, who are the ultimate beneficiaries of their corruption. Such activities should have no place in any European society today.

The March violence in Kosovo is yet another example of the need for the OSCE to continue its work in the region to counteract extremist elements. Despite the progress made in Kosovo since 1999, much remains to be done in building a democratic, multi-ethnic society. As outlined by the Contact Group in their September 22 Interim Review Statement, Kosovo must become a place where all "regardless of ethnic background, race or religion, are free to live, work and travel without fear, hostility or danger, and where there is tolerance, justice and peace for everyone." To that end, the international community will continue to work with Kosovo to accelerate implementation of the "Standards for Kosovo," particularly those related to the protection of minorities.

Throughout the OSCE region -- including in Russia, European countries "West of Vienna" and North America -- Muslims, people of color, Roma and Jews continue to encounter prejudice and societal discrimination. Mosques, synagogues and Muslim and Jewish cultural facilities are frequently vandalized. There is a need for governments to do more to prevent these despicable acts.

Certainly, the consolidation of democracy and integration into European structures based on respect for international human rights standards will help make extreme nationalism a less attractive ideology for young people in the formerly Communist countries of the OSCE region. Governments in "established democracies" must also be vigilant and take steps to prevent and punish violent acts of hate. Aggressive nationalism and ethnic strife are not unavoidable phenomena. But we must demonstrate vision and determination if we are to eliminate these threats to stability and security once and for all.

### **Text: U.S. Labor Dept. Gives \$110 Million in 2004 to Fight Child Labor**

*Funds target removing young workers from abuse, providing education*

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) in the fiscal year that ended September 30 awarded more than \$110 million to fight international child labor.

In an October 1 press release Labor said the grants were for programs that help remove young workers from abusive work situations and improve access to basic education in areas having high incidences of exploitive child labor.

The department said that in 2004 it awarded \$67.5 million under its Child Labor Education Initiative and \$42.7 million to the child labor elimination program of the United Nations International Labor Organization (ILO).

The Labor Department funds programs that target exploitative child labor in a specific industry, country or region; provide education that focuses on child laborers and children at risk for being exploited; and research of the global problem.

Labor also announced, in an October 4 press release, that it had awarded \$23 million to the aid groups World Vision and Catholic Relief Services for education programs in Africa and Latin America.

Following is the text of Labor's October 1 press release:

U.S. Department of Labor News Release  
10/01/2004

*United States Provides over \$110 Million in Grants to Fight Exploitive Child Labor Around the World*

WASHINGTON -- To emphasize the United States commitment to eliminating the worst forms of child labor, U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao noted today that in FY 2004 the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) provided over \$110 million in grants to remove young workers from abusive work situations and improve access to quality basic education in areas with a high incidence of exploitive child labor.

"The United States is the world leader in funding programs to eliminate abusive child labor," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao. "This Administration is committed to working with our partners around the world to rescue child soldiers and other children who have been trafficked. We cannot give them back their childhoods, but we can help

them get an education and build better futures for themselves.

The Labor Department awarded \$67.5 million in grants under its Child Labor Education Initiative, most through a competitive bidding process. In addition, the Labor Department contributed approximately \$42.7 million to the International Labor Organization's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC) for programs to address child labor in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, and the Middle East. The department's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) contributed to the design of these projects and is responsible for monitoring the progress of all DOL-funded international child labor projects.

DOL funds five types of projects, including:

- Targeted programs that address exploitive child labor in a specific industry in a country or region;
- Education programs that focus on child laborers or children at risk;
- Research and statistical programs to collect data necessary to define the extent of exploitive child labor in a country or region and to measure progress made toward the goal of eliminating child labor;
- Projects to support a country's active participation in IPEC; and
- Comprehensive national programs to achieve dramatic reductions in exploitive child labor within a fixed time period.

"The United States remains committed to the global campaign to eliminate the worst forms of exploitive labor that place children in harm's way while depriving them of the opportunity to prepare for a better future by attending school," said Deputy Under Secretary for International Labor Affairs Arnold Levine.

### **Text: Lawmaker Says China Report Cites Progress, but Concerns Remain**

*Congressional-Executive Commission on China releases 2004 Annual Report*

China achieved limited progress over the past year in promoting human rights and the rule of law, but severe and critical problems continue in both areas, according to Representative James A. Leach, chairman of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC).

In an October 5 briefing on the release of the CECC's Annual Report for 2004, the congressman said the commission was particularly concerned about the Chinese

government's increasing repression of religious freedom among Muslims, Christians and Tibetan Buddhists, its policies toward North Korean refugees, and corruption among officials.

The report attempts to offer a "snapshot" of current human rights conditions in China and summarize developments over the previous year.

"We have sought to produce a respectful and balanced review of events and trends in a country with a long history and a great civilization," said Leach, a Republican from Iowa.

"We recognize that China is undergoing one of the greatest transformations in modern history," he added. "The report documents that some elements of this transformation are impressive, but others fall short of internationally accepted norms."

Leach said he was encouraged by the pace and scope of legal reforms undertaken by Chinese officials at the central, provincial and local levels of government and suggested that such reforms could "provide the basis for better respect for basic human rights and stronger protection of civil rights in the future."

The congressman announced two new CECC initiatives in 2004. In June, the commission launched a Web-based "Virtual Academy" with information about China's history, culture, government, and other issues relevant to CECC's mandate. The Virtual Academy is accessible through the commission's Web site (<http://www.cecc.gov>). The commission also has established a database that will provide reliable information on political prisoners in China. Leach said the Political Prisoner Database is undergoing final testing and will be ready for public access by November.

The CECC, comprising nine members of the House of Representatives, nine members of the Senate, and five senior officials of the executive branch, was created by Congress in 2000 to encourage the development of rule of law in China, monitor China's compliance with international human rights standards, and track the status of victims of human rights abuses in China. The co-chair of the commission is Senator Chuck Hagel, a Republican from Nebraska.

The full text of the CECC Annual Report for 2004 can be found at the following address:

<http://www.cecc.gov/pages/annualRpt/annualRpt04/index.php>

Following is the full text of Representative Leach's remarks, as prepared for delivery:

It is a pleasure to be here this morning with my friend, colleague, and co-chair Chuck Hagel to present the Annual Report for 2004 of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China. On September 23, the members of the CECC gathered to vote on and approve the Report; the votes are tallied in the endnotes.

The Commission normally has 23 members: nine from the House, nine from the Senate, and five from the Executive Branch. In the last two months, our number has been reduced to 21 by the departure from government service of two fine public servants. Doug Bereuter resigned from the House on September 1 after representing the 1st District of Nebraska with distinction for many years. Doug was not only one of the intellectual godfathers of this Commission, but also served as its Co-Chair in the 107th Congress. We are grateful for his service to the Commission, and wish him well in his new role as President of the Asia Foundation in San Francisco. Lorne W. Craner was Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor until the beginning of August. The President appointed him to the Commission in July 2001, and our work benefited significantly from his active and sensible participation. Lorne has now returned to the International Republican Institute, where he will continue to guide the IRI's many human rights and democracy programs around the world. We wish him well.

The CECC Annual Report is designed to be both a snapshot of current conditions in China and a summary of developments over the past year. We have sought to produce a respectful and balanced review of events and trends in a country with a long history and a great civilization. We recognize that China is undergoing one of the greatest transformations in modern history, and the report documents that some elements of this transformation are impressive but others fall short of internationally accepted norms.

We gather information for the Annual Report by conducting public hearings, hosting staff-led issues roundtables, sending our staff to China frequently, talking to visiting Chinese scholars and analysts, and doing research using the excellent resources of the Library of Congress, together with the growing amount of official information available on the Internet. We think that this meticulously researched report is accurate in its findings and balanced in its judgments.

As in last year's report, we find generally that there has been limited progress over the past year in some aspects of

human rights and the rule of law, but that severe and critical problems continue in both areas. The report documents in detail the areas of improvement and the severity of the problems. With respect to the latter, we are particularly concerned about the Chinese government's increasing repression of religious belief and practice among Muslims, Christians, and Tibetan Buddhists. In addition, the Chinese government's policies toward North Korean refugees constitute a serious abdication of its responsibilities under international law. China, as well as the whole international community, is obligated to do more to alleviate this extraordinary human rights umbrage.

At the same time, we join the many people in the United States and elsewhere who are encouraged by the pace and scope legal reforms undertaken by Chinese authorities at the central, provincial, and local levels. We think that these reforms are likely to provide the basis for better respect for basic human rights and stronger protection of civil rights in the future.

One theme that runs throughout this Report is that official corruption not only undermines the reforms already undertaken but also causes the public to lose faith in the government. We think that China needs broader forms of democratic accountability and free access to information to curb corruption and restore the faith of Chinese citizens in their officials and their government institutions.

I would like to mention two other Commission initiatives that are separate from the Annual Report but very much part of the CECC's mandate: the Virtual Academy and the Political Prisoner Database.

In June this year, the CECC launched a "Virtual Academy" about China that is accessible through our website ([www.cecc.gov](http://www.cecc.gov)). The Virtual Academy contains basic information about Chinese history, culture, and government, as well as detailed information on a number of the issues in the CECC mandate, all organized by topic. We are also seeking original articles or monographs by U.S. and Chinese scholars, to make the Virtual Academy a forum for learned discussion of a variety of issues.

The Political Prisoner Database is undergoing final testing this week, and the public access feature will "go live" at noon Eastern Standard time on November 1. At that time, the public and press will be able to send queries to the database through the CECC website and receive responses on 19 different types of prisoner information. The Database will initially have about 3,500 individual prisoner records, and that total will grow over the next year and beyond. For more information, please see section IV of the Report. The Database provides the Commission, other U.S. government

users, and the public with a new and powerful tool for advocacy work on behalf of Chinese prisoners.

### **Text: Global Refugee Numbers Down as U.S. Admissions Increase**

*Top U.S. refugee official speaks to global assembly*

The worldwide refugee population declined by 17 percent in 2004, predominantly to the "liberation of several entire societies," said U.S. Assistant Secretary for Refugees Arthur E. "Gene" Dewey, speaking to a meeting of the executive committee of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Geneva October 4.

Dewey said a large part of the overall decline in refugees could be attributed to the return of stability in several nations with longstanding wars -- Liberia, Angola, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. Donor states have contributed to the effort, working together for the repatriation of almost 4 million refugees over the last two years.

Dewey also noted the resettlement of almost 53,000 refugees in the United States in 2004, the highest one-year total since 2001.

The UNHCR executive committee comprises 66 nations. The annual meeting continues through October 8.

More information is available at <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/news>

The following terms are used in the text:

EXCOM: executive committee

IDP: internally displaced persons

MSF: Medecins Sans Frontieres

The text of Dewey's statement, as prepared for delivery, follows:

October 4, 2004

Mr. Chairman, Mr. High Commissioner, Distinguished Colleagues:

We welcome Ambassadors Escudero of Ecuador and Oshima of Japan as new Chair and Vice-Chair, and Ms. Anne Blomberg of Sweden as Rapporteur. We are pleased that Egypt and Zambia, two generous refugee-hosting countries, are joining us today as new members of EXCOM.

Mr. Chairman,

I thank the High Commissioner for his comprehensive overview that reflects the challenges and successes of the past year. We have met these challenges and achieved these successes by working together multilaterally. I also want to say how glad I am to see World Food Program Executive Director Jim Morris at EXCOM. Regular and adequate food for refugees is vital but pipeline breaks continue to plague our efforts. The panel discussion on food later today should underscore for under-performing donors that WFP still lacks, and must have, the resources to do its job.

This year, refugee solutions have reduced the worldwide refugee population by 17 percent. Yet, we still have all too many protracted situations where progress towards solution is either too slow, or seems to be going nowhere.

Advocacy groups have recently re-raised a serious problem with which we have been wrestling for years - refugee warehousing. But we are no longer just wringing our hands about warehousing. We have had some dramatic "dewarehousing" breakthroughs in the last two years. These breakthroughs have not happened by accident. Rather, they have been made possible through the liberation of several entire societies and by the generous resources provided by serious donor states that have worked together multilaterally to bring about the repatriation of nearly four million refugees over the last two years.

These refugees have gone home to Liberia, Angola, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan and Iraq. I am delighted to see that Minister Isho of Iraq is here with us today. Her dedication to refugee and IDP returns is both an inspiration and a model. UNHCR's role has been crucial to these repatriation success stories, and we are witnessing one of its finest hours in this regard.

An important ingredient in these successes is a sustained international effort to provide sustenance and jobs until governments can take over these services. Countries need to include refugees in their national development plans. Returnees need long-term transitional help and employment opportunities, such as the Afghan Conservation Corps, to restore their dignity and self-reliance. We want refugees to return home voluntarily and as we have said for years in EXCOM conclusions in safety and dignity.

Mr. Chairman,

As a practical matter, where we are blocked on one refugee solution front, we must move on others. UNHCR is developing a much-needed culture of resettlement. The U.S. commitment to resettlement remains strong. I am pleased to report that we exceeded our goal of admitting 50,000 refugees this fiscal year. The final total was 52,875, as

compared to fewer than 29,000 each of the previous two years. The increase is a tribute to the new initiatives we have undertaken in response to the changing refugee environment. One of these was providing substantial funding to enhance UNHCR's resettlement capacity to identify and refer refugees to resettlement countries. The results of this effort are evident in thousands of new referrals in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Mr. Chairman,  
I would like to express our support for the proposal to create an Assistant High Commissioner for Protection.

This would give new gravitas to the care and protection of refugee women and refugee children. And we are pleased to hear that the long-promised Special Advisor to the High Commissioner for Gender Issues will soon be on board.

Looking ahead, we encourage UNHCR to continue to strengthen its operational performance. Much has been done in the past year - the roll-out of Project Profile and the Management Systems Renewal Project, the development of standards and indicators, and the beginning of the integration of gender and age into the way UNHCR does business.

We now look forward to the impact of the implementation of new human resources policy and to better management of UNHCR's most valuable asset - its dedicated staff.

We look forward to a more concerted effort to carry out assessments of real needs and to identify gaps in protection and assistance.

We look forward to improved operational coordination between UNHCR and its international organization peers, and especially with its NGO implementing partners.

And, we look forward to a predictable, rapid and effective emergency response. The challenge of caring for some 200,000 refugees in Chad is tremendous. I was pleased to be able to visit the region with the High Commissioner and other donor colleagues. I salute the heroic work done by the field staff of UNHCR and NGOs, in particularly in moving so many people from the border so quickly into the camps.

Emergency response is UNHCR's job. UNHCR must ask for the resources it needs to do this job. It must better support its staff. It must ensure that an adequate core of experienced international professional staff members is deployed quickly to wherever they are needed. The pool of candidates for "A" team deployments must be expanded. UNHCR must move more quickly on determining which operational partner will undertake which activity, then get

the money to them as soon as possible, and finally, oversee their effectiveness, providing advice and expertise where necessary.

The United States is there to help. We remain your strong supporter. Your competence and your performance are directly related to Member States' active interest in your mandate and your operations. In 2003, we provided \$307 million; in 2004, to date, we have provided approximately \$297 million. We can continue to justify this our commitment to multilateralism to our Congress and the American people as long as UNHCR remains a center of operational excellence for refugee protection and solutions.

I would like to thank those countries that have provided and continue to provide refuge to those fleeing conflict and violence. These countries of refuge are our strong partners in good humanitarian donorship.

Tragically, refugees are too often not sufficiently protected, as the horrifying murder of some 160 Congolese refugees in Burundi attests. I thought we had left behind the barbarism that used to occur with armed attacks on refugee camps. We must go beyond our sorrow and regret to supporting measures to stop these unspeakable crimes against humanity.

Mr. Chairman,  
Humanitarian workers are the indispensable force for good - and the force that lacks protection. The recent regrettable departure of MSF from Afghanistan is the latest indication of how dangerous humanitarian work has become. The protection of our brave and tough humanitarian workers, while keeping them on the job, is the major challenge of our times. I salute you, the staff of UNHCR and those who work with you, for your continued willingness to face this challenge.

### **Text: U.S. Committed to Humane Treatment of Detainees in War on Terror**

*Defense Department's Waxman addresses OSCE human rights meeting*

A U.S. Department of Defense official responsible for treatment of detainees in the war on terrorism told a human rights conference October 5 that the United States still stands by its commitments and fundamental principles, including the Geneva Conventions and the Convention Against Torture.

"Our Armed Forces will treat all detainees humanely and not subject them to physical or mental abuse, or cruel

treatment," said Matthew Waxman, the deputy assistant secretary of Defense for detainee affairs.

Addressing the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Human Rights Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, Poland, Waxman provided an overview of what the United States is doing to prevent abuses before they occur, not only in Iraq, but also in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay.

He said the questioning of enemy combatants is critical to saving innocent civilian lives and has contributed to thwarting terrorist attacks worldwide, but the United States "will not compromise our core values and our commitment to the rule of law."

"All incidents of detainee abuse are terrible, regardless of where they take place," Waxman said. "However, the actions that were depicted at Abu Ghraib [in Iraq] were not the result of U.S. policy, they were not condoned by Department of Defense officials, and they will not be tolerated."

He said the United States has responded to the abuses at Abu Ghraib prison and elsewhere by conducting vigorous and transparent investigations, holding individual wrongdoers accountable, and improving policy and controls to prevent future incidents of abuse.

"As a result of the broad investigations and focused inquiries into specific allegations," Waxman said, "already over 40 individuals have been referred for court martial and dozens of others have been disciplined, removed from command, or separated from the Armed Forces."

He said the Defense Department has instituted new policies and procedures for responding to reports of abuse from the International Committee of the Red Cross and for investigating the death of any detainee in the custody of U.S. Armed Forces.

"The U.S. Army has revised regulations on detainee operations; developed clearer lines of responsibility between Military Police and Military Intelligence; established an executive agent for detainee operations, improved detention facilities, and developed detainee operations plans that address everything from policy and doctrine to training and facilities," Waxman said.

"We share the OSCE's dedication to 'ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to abide by the rule of law, to promote principles of democracy while working to build, strengthen and protect democratic

institutions, as well as promote tolerance throughout society,'" he said.

The 12th annual OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting opened October 4 in Warsaw and will run until October 15. The meeting, which brings government officials together with experts and activists from non-governmental organizations, reviews the fulfillment of OSCE member states' commitments to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Following is the text of Waxman's remarks as provided by the U.S. Mission to the OSCE:

October 5, 2004

#### STATEMENT ON HUMANE TREATMENT OF DETAINEES IN THE ONGOING WAR ON TERRORISM

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this international forum. Although this is my first time to attend this conference, I have heard many good things about your dedication and concerns. For this reason, I welcomed and looked forward to this opportunity.

The United States has always been, and remains today, one of the world's staunchest advocates for freedom and human rights.

It is important to note that even today, in light of how global terrorism fundamentally altered our world, - all of our worlds - that America still stands by its commitments and fundamental principles. Despite the destructive nature of terrorists and their malicious intent, the U.S. remains unshakenly committed to our treaty obligations, including the Geneva Conventions and the Convention Against Torture, our domestic laws, and respected international standards. Indeed, America was a country founded on values of democracy, the rule of law, and individual human rights. Everything we do rests on that commitment. We uphold the principles of individual liberty and freedom not just for ourselves, but for all nations.

The terrorists who attack us profess allegiance to no country, hide in the shadows, and deliberately target innocents - from Spain to Indonesia, from Kenya to Iraq, Russia, Turkey, and the United States. Terrorists are willing to use any means necessary to accomplish their goals. And although this enemy does not fight according to the accepted law of war, demonstrated by kidnappings and beheadings, the U.S. Government remains steadfastly

committed to upholding the Geneva Conventions and the values and principles that make us strong.

What does that mean?

For one thing, it means that our Armed Forces will treat all detainees humanely and not subject them to physical or mental abuse, or cruel treatment.

During my time here I would like to share with you what the United States, and specifically the Department of Defense, is doing to ensure adherence to this policy and to prevent abuses before they occur.

And although it's important to talk specifically about Abu Ghraib, I want to highlight how we handle all the detainees we hold worldwide - in Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay and Iraq - noting that each of these locations presents us with a different set of circumstances and challenges.

For example, in Afghanistan - we are still fighting a war, and the enemy combatants we capture there may provide information that can be used to save lives, stabilize the government, and identify other terrorists and their support networks.

In Iraq - we're helping an interim government committed to the transition to a free and democratic Iraq against enemies seeking to destabilize Iraq's political future through violence and to disrupt the efforts of everyday Iraqis in trying to lead a normal life.

In Guantanamo - we continue to hold some of the most dangerous enemy combatants captured in the Global War on Terror. Every day our efforts are helping us to understand and learn about the global terrorist network. This information continues to contribute to our success in thwarting terrorist attacks worldwide. The need to question enemy combatants remains critical to saving innocent civilian lives. But as I have already noted, we will not compromise our core values and our commitment to the rule of law.

A common thread in all of these locations is our sustained commitment to humane treatment of detainees. Detention operations are designed to reduce the threat and number of lives lost. Does that mean we're immune to problems? Or that a tragic mistake, a violation of law, or a breakdown in discipline will not occur? Unfortunately, no.

All incidents of detainee abuse are terrible, regardless of where they take place. However, the actions that were depicted at Abu Ghraib were not the result of U.S. policy,

they were not condoned by Department of Defense officials, and they will not be tolerated.

While we are ashamed of the abuses at Abu Ghraib and elsewhere, this history also is about a chain of command that followed procedures appropriately, soldiers who brought wrongdoing to light, and investigators who continue working to bring those who commit misconduct to justice. When mistakes occur, when errors in judgment are made, when misconduct and transgressions of the law occur, we take action.

One of the differences that sets America apart from our enemies in the Global War on Terror is how we respond to wrongdoing such as detainee abuse. We do not hide it from the world; we do not sweep it under the carpet; we do not turn a blind eye. Why? Because we do not condone or tolerate it.

What we do is address it head on by:

1. conducting vigorous and transparent investigations,
2. holding individual wrongdoers accountable based on a thorough review of all the facts, and
3. learning from our experience (whether good or bad), and improving our policy and controls to prevent the possibility of future incidents.

Abu Ghraib is a good example of those processes put into action and in the remainder of my time I want to discuss all three of them.

It is important to remember that we had begun the process of assessing detainee operations, investigating allegations of abuse, and implementing change at Abu Ghraib well before the media began focusing on detainee abuse. Both before and after the public disclosure of these abuses, the Department of Defense pursued swift and thorough investigations of problems.

Many of the most horrible abuses at Abu Ghraib were brought to light on January 14, 2004 by an Army soldier who found photographic evidence of the abuse and provided it to the Army's Criminal Investigation Division. That soldier recognized the wrongdoing for what it was - wrong and contrary to the nation's and the U.S. Armed Forces' values. He notified his superiors. This soldier is a credit to the vast majority of U.S. service members who day in and day out act in a professional and ethical manner in service to their country.

In response, a criminal investigation was initiated that same day. So far, that investigation into abuse at Abu Ghraib has led to criminal charges against several soldiers, a variety of other disciplinary actions against others, and numerous

other inquiries into detention operations. U.S. Central Command publicly announced the probe into allegations of detainee abuse at Abu Ghraib on January 16, 2004, and a major television network first reported on those charges on January 20th, 2004.

As Secretary Rumsfeld has said: "One of the great strengths of our nation is its ability to recognize failures, deal with them, and to strive to make things better. Indeed, the openness with which these problems are being dealt is one of the strengths of our free society. ...Which is why it is so important that we investigate them publicly and openly and hold people accountable in similar fashion. And that is exactly what we are doing."

Four months after the Department of Defense's public announcement, the horrible photos that we have all seen were aired on another television network. By that time, however, the Department of Defense was already engaged in multiple criminal investigations and reviews of our detention processes. The Department of Defense did not attempt to squelch the issue, as some have suggested.

Instead, we have conducted:

- 8 major reviews, inspections and investigations,
- based on 950 individual interviews and
- produced 15,000 pages or documents.

As a result of the broad investigations and focused inquiries into specific allegations, already over 40 individuals have been referred for court martial and dozens of others have been disciplined, removed from command or separated from the Armed Forces.

While some of us may be frustrated by the seemingly slow criminal and administrative processes, their virtue is that they are durable, transparent and fair. It is important that we go where the facts lead us.

But we will not stop there. Our response to abuse - investigation and holding individuals accountable - is incomplete until we take those lessons, learn from them, and use them to improve future policy and procedures.

The Department is always looking to do better - to improve our detention operations. For this reason, within the Department, my job and the office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Detainee Affairs was established. Already, among other ongoing efforts:

- we have new policies with regard to procedures for responding to reports from the International Committee of the Red Cross, for investigating the death of any detainee in the custody of U.S. Armed Forces, and

- also initiated a department-wide review of detainee-related policy directives has been initiated.

During the past year, the U.S. Army has revised regulations on detainee operations; developed clearer lines of responsibility between Military Police and Military Intelligence; established an executive agent for detainee operations, improved detention facilities, and developed detainee operations plans that address everything from policy and doctrine to training and facilities.

We are realigning our resources to reflect our goals and the reality of what is likely to be a long war against terrorism. Organizational changes are being made to reflect our long-term focus on detainee issues.

We share the OSCE's dedication to "ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to abide by the rule of law, to promote principles of democracy while working to build, strengthen and protect democratic institutions, as well as promote tolerance throughout society."

This annual discussion and exchange of information is important in promoting understanding and open dialogue on our shared global challenges. The only way to defeat this enemy of freedom and human rights is for all of us to stand and work together.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you today. I will now be happy to respond to your questions.

### **Text: Counterfeiting, Organized Piracy Targeted by U.S. Agencies**

*Initiative includes annual "name and shame" list, USTR Zoellick says*

The Bush administration is moving to crack down on trade in counterfeit and pirated goods, which global authorities say now accounts for as much as 7 percent of world trade.

At an October 4 briefing in Washington, Commerce Secretary Don Evans and other senior officials outlined details of the new Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy (STOP).

The plan includes immediate steps to be taken by U.S. agencies, legal and administrative changes planned for the near future and an intensified U.S. effort to build anti-counterfeiting coalitions with governments and private sectors overseas, the officials said.

"Just as geography no longer limits criminal activity, law enforcement will not be deterred by the boundaries of our nations. We must cooperate with those around the world," Attorney General John Ashcroft said.

Products affected by piracy and counterfeiting range from automobile and aircraft parts to cigarettes, batteries, shampoo, pharmaceuticals, compact disks (CDs) and digital versatile disks (DVDs).

The United States will seek to update its Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition Treaties with trading partners to improve enforcement of crimes against intellectual property rights (IPR) and to break up the large criminal organizations that are involved in widespread sales of pirated products, Ashcroft said.

The administration plans to work with Congress to overhaul U.S. IPR laws to close loopholes and toughen penalties for people convicted of piracy, he added. Under the plan, the United States will publish for the first time an annual list of foreign companies known to be producing or trafficking in fakes.

"We're going to make life more onerous for our target firms, consistent with our international obligations," U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick said.

He said his office would use its annual Special 301 Report, which identifies and ranks foreign countries that fail to provide effective IPR protection, "to name and shame overseas companies that are producing and trafficking in fakes." The next Special 301 Report is scheduled for April 2005.

At the border, the initiative includes plans to improve the ability of customs officials to keep fake goods from entering the United States.

Asa Hutchinson, under secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, said the department expects to have in place by the end of 2004 models of rogue companies that traffic in pirated or counterfeit goods and state-of-the-art analytical techniques that will help officials target companies that fit the profile.

Zoellick said the explosion in counterfeiting and piracy in recent years is largely due to the ease of downloading information from the Internet and now affects even small manufacturers.

Following is a USTR news release on the STOP initiative:

October 4, 2004

*U.S. Announces Major New Initiative to Fight Global Trade in Fakes*

*STOP! Initiative to Help Businesses Enforce their Rights, Stop Fakes at Borders, Dismantle Criminal Enterprises & Build an International Coalition Against Piracy and Counterfeiting*

WASHINGTON - U.S. Trade Representative Robert B. Zoellick joined colleagues from the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and Homeland Security today to announce a major new government-wide initiative, the Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy (STOP!), to fight billions dollars in global trade in pirated and counterfeit goods that cheat American innovators and manufacturers, hurt the U.S. economy and endanger consumers worldwide.

"Trade in fake goods is growing, cheating American innovators and producers out of billions of dollars and threatening consumers all over the world with low quality and often unsafe products. This problem crosses many different jurisdictions, laws and countries, and the STOP initiative provides a coordinated and effective answer," said Zoellick.

"The message to the IPR pirates and counterfeiters is simple -- we will do everything we can to make their life miserable. We will stop their products at our border; we will name and shame your company; we will ratchet up the penalties; and we will coordinate with our trading partners to prevent third-country trafficking."

From familiar products such as CDs and DVDs to clothing, brake pads and even automobiles, trade in fakes has been growing not only with the United States but also between other countries, thereby escaping the reach of U.S. law enforcement efforts. STOP! is broad in scope and brings a new approach, new tools and new pressure the bear through a coordinated effort from the federal government, the private sector and America's international trading partners. The STOP! initiative is the culmination of efforts over the last year to build on the Administration's successful efforts to combat piracy and counterfeiting around the world.

Making the announcement were Commerce Secretary Don Evans, U.S. Trade Representative Robert B. Zoellick, Attorney General John Ashcroft, and Under-Secretary of Homeland Security Asa Hutchinson.

In late 2003, USTR identified the evolution and growth of piracy and counterfeiting in the global economy as a top priority and engaged with agencies across the federal government and trading partners around the world to develop a new approach and solutions.

Key elements of the STOP! initiative include:

-- Helping and empowering American businesses, inventors and innovators, particularly small businesses, secure and enforce their rights in overseas markets;

-- Ensuring consumer safety by securing America's borders and marketplace from fakes;

-- Raising the stakes and making life more onerous for intellectual property thieves through new customs methods that increase costs to violators far beyond seizing shipments and by naming and shaming global pirates and counterfeiters who are producing and trafficking in fakes;

-- Developing a "No Trade in Fakes" program in cooperation with the private sector to ensure that global supply chains are free of infringing goods;

-- Working to dismantle criminal enterprises that steal intellectual property using all appropriate criminal laws, and overhauling, updating and modernizing U.S. intellectual property statutes; and

-- Joining forces with like-minded trading partners concerned about the growing global IPR piracy problem, such as the European Commission, Japan, the United Kingdom and France who have all recently launched initiatives.

In his remarks, Zoellick pointed to a specific and recent case involving ABRO, an Indiana exporter of glue and other products, that highlights this growing problem and how USTR effectively worked to solve it.

A Chinese firm in Hunan Province was counterfeiting ABRO adhesives using identical packaging bearing the company's name and trademarks. USTR sought resolution of this case and others at the highest levels. Just last month, ABRO secured an important victory when the Chinese Trademark Bureau stripped the Hunan counterfeiter of any right to use ABRO's trademarks.

Background:

Global intellectual property rights (IPR) theft and trade in fakes have grown to unprecedented levels, threatening many American businesses, innovators and manufacturers that depend on strong IPR enforcement for their

competitiveness. Interpol estimates that seven percent of global trade now involves counterfeited goods. Trade in fakes is more than just a commercial or copyright problem. Consumer safety worldwide is threatened when cheap and unregulated goods are used. For example, car windshields that purport to be shatterproof may in fact shatter, endangering occupants involved in accidents.

Though not alone, China has emerged as a leading source of pirated and counterfeit goods. The United States is pressing China to fully implement and effectively enforce its WTO [World Trade Organization] IPR [Intellectual Property Rights] obligations. In April 2004, China committed to subject the full array of piracy and counterfeiting operations to criminal prosecution, and to target production facilities and sales of fakes. China also agreed to strengthen its border enforcement. Last month, USTR initiated the first ever systematic review of China's intellectual property enforcement regime, including soliciting evidence from U.S. businesses.

Historically the United States has played a key role internationally in developing, extending and supporting intellectual property rights, through multi-lateral and bilateral treaties. Throughout the world, the United States aggressively works to improve IPR protections and enforcement using all available tools. In addition to cooperatively working with trading partners, the United States has also acted forcefully when other countries have failed to protect IPR. For example, the United States imposed \$75 million in trade sanctions on Ukraine, which are still in effect, and removed \$250 million in preferential access for Argentina.

Additionally, Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) negotiated by the United States are a prime example of how USTR synchronizes trade negotiations with ongoing enforcement efforts. These FTAs contain the highest level of IPR protection of any international agreements in the world, upgrade our trading partners' domestic laws for the modern age, and integrate law enforcement efforts.

Since 2000, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency has increased IPR seizures by 100 percent. This year, CBP is setting a record pace with increased in seizures (5,500) and value (\$90 million).

### **Text: Lawmaker Urges Support of Proposed North Korean Human Rights Act**

*Measure calls for regional dialogue, special envoy on human rights in N. Korea*

Rep. James A. Leach, chairman of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, urged the full House of Representatives to pass legislation that would help promote human rights in North Korea.

In remarks delivered on the House floor October 4, the Republican congressman from Iowa urged his colleagues to support H.R. 4011, the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004. The bill, approved unanimously by the U.S. Senate last week, calls for the United States to explore the possibility of a regional dialogue on human rights in North Korea and the appointment of a special envoy on human rights in North Korea within the State Department.

The bill also would enhance the discretion of the Executive Branch by recasting conditions on assistance to the North Korean government as a sense of Congress provision.

According to Leach, this bipartisan legislation "aims to promote international cooperation on human rights and refugee protection, and increased transparency in the provision of humanitarian assistance to the people of North Korea."

The bill would enhance funds for programs to promote human rights, democracy, rule of law, a market economy and freedom of information. It also authorizes increased funding for assistance to North Koreans outside of North Korea, including refugees, orphans and trafficking victims.

Leach emphasized that the legislation is "a purely humanitarian endeavor; there are no hidden agendas related to geo-strategic concerns and strategies."

Quoting the House International Relations Committee's report on the bill, Leach said that, although H.R. 4011 "highlights numerous egregious abuses, the [Congress] remains willing to recognize progress in the future, and hopes for such an opportunity."

The bill also would make clear that the United States and the international community are prepared "to help defray the costs associated with the North Korean migrant presence when China begins fulfilling its obligations as a party to the 1951 U.N. Refugee Convention," the congressman said.

Acknowledging the suffering of millions of North Koreans under the Pyongyang regime, Leach said H.R. 4011 is "a

responsible, creative approach to an ongoing human tragedy."

Following is the text of Leach's remarks, as provided by his office:

Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4011, the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004. As approved unanimously by the Senate last week, the bill contains three modest changes from the text passed by this body in July. First, it expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should explore the possibility of a regional dialogue on human rights in North Korea. Second, it mandates the appointment of a special envoy on human rights in North Korea within the State Department. Finally, it enhances the discretion of the Executive Branch by recasting conditions on assistance to the North Korean government as a sense of Congress provision. I deeply appreciate the efforts of the Senate to ensure that the 108th Congress speaks with a unanimous, bipartisan voice on these issues of shared concern. In this connection, I would like to express my gratitude to Senators Brownback, Bayh, Lugar, and Biden, and their capable staff members.

During the past two and a half years, the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific has received testimony from a number of North Koreans who have survived some of the gravest rigors of the human condition. Their accounts buttress the growing awareness that the people of North Korea have endured some of the most acute humanitarian traumas of our time.

Inside North Korea, they suffer at the hands of a totalitarian dynasty that permits no dissent and strictly curtails freedoms of speech, press, religion, and assembly. The regime maintains a brutal system of prison camps that house an estimated 200,000 political inmates who are subjected to slave labor, torture, and even lethal chemical experimentation. Since the collapse of the centralized agricultural system in the 1990s, more than 2,000,000 North Koreans are estimated to have died of starvation.

North Koreans outside of North Korea are also uniquely vulnerable. Many thousands are hiding inside China, which currently refuses to allow the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to evaluate and identify genuine refugees among the North Korean migrant population. China forcibly returns North Koreans to North Korea, where they routinely face imprisonment and torture, and sometimes execution. Inside China, North Korean women

and girls are particularly vulnerable to trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Provoked by these crises, this broadly bipartisan legislation aims to promote international cooperation on human rights and refugee protection, and increased transparency in the provision of humanitarian assistance to the people of North Korea.

On the human rights front, this bill underscores the importance of human rights issues in future negotiations with North Korea. It authorizes funds for programs to promote human rights, democracy, rule of law, a market economy, and freedom of information. It also urges additional North Korea-specific attention by appropriate UN human rights authorities.

On the humanitarian front, the bill authorizes increased funding for assistance to North Koreans outside of North Korea, including refugees, orphans, and trafficking victims. It endorses, but also seeks greater transparency for, the delivery of U.S. humanitarian aid inside North Korea. Finally, it outlines human rights and humanitarian principles that should govern future, direct aid to the North Korean government.

In terms of refugee protection, the bill requires a formal clarification of U.S. policy and affirms the eligibility of North Koreans to seek protection as refugees under U.S. law. It also urges the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to use all available means to gain access to North Koreans in China. Although the principal responsibility for North Korean refugee resettlement naturally falls to the Government of South Korea, the United States should play a leadership role in focusing international attention on the plight of these refugees and formulating shared international solutions to their profound humanitarian dilemma.

I want to remove any misapprehension that overseas audiences may have about the intent, content, or motives behind this bill. Unequivocally I would state: This legislation is a purely humanitarian endeavor; there are no hidden agendas related to geo-strategic concerns and strategies. Indeed, the Committee of jurisdiction is deeply indebted to the concerns expressed by thousands of American citizens of Korean descent, who are convinced that for too long the international community has largely ignored the plight of their brethren in the North. As explained in the Report of the Committee on International Relations: "H.R. 4011 is motivated by a genuine desire for improvements in human rights, refugee protection, and humanitarian transparency. It is not a pretext for a hidden strategy to provoke regime collapse or to seek collateral

advantage in ongoing strategic negotiations. While the legislation highlights numerous egregious abuses, the [Congress] remains willing to recognize progress in the future, and hopes for such an opportunity."

Similarly, with regard to China, this bill is not solely critical, it is also aspirational. It makes clear that the United States and the international community stand ready to provide more assistance to help defray the costs associated with the North Korean migrant presence when China begins fulfilling its obligations as a party to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention. We genuinely hope for that opportunity.

I would like to thank my colleagues for their strong, bipartisan endorsement of this bill. I also would like to thank the many nongovernmental and civic organizations who have informed and supported this legislation. In this regard, the pivotal effort of the North Korea Freedom Coalition -- a nonpartisan group of more than 40 NGOs -- deserves particular mention. Finally, I would like to note again the contributions of Senator Sam Brownback, whose leadership in the other body has inspired House action on these issues. And in this body, the attention and insight of Representatives Lantos, Faleomavaega, Berman, Ackerman, and Wexler on the Democratic side, and Representatives Cox, Royce, and Chris Smith on this side of the aisle are deeply appreciated.

H.R. 4011 is a responsible, creative approach to an ongoing human tragedy, and deserves our unanimous support. I reserve the balance of my time.

(Preceding items distributed by the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)