

CELEBRATING THE END OF
SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Joint Resolution 56, which celebrates the end of slavery in the United States. I want to thank Congressmen ELIJAH CUMMINGS and J.C. WATTS for bringing this resolution to the House floor today.

As we begin a national dialog on race, I think it is appropriate that we begin with the recognition of the end of slavery. Every year for more than 130 years, African-Americans have celebrated the end of slavery in a day of freedom known as Juneteenth.

Two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, many of the 200,000 slaves who were in Texas when the Civil War began were still among the plantations and farms along the coastal plain, many of them around Galveston. Word of the Proclamation and Robert E. Lee's surrender were slow in arriving in the Western States, so it was not known for some time that the slaves were actually free.

Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger of the Union Army landed at the port of Galveston with 1,800 soldiers to take command of the military district of Texas. His first action after landing, on June 19, 1865, was to go from his headquarters into the street and read general order No. 3, which stated:

The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves. * * *

In many States, former slaves made up a significant portion of the population. Naturally, the end of slavery was cause for celebration, so beginning in 1866, every June 19th became known as Juneteenth. This tradition has remained strong into the 20th century, and I am proud to recognize it in the House of Representatives today.

Mr. Speaker, Juneteenth is a fitting celebration for the memory of the countless men and women who were forcibly brought to this country and forced to suffer the hardship and cruelty of enslavement. But Juneteenth is also a celebration of optimism for the future of an American society that recognizes the worth and value of all citizens and seeks social, economic, and political equality. I thank my colleagues for bringing House Joint Resolution 56 to the House floor today, and I strongly urge its passage.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEN OF THE
U.S.S. *LIBERTY*

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 1997

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 34 men who gave their lives in the defense of the U.S.S. *Liberty* 30 years ago.

On June 8, 1967, the American intelligence ship U.S.S. *Liberty* was attacked during a grueling 75 minute strike in the Mediterranean Sea. The unarmed ship was defended with great honor and valor during the onslaught. The entire crew battled to keep the ship afloat after rocket attacks and a torpedo hit. Despite these debilitating attacks, the crew managed to save the ship and guide her safely to port. However, 34 American men lost their lives due to enemy fire and in attempts to save the ship.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to pay tribute to the men who gave their lives in defense of the U.S.S. *Liberty*. This selfless act reminds us of the commitment that our servicemen and women demonstrate every day and the extreme dangers inherent in the defense of the U.S. Congress and the citizens of our country should be mindful of their sacrifice and valor.

This memorial shall serve as a tribute to the men of the U.S.S. *Liberty* who served their country so faithfully. I urge my colleagues to join me and applaud the actions of these men and their families and friends who keep their memory alive.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, there were two excellent articles in two separate newspapers this morning. There is a common thread between them, and that is the People's Republic of China.

A Bill Gertz article in the *Washington Times* describes the extent to which China is upgrading the capacity of Iran to sink American ships and kill American sailors. Gertz said the disclosures of Iran-China missile cooperation raises new questions about Clinton administration claims that China has been heeding United States warnings about curbing trade with Iran and other rogue nations on missile and weapons technology.

But that's not all China has been doing, Mr. Speaker. They have been trying to influence American elections, and in this endeavor they seem to have gotten the cooperation of individuals serving in the Clinton administration. Which brings us to the second article, that of James Risen and Alan A. Miller in the *Los Angeles Times* about the security clearances of John Huang, who became a high Commerce Department official and campaign fundraiser, apparently while retaining his loyalty to the Lippo Group of Indonesia.

I would urge all Members to read and re-read both articles, and I place them both in today's RECORD.

CHINA JOINS FORCES WITH IRAN ON SHORT-
RANGE MISSILE

(By Bill Gertz)

Iran is developing a new short-range ballistic missile as part of a joint program with China involving rocket motors and test equipment. The *Washington Times* has learned.

Iranian missile technicians traveled to China early last month to watch a ground test of a 450mm-diameter rocket motor to be used in the NP-110 solid-fuel missile, accord-

ing to a Pentagon intelligence report labeled "top secret."

The missile, which would have a range of 105 miles, would be capable of hitting targets as far away as Baghdad and the United Arab Emirates, while keeping the missile launchers away from coasts, where they are vulnerable to counterattack, said Kenneth Timmerman, director of the Middle East Data Project, which tracks weapons programs in Iran.

The joint missile program also involves Iran's use or acquisition of Chinese X-ray equipment, which is used for studying missile casings and for checking whether solid fuel is in proper condition.

Disclosure of the Iran-China missile cooperation raises new questions about Clinton administration claims that China has been heeding U.S. warnings about curbing trade with Iran and other rogue states on missile and weapons technology.

John Holum, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, told reporters in November, after a visit to China, that U.S.-China collaboration on arms control and proliferation issues was "very constructive," and said Chinese progress on restricting destabilizing arms sales was "dramatic."

A classified CIA report in October said China had provided Iran with missile guidance components and technology.

"This is a new [category] of missiles," Mr. Timmerman said of the NP-110. "It shows the Iranians have a very advanced and multifaceted capability to produce solid-fuel propellants."

In written statements to Congress made public last week, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said, "Iran's ballistic program poses a serious threat to American servicemen and women."

"Iran's ballistic missile program also poses a threat to America's friends and allies in the region," she said in response to questions by Rep. Gerald B.H. Solomon, New York Republican.

The administration has been "reviewing carefully" reports of missile- and weapons-technology transfers from China to Iran but has not decided whether the sales meet legal thresholds for triggering sanctions, she said.

Iran is known to have two types of Soviet-designed Scud missiles, including systems acquired from North Korea or developed in Iran.

Less is known about its shorter-range missile programs, including systems identified variously by military experts as the Iran-130, the Mushak 120 and the Nazeat.

According to Mrs. Albright, the Iranians are "assembling" Scud-B missiles with a range of 186 miles that carry payloads of up to 2,200 pounds.

"Iran is working to produce Scud-C missiles with a range of 500 kilometers [310 miles] and a smaller payload than the Scud-B," she told Mr. Solomon. "We also believe Iran is interested in developing even longer-range missiles."

The secretary said that "given Iran's persistent efforts to develop a nuclear, chemical and biological capability, we are concerned that Iran may use this capability to develop weapons-of-mass-destruction warheads."

The China Precision Engineering Institute New Technology Corp. reached agreement with an arm of Iran's Defense Industries Organization to sell gyroscopes, accelerometers and test equipment—all elements used to build and test missile-guidance systems, the CIA report said.

Other military equipment was delivered in July 1996 as part of a program to modify Iran's Chinese-made HY-2 anti-ship missiles.

Iran currently has about 200 Scud-B and Scud-C mobile missiles. The Scud-B has a