

I would like to present a couple of those ideas. I recently traveled to Vietnam with the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) and some of my Democrat colleagues. We were there at the request of Pete Peterson, a fellow member that used to reside in this House, is now the ambassador to Vietnam. I was asked to help raise the flag over North Vietnam for the first time in 25 years. It was very difficult; but while we were there, we stopped in Hanoi, and we had a chat with the Communist minister, the head of Vietnam.

I asked a question. I said, Mr. Minister, why will you not engage in trade with Vietnam? And his answer was pretty forthcoming. He said, Congressman, trade to a Communist means that people will start privatizing and having their own things; and if trade is followed through in Vietnam, then we as Communists will no longer have power.

At that moment I said, trade is good.

What do we want China to be 20 years from now or even 50 years from now, Mr. Speaker? I was in China some 20 years ago, and I want to say they have come a long way in 20 years, and it is not the same China as it was before. One sees democracy sprouting up. One sees things like Tianenmen Square and people fighting for democracy. Democracy and freedom are viruses to the Communist Chinese. The more that we can inject that into China, the more that their leaders go along with a better economy.

China is riding a tiger. There are still those that want, by totalitarian rule, to control with national defense and hold people under the state command; but also the dictatorship there today understands that the economy is important to China. Taiwan supports trade in PNTR. Why? Taiwan knows that it will bring China more toward the United States and more toward a democracy instead of more toward Communism. It is in their best interest, and Taiwan supports it.

We just attended a brief, many of us, by Brent Scowcroft. He said there are no downsides to PNTR; that this is about U.S. products going to China. China's products already come to the United States, and there is a trade deficit.

What do we want 20 years from now if we do not trade with China? It will be a negative, and we foster Communism instead of a good economy for both.

#### EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the special order time of the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

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

There was no objection.

#### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues and the representative of a large and vibrant community of Armenian Americans, some of whom lost their loved ones in the genocide, I rise today to join my colleagues in the sad commemoration of the Armenian Genocide.

I would like to thank my colleagues and cochairs of the Armenian Caucus, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER), for their dedication and their hard work on this issue and other issues of human rights.

Today, we pause to remember the tragedy of the Armenian Genocide. More than 1.5 million Armenians were systematically murdered at the hands of the young Turks and more than 500,000 more were deported from their homes. Monday, April 24, will mark the 85th anniversary of the beginning of the Armenian genocide. It was on that day in 1915 that more than 200 Armenian religious, political, and intellectual leaders were arrested in Constantinople, now Istanbul, and killed. This was the beginning of a brutal, organized campaign to eliminate the Armenian presence from the Ottoman Empire that lasted for more than 8 years, but Armenians are strong people, and their dreams of freedom did not die.

More than 70 years after the genocide, the new Republic of Armenia was born as the Soviet Union crumbled. Today, we pay tribute to the courage and strength of a people who would not know defeat; yet independence has not meant an end to their struggle. There are still those who question the reality of the Armenian slaughter. There are those who have failed to recognize its very existence; and my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) spoke earlier about efforts at UCLA to buy a chair that would really focus its time and attention to erasing the existence of this horrible occurrence.

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I join him in applauding UCLA and other institutions that have turned down this request to put forward a lie.

As a strong supporter of human rights, I am dismayed that the Turkish government continues to deny the systemic killing of 1.5 million Armenians in their country.

We must not allow the horror of the Armenian genocide to be either diminished or denied, and we must continue to speak out and preserve the memory of the Armenian loss.

We can never let the truth of this tragedy be denied. Nothing we can do or say will bring back those who perished. But we can hold high the memories with everlasting meaning by

teaching the lessons of the Armenian genocide to future generations. We will not forget. We will continue to bring this to the floor every single year. We will not forget.

#### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the leaders of the Armenian Caucus for bringing us together to honor the memory of a tragedy, not just in Armenian history, but a tragedy in world history, a tragedy that holds for us an important historical lesson and one that should be acknowledged.

As discussed, it was 85 years ago that the Ottoman Empire set out on a deliberate campaign to exterminate the Armenian people. Over a period of years, between 1915 and 1923, as they went house to house, village to village, they massacred men, women, and children, a total of 1.5 million, and a half million deported from their homelands to escape their terror.

At the end of these 8 years, the Armenian population in certain areas in Turkey, in Anatolia, in Western Armenia, that population was virtually eliminated.

At the time, as we have heard from our colleagues, Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, depicted the Turkish order for deportations as a death warrant to a whole race.

Our ambassador recognized that this was ethnic cleansing. It is unfortunate that the Turkish government to this day does not recognize that this was ethnic cleansing. Let me just say that willful ignorance of the lessons of history doom people to repeat those same actions again and again.

We have also heard from our colleagues tonight how Adolph Hitler learned that same lesson, as he said, who remembers the Armenian genocide? Well, it is important for us to remember these genocides. It is important that we learn the lesson from this 85-year-old tragedy.

In my home State of California, the State Board of Education has incorporated the story of the Armenian genocide in the social studies curriculum, and this is the right thing to do.

I am a cosponsor of House Resolution 398, which calls upon the President of the United States to provide for appropriate training and materials on the Armenian genocide to all foreign service officers and all State Department officials.

Why is this important? Because we want them to better understand genocide wherever it threatens to erupt. We want them to understand the nature and origins of genocide. We want them to help raise the world's public opinion