

□ 2140

Now, the reason we're concerned about Iran's activities here in proliferation is because Iran announces they want to kill us. That tends to get our attention. And as a consequence, we begin to think, what could we do to sanction their central bank in order to make it very, very difficult for them to proceed down this road?

Well, let's go back for a minute to this North Korea story, remembering already that we've seen North Korea, proliferate and attempt to give nuclear capability to Syria. We've seen North Korea proliferate to Iran and Pakistan with their missile capabilities. And the story reported that North Korea is moving ahead to build its first road mobile intercontinental ballistic missile. And of course, mobile missiles are very difficult to find. You can't locate them. They're made to be hidden.

And with these developments, the Secretary of Defense said North Korea is in the process of becoming a direct threat to the United States. That's former Secretary of Defense Gates.

No one who has closely watched North Korea is surprised by these developments. And because we haven't seriously sanctioned North Korea in the way of—I mean, we tried sanctioning the Bank of Delta Asia for a short period of time and, frankly, it worked, and then we lifted those sanctions.

I want you to think about this. Pyongyang builds a nuclear reactor in Syria, no real consequences. North Korea unveils an advanced uranium enrichment plant, no real consequences. Kim Jong-Il torpedoes a South Korean ship, no real consequences.

Fully implementing this legislation could impose costs on North Korea or on Iran. But just as with the previous legislation, the administration isn't aggressively confronting this North Korean threat.

Now, I'm going to share with you my concern over all of this. If history is a guide, we'll pass these bills, we'll take them up tomorrow. They'll pass out of the House by tremendous margins. Then we'll wait. We'll wait for the other body to act. Then the Obama administration will press for these sanctions to be scaled back, as it continues to do. And this is what happened last Congress, and my concern is that that is what happens here now. We've got to push this now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2105, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further pro-

ceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### CALLING FOR REPATRIATION OF POWMIAS AND ABDUCTEES FROM KOREAN WAR

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 376) calling for the repatriation of POWMIAs and abductees from the Korean War, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

##### H. RES. 376

Whereas 61 years have passed since communist North Korea invaded the Republic of Korea, thereby initiating the Korean War on June 25, 1950;

Whereas during the Korean War, nearly 1.8 million members of the United States Armed Forces served in theater along with the forces of the Republic of Korea and 20 other Allied nations under the United Nations Command to defend freedom and democracy in the Korean Peninsula;

Whereas 58 years have passed after the signing of the ceasefire agreement at Panmunjom on July 27, 1953, and the peninsula still technically remains in a state of war;

Whereas talks for a peace treaty began on July 10, 1951, but were prolonged for two years due to disagreement between the United Nations and North Korea regarding the repatriation of prisoners of war (POWs);

Whereas the repatriation of Korean War POWs did not begin until September 4, 1953, at Freedom Village, Panmunjom;

Whereas the majority of surviving United Nations POWs were repatriated or turned over to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission in accordance with Section 3 of the Armistice Agreement, but the United Nations Command noted a significant discrepancy between the Command's estimate of POWs and the number given by North Korea;

Whereas the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office of the Department of Defense (DPMO) lists more than 8,000 members of the United States Armed Forces as POWs or missing in action who are unaccounted for from the Korean War, including an estimated 5,500 in North Korea;

Whereas many South Korean POWs were never reported as POWs during the negotiations, and it is estimated as many as 73,000 South Korean POWs were not repatriated;

Whereas the Joint Field Activities conducted by the United States between 1996 and 2005 yielded over 220 sets of remains that are still being processed for identification at Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action Accounting Command in Hawaii;

Whereas the United States recovery operations in North Korea were suspended on May 25, 2005, because of disagreements over communications facilities;

Whereas North Korea has consistently refused to discuss the POW issue, and the exact number of South Korean POWs who were detained in North Korea after the war is unknown, as is the number of those still alive in North Korea;

Whereas approximately 100,000 South Korean civilians (political leaders, public employees, lawyers, journalists, scholars, farmers, etc.) were forcibly abducted by the North Korean Army during the Korean War, but North Korea has neither admitted the abductions occurred nor accounted for or repatriated the civilians;

Whereas many young South Korean men were forcibly conscripted into the North Korean Army during the Korean War;

Whereas North Korea's abduction of South Korean civilians was carried out under a well-planned scheme to make up the shortage of North Korea's own needed manpower, and to communize South Korea;

Whereas during the Korean War Armistice Commission Conference, the United Nations Command, led by the United States, negotiated strongly to seek that South Korean civilians abducted by North Korea be exchanged for Communist POWs held by the United Nations;

Whereas North Korea persistently delayed in POW/civilian internee negotiations, refusing to acknowledge that they had committed a war crime of civilian abduction, with a result that in the armistice talks Korean War abductees were re-classified "displaced persons" and, consequently, not a single person among them has been able to return home;

Whereas the South Korean families of the civilians abducted by North Korea six decades ago have endured extreme pain and suffering due to the prolonged separation and due to the knowledge that North Korea has neither admitted that the abductions occurred nor accounted for or repatriated these civilians;

Whereas former South Korean POWs and abductees who escaped from North Korea have provided valuable and credible information on sightings of American and South Korean POWs in concentration camps;

Whereas tens of thousands of friends and families of the POWMIAs and abductees from the Korean War, including the National Alliance of POW/MIA Families, POW/MIA Freedom Fighters, the Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POWMIAs, the International Korean War Memorial Foundation POW Affairs Committee, Rolling Thunder, Inc., the Korean War Abductees Family Union, the Korea National Red Cross, World Veterans Federation, and the National Assembly of Republic of Korea, have called for full accounting of the POWMIAs and abductees by North Korea; and

Whereas July 27, 2011, is the National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, which is a day of remembrance and recognition of Korean War veterans and those persons who never returned home from the Korean War: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes that there are South Korean prisoners of war (POWs) and civilian abductees from the Korean War who are still alive in North Korea and want to be repatriated;

(2) takes note of the U.S.-North Korean agreement of October 20, 2011, on resuming operations to search for and recover remains of American POWMIAs and calls upon the United States Government to continue to explore the possibility that there could be American POWMIAs still alive inside North Korea;

(3) recommends that the United States and South Korean Governments jointly investigate reports of sightings of American POWMIAs;

(4) encourages North Korea to repatriate any American and South Korean POWs to their home countries to reunite with their families under the International Humanitarian Law set forth in the Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of Prisoners of War;

(5) calls upon North Korea to admit to the abduction of more than 100,000 South Korean civilians and reveal the status of the abductees; and

(6) calls upon North Korea to agree to the family reunions and immediate repatriation

of the abductees under the International Humanitarian Law set forth in the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am so pleased to rise in strong support of House Resolution 376, calling for the repatriation of POWs, MIAs, and abductees from the Korean War. It is fitting that this resolution was introduced by one of the House's own Korean war vets, Congressman CHARLIE RANGEL. He hasn't had a bad day since.

Mr. RANGEL received a Purple Heart for the wounds he received in fighting his way out of an ambush by Chinese forces in subzero temperatures in the early months of the Korean War. Mr. RANGEL also received a Bronze Star for his valor.

Mr. RANGEL shares this with Members SAM JOHNSON, HOWARD COBLE, and JOHN CONYERS, Korean veterans all, a personal knowledge of how crucial this resolution is in addressing unresolved issues from that long ago conflict.

Another person who understands the critical importance of this resolution is the President of the Korean War Abductees Families Union, who flew almost halfway across the globe from Seoul, Korea to be here and witness the consideration of this resolution on the House floor. Ms. Lee was a mere 18-month-old baby when her father was taken away by the North Koreans, not to be seen again for the past 6 decades.

Mr. Speaker, General MacArthur, returning from the Korean front in 1951, famously told the U.S. Congress and the American people that "old soldiers never die, they just fade away." How sadly ironic that some of the old soldiers of the Korean conflict in which General MacArthur served have indeed faded away into a North Korean gulag.

But through this resolution, we clearly demonstrate that these old soldiers will not be allowed to just fade away into the fog of war. This resolution reminds us that 8,000 Americans missing in action in Korea remain unaccounted for, and that an estimated 73,000 South Korean POWs were not repatriated and were held in North Korea against their will.

In addition, approximately 100,000 South Korean citizens were forcibly ab-

ducted by North Korea during the Korean conflict.

The recent U.S.-North Korea agreement to resume the search for the remains of an estimated 5,500 U.S. soldiers lost inside North Korea is welcomed by American families, those who have endured 60 years of unresolved grief over the loss of their loved ones.

It is our hope that the procedures for payment of the cost of the MIA recovery by our Department of Defense are more transparent than the delivery of suitcases full of dollars to North Korean generals, as was done in the past.

We have also the highest respect for the Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action Accounting Command in Hawaii, which processes our soldiers' remains once they make that final journey home from Korea. I am certain that those who seek to identify remains are aware of Ronald Reagan's famous adage, "trust, but verify."

And this applies doubly to North Korea. Let us not forget that only a few years ago, Pyongyang provided our Japanese allies with the purported remains of a 13-year old schoolgirl abducted to North Korea many years before, which turned out to be bogus.

We do not want to see any of our POW/MIA families so cruelly tricked by North Korea. Pyongyang must come clean on its past armistice violations and war crimes by returning any remaining POW and MIA remains and abductees to their waiting loved ones.

By adopting this important resolution, the House will not only recognize the valor of those who served during the Korean War, like Mr. RANGEL before us, but will honor those who serve today on the Cold War's last frontier along the DMZ.

I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support this important resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

I am pleased to rise in strong support of House Resolution 376, "Calling for the repatriation of POW/MIAs and abductees from the Korean War."

It is fitting that this resolution was introduced by one of the House's own Korean War veterans, Congressman CHARLES RANGEL.

Mr. RANGEL received a purple heart for the wounds he received in fighting his way out of an ambush by Chinese forces in subzero temperatures in the early months of the Korean War.

Mr. RANGEL also received a bronze star for his valor.

Mr. RANGEL shares with Members SAM JOHNSON, HOWARD COBLE, and JOHN CONYERS, Korean War veterans all, a personal knowledge of how crucial this resolution is in addressing unresolved issues from that long-ago conflict. Another person who understands the critical importance of this resolution is Miss Lee Mi-il, President of the Korean War Abductee Families Union, who flew almost halfway across the globe from Seoul, Korea to be here and witness the consideration of this resolution on the House Floor.

Miss Lee has spent the last decade working on the abduction issue as chronicled in a recent New York Times article.

She was a mere eighteen month-old baby when her father was taken away by the North Koreans, not to be seen again for the past six decades.

Miss Lee's 89 year-old mother is still waiting at the family home for the return of her long-missing husband.

As the North Korean famine in the mid-nineties led to a breakdown of control both inside North Korea and along the Chinese border, the world was shocked by the sudden emergence of a number of old men who wandered into China.

These were old South Korean soldiers, allies of the United States, held secretly and against their wills for decades, in violation of the Armistice, as virtual slaves in North Korean coal mines.

General MacArthur, returning from the Korean front in 1951 famously told the U.S. Congress and the American people that "old soldiers never die, they just fade away."

How sadly ironic that some of the old soldiers of that Korean conflict in which General MacArthur served have indeed faded away—into a North Korean gulag.

And so they became the forgotten old soldiers of that conflict long labeled "the forgotten war."

We must be completely assured by the continued efforts of our government and our allies that there is not one old American soldier among these South Korean POWs still captive bound in the North Korean gulag!

By this resolution we clearly demonstrate that these old soldiers will not be allowed to just fade away into the fog of war.

This resolution reminds us that 8,000 American MIAs from Korea remain unaccounted for and that an estimated 73,000 South Korean POWs were not repatriated and were held in North Korea against their wills.

In addition, approximately one hundred thousand South Korean citizens were forcibly abducted by North Korea during the Korean conflict.

This forced wartime abduction of civilians by North Korea represents a crime for which Pyongyang must both accept responsibility and make restitution, including providing for the safe return of all surviving victims to their homes.

The recent U.S.-North Korea agreement to resume the search for the remains of an estimated 5,500 U.S. soldiers lost inside North Korea is welcomed by the American families who have endured sixty years of unresolved grief over the loss of their loved ones.

It is our hope that the procedures for payment of the costs of MIA recovery by our Department of Defense are more transparent than the delivery of suitcases full of dollars to North Korean generals as was done in the past.

We also have the highest respect for the Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action Accounting Command in Hawaii which processes our soldiers' remains once they make the final journey home from Korea.

I am certain that those who seek to identify remains are aware of Ronald Reagan's famous adage "trust but verify."

This applies doubly to North Korea.

Let us not forget that only a few years ago Pyongyang provided our Japanese allies with the purported remains of a thirteen year-old school girl abducted to North Korea many years before.

This girl's family faced the additional pain of being victimized by North Korea a second time when Japanese forensic experts concluded that those remains were bogus.

We do not want to see any of our POW/MIA families so cruelly tricked by North Korea!

Pyeongyang must come clean on its past Armistice violations and war crimes by returning any remaining POWs, MIA remains and abductees to their waiting loved ones!

By adopting this resolution, the House will not only recognize the valor of those who served during the Korean War but will honor those who serve today on the Cold War's last frontier along the DMZ.

I strongly urge all my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 376, calling for the repatriation of POWs, MIAs, and abductees from the Korean War.

I am going to yield 5 minutes to the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), himself a Korean War veteran, as our chairman has mentioned, to open the debate on this issue.

(Mr. RANGEL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

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Mr. RANGEL. Let me thank so much for the sensitivity and support that the gentlelady from Florida and chairman of this committee, for the strong support and the friendship that you've extended not only to me but to the people that you have felt their pain even though the hostilities are over, and the courtesy that Ranking Member BERMAN has given in allowing me to open the discussion on this important debate.

As most of you know, in 1950 the Communist North Koreans invaded South Korea, crossing a line that Russia and the United States had settled in what they called the 38th Parallel. Well, you can separate a geographic area, but you cannot separate a people that have the same background, the same language, and the same culture.

Nor can you engage in a war and insist that you are not going to abide by the international obligations that even in those types of hostilities most nations abide by. We have had close to 2 million American soldiers, men and women, in Korea with allies and friends in the United Nations to stop this hostile communist unwarranted takeover of South Korea. In that war over 50,000 Americans were killed; double that number were wounded; and we had thousands of people that were just taken as prisoners of war, or they were missing in action.

There was a time that the regime in North Korea was helping the State Department and the United States in finding where these bodies are located and with some success. When you lose a loved one, at some point in time it has to come to closure, and when you know that the people could have these bodies and for evil intent not respond

to the basic human needs of those who suffered so much, it seems to me that this Congress and the executive branch should insist that a part of our priorities in dealing with North Korea is that they allow and cooperate with us in finding the remains of those people who fought for this great country and because their families and their friends have suffered so much pain.

As it relates to the South Koreans, they even sacrificed more lives. They were not hostile. They were not bothering anybody when this hostility came to such an extent that the whole world, almost, condemned it. And of course the Second Infantry Division that I served in in 1950 was the first to lead the United States and face the enemy and joining with our allies we were able to drive them to the North Korean border with China.

As most of you know, the Chinese entered with hundreds of thousands of people, tens of thousands of volunteers, and we found that many lives were lost.

In the course of this, South Koreans that were not in North Korea, they were in the northern part of their country. South Koreans that were captured, South Koreans that fought, South Koreans that were professors, workmen and what-not, were captured, held hostage and the worst of all, separated from their families and friends.

As I said, you can politically separate a country. You can draw an imaginary line on the map, but the truth of the matter is that the South Koreans have suffered long enough. They have really become our friends. They have become the sentinel of democracy in this part of the world. They have become one of our strongest trading partners, and we never have to ask them for help. They're always there.

When Korea is in trouble, we will be there for them; when America is in trouble, we don't have to call on South Korea.

So I want to thank the committee members and this Congress and this Nation not to forget our friends, and especially not to forget those who still mourn those who gave up their lives for their great countries, both for South Korea and for the United States of America. And we hope that through this effort, the State Department will resume looking for the Americans who put themselves in harm's way and their families have no knowledge where they are.

We would like to thank Ms. LEE and all of the people who have come here to convince us that these families have to be reunited, and America will see that it is done. I thank you for the courtesy.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of House Resolution 376, calling for the repatriation of POWs, MIAs, and abductees from the Korean War, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I'd like to thank the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from New York, Mr. RAN-

GEL—himself a Korean War veteran—and the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for their leadership on this issue.

This resolution calls attention to one of the most tragic issues still lingering from the Korean War: the fate of soldiers taken prisoner during the war and missing in action, and civilian South Korean citizens abducted by North Korea.

The Defense Department lists almost 8,000 American service members from the Korean War who remain unaccounted for to this day. In my home state of California, there are 614 individuals whose final status is unknown.

For the families of those American POWs or MIAs, they must carry on their lives without the benefit of having final closure or peace.

Between 1996 and 2005, the Defense Department conducted joint field activities in both South and North Korea that resulted in the recovery of over 220 sets of remains. Recovery operations in North Korea were suspended in 2005, but recently this past October, the United States and North Korea agreed to resume operations next year to search for and recover the remains of American POWs and MIAs.

This resolution shows our solidarity with our troops who were captured or went missing during the Korean War, and affirms that we will never forget our duty to bring them home.

A second element of this resolution takes note of South Korean POWs and civilian abductees from the Korean War.

The exact number of South Korean POWs held in North Korea after the war is unknown, but it is estimated that as many as 73,000 South Korean prisoners were not repatriated to the South following the war. Some of them may still be alive in North Korea.

North Korea also abducted tens of thousands of South Korean civilians, mainly civil servants, teachers, writers, judges, and business people during the war. North Korea has continued to deny that it abducted these civilians and that any of them may still exist, despite testimony proving otherwise.

With this resolution, the House of Representatives formally recognizes the existence of South Korean POWs and civilian abductees from the Korean War who may still be alive in North Korea and want to return to their families in the South.

We call on North Korea to admit to abducting the thousands of South Korean civilians and reveal their status. The North also should allow family reunions and immediate repatriation of the abductees under the Geneva Convention.

The United States stands with the people of South Korea in remembering these abductees from the Korean War. We must not forget their plight, and we will continue working for their reunification with their families, still scarred by the lingering pain and tragedy of war.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time. Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, for our closing speaker, I am pleased to recognize for such time as he may consume my good friend from California (Mr. ROYCE), the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade and a cosponsor of this important resolution.

Mr. ROYCE. I rise in support of this resolution.

Several of our colleagues—SAM JOHNSON, HOWARD COBLE, JOHN CONYERS, and its author CHARLIE RANGEL—bravely fought in this war and deserve our recognition tonight. Even if he hasn't had a bad day since, they deserve our recognition.

Mr. Speaker, the Korean War as we often know is called the Forgotten War, but those who fought it and our South Korean allies haven't forgotten this war. And by moving this legislation forward tonight, we're signaling that the House has not forgotten this war. And as much as anything, I believe this resolution demonstrates the shared commitment, the shared sacrifice that serves as the foundation of that U.S.-South Korea alliance.

We've all seen lots change in those six decades since our colleagues fought in that war; but with U.S. support, South Korea has transformed into a modern leading economy in the world today, but you still go north of that 38th Parallel—I've been north of that 38th Parallel—and they still live literally in darkness.

It's been more than 60 years since the start of the Korean war; and after all of that time, our Department of Defense lists more than 8,000 American servicemen as POWs who are missing in action. The number of South Koreans is estimated to be many times that because as many as 100,000 South Koreans were forcibly conscripted into the North Korean Army.

For our veterans and for their families, it is well past time for a full accounting which is what this resolution calls for.

Indeed, as this resolution states, there are still South Korean prisoners of war and civilian abductees from the Korean war who are still alive in North Korea and want to be repatriated back to the South.

For the sake of those impacted, I urge passage of this resolution.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 376. H. Res. 376 was authored, introduced and sponsored by a true American hero—my good friend, the Honorable CHARLES RANGEL—and I am proud to be an original cosponsor.

H. Res. 376 calls for the repatriation of POW/MIAs and abductees from the Korean War, and I know this legislation is near and dear to Congressman RANGEL's heart, as was the Resolution he introduced last year to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Korean War. Last year's Resolution, which was passed by Congress and signed by the President, should have born CHARLIE RANGEL's name, but due to back and forth between the House and Senate he did not receive the credit he deserved. I stand to credit him now.

In a black unit led mostly by white officers, acting Sergeant CHARLES RANGEL was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his heroic service in the Korean War, having led his comrades from behind enemy lines in circumstances few of us have ever known. I commend the Honorable CHARLES RANGEL for his valor, sacrifice and courage.

I also thank the Korean American community in Los Angeles and New York, and especially Mr. Dongsuk Kim, founder and former President of the Korean American Voters' Council; Mr. Mi-il Lee, President of the Korean War Abductees' Family Union (KWAFU); and Dr. Hong-Sik Shin for their tireless efforts in support of this Resolution. Their leadership in pushing this forward is the reason why I believe this historic Resolution will pass the House today.

On behalf of all those who served and sacrificed, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Res. 376.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, and I thank the gentleman from New York, Representative RANGEL, for offering it.

Every year for decades, the Congress has appropriated millions of dollars for the Pentagon to go around the world and recover the remains of our fallen. Those involved in the effort know that theirs is a solemn and vital mission, one that everyone who serves in this House strongly supports. It makes one proud to be an American knowing that we will go to great lengths to leave no soldier behind.

Unfortunately, this laudable effort to recover the remains of those long deceased has not been matched by the same level of care and concern at the Dover Port Mortuary in recent years. I know the truth of this through a courageous constituent of mine, Lynn Smith of Frenchtown, New Jersey. Lynn's late husband, Sergeant First Class Scott Smith, was killed by an improvised explosive device in Iraq in 2006.

More than a year after Scott's body was returned home to her and his parents, Lynn discovered that additional remains were subsequently recovered—then incinerated, mixed with medical waste, and dumped in a landfill in King George County, Virginia. As Lynn suspected, and as we now know, that practice was performed on the unclaimed additional remains of at least 273 other servicemembers. There were a number of other incidents of desecration or mishandling of remains that took place at Dover that were subsequently exposed by three Dover employees, who took the dangerous step of becoming whistleblowers and reporting their allegations to the Office of Special Counsel. Make no mistake—those whistleblowers are true public servants, and I thank them.

I have made it clear to Air Force officials that they must never allow this kind of outrage to happen again, and that those who retaliated against the whistleblowers should be dismissed from government service. If we can get our MIA recovery and identification process right, the same high standards must apply at Dover.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for offering this bill and I urge its swift passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 376, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 2200

#### URGING TURKEY TO SAFEGUARD ITS CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 306) urging the Republic of Turkey to safeguard its Christian heritage and to return confiscated church properties, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 306

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Secretary of State, in all official contacts with Turkish leaders and other Turkish officials, should emphasize that Turkey should—

(1) end all forms of religious discrimination;

(2) allow the rightful church and lay owners of Christian church properties, without hindrance or restriction, to organize and administer prayer services, religious education, clerical training, appointments, and succession, religious community gatherings, social services, including ministry to the needs of the poor and infirm, and other religious activities;

(3) return to their rightful owners all Christian churches and other places of worship, monasteries, schools, hospitals, monuments, relics, holy sites, and other religious properties, including movable properties, such as artwork, manuscripts, vestments, vessels, and other artifacts; and

(4) allow the rightful Christian church and lay owners of Christian church properties, without hindrance or restriction, to preserve, reconstruct, and repair, as they see fit, all Christian churches and other places of worship, monasteries, schools, hospitals, monuments, relics, holy sites, and other religious properties within Turkey.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the resolution and to claim time in opposition to the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) favor the motion?

Mr. BERMAN. I do.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On that basis the gentleman from Kentucky will control 20 minutes in opposition.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield half of my time to the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) and ask unanimous consent that he may be able to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?