moved up to captain. He served as captain for a year and was then elected deputy chief. Mr. Willard served as deputy chief for 17 years, tying the company record. He has also served as the company's vice president for the past 25 years.

I am proud to have such a civic minded and hard-working constituent in the community. As a leader in the Glenside Fire Department, Mr. Willard has impacted the lives of countless individuals. The residents of Glenside have long benefited from his service and that of the entire Glenside Fire Department. I applaud the Glenside Fire Department for honoring Mr. Willard and I enthusiastically concur with their recognition of his leadership.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN C. SIMPSON

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding career of Captain John C. Simpson, who is retiring on June 2, 2000, after 25 years of distinguished Coast Guard service. Captain Simpson's career has had a wide-ranging impact across a broad spectrum of our vital national interests. This includes serving on high endurance cutters in the Pacific to protect our maritime boarder and preserve our natural resources, commanding coastal units on the Gulf Coast to rescue those in distress and ensure compliance with federal maritime laws, and developing progressive naval doctrine to enhance the interoperability of the Coast Guard and Navy to protect our global strategic interests.

For the past three years, Captain Simpson has commanded Coast Guard Group Galveston, Texas. His area of responsibility includes both the inland and offshore waters on the coast of Southeast Texas. As Group Commander, he integrated active duty, reserve and auxiliary personnel into a cohesive team that together conducted more than 3,500 search and rescue cases, resulting in over 700 lives saved and $35 million in property preserved. He carried out an aggressive program that balanced maritime law enforcement with education of the boating public, commercial vessel operators, and the fishing industry. He also directed the annual maintenance and servicing of over 2,550 aids to navigation in the critical waterways leading to the Ports of Galveston, Port Arthur, Beaumont, Freeport, and Houston. One can only truly appreciate Captain Simpson's contribution in ensuring maritime safety after realizing that over 90 percent of the goods imported into the United States are carried by ships, and a large percentage of that trade enters the maritime thoroughfares under his charge.

Despite these accomplishments, Captain Simpson's greatest and most lasting achievement has been his strong advocacy for the men and women under this command. In times of limited resources and an austere budget climate, when the Coast Guard is being asked to do more than ever before, Captain Simpson has been tireless in his pursuit to ensure that his units had the right tools to get the job done. During my visits with Captain Simpson, I have been continually impressed with the resourcefulness, dedication, and commitment of the men and women at Coast Guard Group Galveston, which is a testament to his exceptional leadership.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Simpson's career is ripe with countless examples of self-sacrifice and extraordinary accomplishment in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Captain Simpson and his wife, Jan, fair winds and following seas as they chart a new course together in Seattle, Washington.

Congratulations, Captain Simpson, on a job well done.

VOTE NO ON PNTR

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I oppose granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China. It is clearly the wrong step to take if we want meaningful change from China on a wide variety of issues that are important to all Americans.

It must be noted that Chinese leaders have broken every previous trade agreement they have signed with the United States. What makes us believe that this time will be any different? During the last decade alone, China violated four major trade agreements: the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding on Prison Labor, the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding on Market Access, the 1994 Bilateral Agreement on Textiles, and the 1996 Bilateral Agreement on Intellectual Property Rights. Most recently, after signing the current bilateral in November, China turned its back on the agreement. Their Chief Negotiator stated, ''it is a complete misunderstanding to expect this grain to enter the country . . . Beijing only conceded a theoretical opportunity for the export of grain.'' These governments are not ventures in theory—these agreements should be unbreakable.

Another argument for supporting PNTR is that US businesses will introduce the Chinese people to democracy and human rights. However, when we look at how Chinese workers are already being treated by corporations such as Wal-Mart, Timberland, Nike, Alpine and others, it becomes clear that is not the case. Wal-Mart and Nike's operations in China have become synonymous with child labor, forced labor and hazardous working conditions. These are not the values we want to bring to other countries. By granting PNTR, we give up any hope of influencing the PRC's policy on worker and human rights. We are inviting US companies to leave the US to produce goods in a country which does not support a minimum wage, basic safety regulations, or the right of association. Let's export our values—not our jobs.

It is not only workers who are oppressed by China. Religious groups too often are denied basic human rights. Recent examples include prison sentencing of Falun Gong members without trials for undetermined sentences. The United States Catholic Conference expressed their opposition to PNTR by stating, ''. . . we have urged that the well-documented violations of the Chinese peoples' human rights, and notably their lack of true religious freedom be seriously addressed and reversed.'' Religious freedom is one of the most important freedoms guaranteed to US citizens. Let us not reward a country who so blatantly disregards this right.

The agreement also omits any statement on environmental protections. Having just celebrated the 30th anniversary of Earth Day in the United States, we should continue to be vigilant in our pursuit of a healthy international ecosystem. We would send a message that protecting the world's natural resources and pollution control are not important if we agree to PNTR. According to the Sierra Club, ''nothing was done in the WTO/PNTR package to mitigate the increased risks to endangered wildlife.'' They also note the State Department's 1999 Report of China's Human Rights Practices, ''the China Development Union (which works for environmental and political reforms) virtually was shut down by arrests of its members during the year.'' This agreement is not just an affront against the environment, but also against the Chinese who press the government to protect their natural resources.

Some members of the agricultural community are looking favorably on this agreement. However, it should be noted that China already has had overall agricultural surpluses and is still producing a glut of agricultural goods. China has already backtracked on tariff and market-access portions of the bilateral. The PRC will not allow American farmers to participate in a competitive marketplace. Charles McMillion, a founder of the Congressional Economic Leadership Institute, wrote, ''China's agricultural glut is likely to continue with WTO membership. . . .'' Even the National Farmers Union, opposes giving this permanent status: ''We must not unilaterally disarm our Nation's ability to respond if China fails to comply with commitments contained in this agreement.'' Make no mistake, international markets are critical to our farmers. However, we must not engage in agreements with countries who frequently renege on past agreements and who do not believe in the type of fair trade that will benefit American agriculture.

President Clinton has said that this is an essential national security issue. He is right—but he is on the wrong side of the argument. There are just too many incidents where China has acted egregiously against American security interests. In recent years, China fired several live missiles in the Taiwan Straight. At the same time, the PRC has supplied other rogue nations with weapons that could be used against U.S. soldiers abroad. Already, five major military organizations—the American Legion, the Fleet Reserve Officers Association, the National Reserve Association, the Warrant Officers Associations, and the Reserve Officers Association—have publicly agreed that it would not be in the best interest of the United States to grant PNTR.

This vote is one that will have repercussions for generations to come. We can take this opportunity to stand for military security, human and worker rights, the environment, and fair market access, or we can choose to give a ''blank check'' to China, allowing them to dictate a lower standard. I urge my colleagues to reject PNTR.