

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his courtesy in yielding me this time.

Today, the United States and China spend hundreds of millions of dollars spying on each other. But despite all the spying, I do not think we really know each other very well.

China is in fact a study in contradictions. Today, it is more modern and open than ever before in its 4,000-year history. Yet, it is in fact reacting defensively in an agitated fashion regarding the continued controversy with Taiwan.

We have our demonstrators outside here on the grounds of the Capitol dealing with the local religious movement, Falun Gong, that has captured so much interest in China.

It is an ancient nation that is modernizing rapidly, but this society filled with state-run activities is paying a substantial price as it downsizes its bureaucracy, modernizes its institutions, and privatizes its state-owned industry.

The United States has paid a terrible price in the past for misunderstanding China. During World War II, we bet on the wrong horse. Barbara Tuchman's brilliant biography of Joe Stillwell makes clear the waste of resources for the corrupt Kuomintang government of Chiang Kai-Shek, who was not interested in fighting the Japanese, when we could have done something more constructive with Mao Tse-Tung.

During the Korean War, we had thousands, tens of thousands, of needless American casualties because General McArthur, in flagrant disregard of orders and common sense, overplayed his hand. Yet, the Cold War was won more quickly in part because Richard Nixon had the courage to reverse his course of action and engage in a strategic alliance with China.

Lots of countries we disagree with abuse human rights and do not honor democracy or the free market. Sometimes, sadly, that happens with the United States complicity. We gave arms to terrorists with Ronald Reagan.

## Speaking in favor of Normal Trade Relations with China

Monday, 26 July 1999 19:00

---

Normal trading relations does not mean we condone that behavior. It just gives us more tools and opportunity to do something about it. The world will be a better place sooner. One only has to review 4,000 years of Chinese history and look at where we are today to know that we are, in fact, on the right path.