WELCOME TO BENJAMIN PAUL BRIGGS

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to note a very important event that occurred March 28, 1995. Benjamin Paul Briggs was born to Janet and John Furse Briggs in Seattle, WA. Benjamin Paul is my first grand-child.

Every child is the repository of all the world's history and all the world's hopes. Each child deserves the best, in love and respect, and protection. Each child is the reminder that we have a duty to be advocates for children the world over.

I have the highest hopes for Benjamin Paul. I trust that he will care about and protect other humans and animals and the environment. I know, because I know his parents, that he will understand that we are all part of one beautiful, fragile web of creation and that he has a part to play in its protection.

I wish you the very best Benjamin Paul and am very glad that you are here.

HOPWA FUNDING

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the House of Representatives for decisively moving to control this country's destructive spending patterns and moving toward a balanced budget.

As Members of Congress, we all know the need to control Federal spending. However, we must be careful not to cut those programs that are both cost effective for taxpayers and meaningful and effective for their beneficiaries. Specifically, I am deeply concerned about the rescission of funds for the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS Program [HOPWA].

It is imperative that we take great care to protect the most vulnerable members of our communities. We did this by maintaining funding levels for both the section 202 housing for the elderly and the section 811 funding for disabled persons programs, and we should do the same for the HOPWA Program. People suffering from AIDS often don't have the financial resources necessary to care for themselves. This population needs the dedicated housing assistance this program provides.

Some may argue that this money is not needed because there is already other Federal housing assistance available. I disagree. The fact is that this rescission will result in no new incremental section 8 vouchers, placing those with AIDS on a waiting list for a voucher, condemning some to the streets. The HOPWA money can provide instant relief in communities where people suffering from AIDS desperately need housing assistance.

We cannot turn our backs. Without this funding, people with AIDS will be forced to depend on high-cost emergency care facilities for housing or live on the streets. Consequently, American taxpayers will end up paying over \$1,000 a day for those afflicted with AIDS who are housed in skilled facilities versus \$40 to

\$100 per day per person under HOPWA. Retaining this funding simply makes financial sense to the taxpayers, as well as demonstrates our concern for those already crippled by this devastating disease.

THE U.S. AND FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE—A SUCCESS STORY WE SHOULD KNOW

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for the continuation of the Department of Commerce's U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service.

In San Diego County, we encourage any effort that stimulates the growth of local businesses. Growing businesses mean more jobs—and that is my main priority for San Diego.

The U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service [US&FCS] has a proven record of assisting small- and medium-size exports. This is a Government program that works.

In the San Diego area, the US&FCS assisted local firms in venturing into 85 new export markets in fiscal year 1994. It also helped 22 firms in making their first export sales.

The US&FCS operation is effective because of its local expertise and local concern. The office in San Diego provides area exporters with an accessible, local resource on trade with overseas markets.

Operating within the International Trade Administration of the Department of Commerce, the US&FCS gets results.

Small- and medium-size exporters are provided a highly cost-effective combination of domestic and overseas services that help them to expand exports. This translates into much needed jobs.

We all want an effective, efficient Government, and we all support efforts to get rid of wasteful bureaucracy. The US&FCS works—let's keep it.

THE REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA: CITIZENS ARE SPEAKING OUT

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, very shortly, we will reach the 100-day mark in the Republican Contract With America. At the time, the Nation will measure the success of a contract launched by the Republican Party last year. The contract pledged to reform Congress, and offered citizens of the nation an "agenda for national renewal."

The American people are able to read between the rhetoric and see the Republican Contract With America for what it is—a prescription for disaster. We need not look any further than the cuts in critical education, job training and job placement, and housing programs, as well as an ill-conceived and mean-spirited welfare reform proposal, to prove this statement true.

Mr. Speaker, every day I receive hundreds of letters from constituents throughout my con-

gressional district. Many of them are the hard-working men and women who are the back-bone of this country. Others are individuals in need who are struggling to enter the workforce and share in the American dream.

In their letters, constituents tell me how the same Government programs which are now being slashed and eliminated by the Republican majority, have enabled them to secure educations, obtain job training and job placement assistance, and, most importantly, feed and care for their families. Many make it clear in their letters that they are not looking for handouts, but they want very much to become independent and care for their families.

Just recently, I received a letter from a constituent regarding cuts in funding for education. The constituent, who attends adult education classes at a homeless shelter, noted the importance of the classes. She writes, "Sometimes I barely have bus fare but I come, because getting my G.E.D. is very important to me." The letter also says. "There is an essential need for this educational foundation in order to get good jobs * * Vote against any budget that cuts education * * * You will be helping so many people."

Mr. Speaker, I am including this letter from my constituent in the RECORD. I do so with the hope that other Members will take a moment to read this document and realize that we must stand firm. I am convinced that I am making the right choice. I will continue to oppose proposals which balance the budget at the expense of the poorest, the most vulnerable, and the most needy of our citizens. I urge my colleagues to read this letter from my constituent.

Congressman Louis Stokes,

District 11.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN STOKES, I attend Adult Education classes in a homeless shelter. I think this class is important to me, to obtain my G.E.D. to get a good job, to provide a good life for myself and kids, so we can have a good life. I come from the west side to attend these classes and it's hard. But I come because this class is important to me, getting my G.E.D. and accomplishing my goal of becoming a medical assistant. Without it, my future seems kind of gloomy and empty. This is my second chance to complete my goals. I want to have good things in life and education is a must. Education opens up doors for good, better jobs, houses and clothes and to feel that you can do and gain a sense of pride. I am always telling my kids to stay in school and get the best out of school.

I am the mother of six. I want to get my G.E.D. because I am always telling them to stay in school. The three older children have their diplomas. The three younger children are still in school. How can I teach them right when I don't have mine? Please give me the opportunity to complete my dream and to accomplish my goals. I want to be independent to take care of my family and myself. I am coming from the west side in order to come here. Sometimes I barely have bus fare but I come, because getting my G.E.D. is very important to me.

You should know how important Adult Education Services are to so many of the homeless people in Cleveland, Ohio. We have so many that depend on trying to obtain their G.E.D. There is a essential need for this educational foundation in order to get good jobs. To help kids and get kids to college, and even help with their homework. This is important for the future of our community.

There are so many people who need these classes but they are not available. I would like you (Congressman Stokes) to get us the extra funding we need to get this job right away. Only you can stop the madness. Only you can keep adult education from going backwards. Let it move forward. Vote against any budget that cuts adult education. This is a vital program to so many homeless who truly need it. Please vote against this budget. You will be helping so many people.

A CONCERNED CONSTITUENT.

THE FIVE GLOBAL REALITIES

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday, the distinguished Senate majority leader, Mr. DOLE of Kansas, gave a landmark address on foreign policy at the Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom Policy Conference.

In this address, Senator Dole outlined five new global realities that affect America's interests abroad, including: First, we are headed into a "Golden Age of Capitalism," second, we must stabilize a "New World Energy Order" based on peace in the Middle East, third, our national security is increasingly dependent on our response to the spread of weapons of mass destruction, fourth, we must recognize the challenge posed by religious extremism, and fifth, our rivalry with Russia's historic imperial ambitions has not ended.

I commend the members attention to this speech and ask that it be printed in full at this point in the RECORD:

WINNING THE PEACE: AMERICAN LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT

(By Bob Dole)

I can't help but think back to the day in January of 1994, when President Nixon made his last visit to the United States Capitol.

The occasion was the 25th anniversary of his inauguration as President. And over 100 past and present Senators and Congressmen—Republicans and Democrats alike—attended a lunch honoring President Nixon that Bob Michel and I hosted.

At the conclusion of the lunch, President Nixon stood—and without a note in his hand—delivered one of the most compelling speeches many of us could remember.

As always, he talked politics, and he also shared some personal reflections on his life and career. But the majority of his remarks were devoted to his life's passion—foreign policy.

President Nixon served as our guide, leading us on an around-the-world tour, offering his unique perspective on the strengths and weaknesses of our allies and adversaries, and on the future as he saw it.

In his remarks, he repeated a statement that he made again and again during the last year of his life. He said, "The Soviets have lost the Cold War, but the United States has not yet won it."

Those words were true then—and are just as true today. And while the title of this conference—"After Victory"—has a nice ring to it, I believe the declaration may be a bit premature. It is, after all, possible to win the war and lose the peace—as the years between World War I and World War II demonstrate.

WORLD STILL UNCERTAIN

Don't get me wrong. The stage is set. We are the world's only superpower. And the

words spoken by Nikita Khrushchev in that famous "kitchen debate" were dead wrong. Not only will America's children never live under communism—neither will Russia's children. Still, there are far too many gains to consolidate, and far too many uncertainties in the world to say that a final peace has been won.

For example, there is a resurgent Russia, asserting its position around the globe. China has international ambitions of its own, and is in the midst of a leadership transition. There are international terrorists—often state-supported. There are global crime syndicates. There are extremist movements based on religion or ethnic origin. While none of these compare to the challenge of the Soviet empire, each of these can pose threats to important American interests.

FIVE GLOBAL REALITIES AFFECT AMERICA'S INTERESTS

It seems to me these multifaceted threats should be viewed in the context of five clear global realities which affect America's fundamental interests. Only by recognizing these realities—and dealing with them with the same commitment which led to the defeat of Soviet Communism—will America truly be able to claim victory.

REALITY NO. 1: THE ''GOLDEN AGE OF CAPITALISM

The first new reality is that the whole world is plunging headlong into what David Hale of the Kemper Organization in Chicago has termed a "new golden age of capitalism."

I remember when Lech Walesa told me that the definition of a communist economy was "100 workers standing around one shovel." Now, in places like Poland, Russia, India, Latin America, and even China—four billion people formerly under some form of socialism are now fighting with everything they can lay hands on to not just grab a shovel—but to build shovel factories.

There are now more than 30 stock markets in the developing world, and capitalization of the four-year-old Shanghai securities exchange has reached \$30 billion. Deng Xiaoping himself has said that no one cares any more what color the cat is, as long as it catches mice. The bottom line is that everyone wants to trade, and everyone wants to create and use capital on a world-wide basis.

While this new "golden age of capitalism" offers great opportunity for America, we must remember that many of the countries so eager to enjoy the benefits of membership in the world trading system may not fully understand or accept the rules and discipline that go with it.

A trade war was averted with China, but other threats to U.S. commercial interests will surely arise in the coming months and years, and our continued vigilance and leadership will be required.

REALITY NO. 2: THE "NEW WORLD ENERGY ORDER"

The second inescapable reality of the post-20th century world is that the security of the world's oil and gas supplies will remain a vital national interest of the United States and of the other industrial powers.

The Persian Gulf—the heartland of world energy for half a century—is still a region of many uncertainties. Saudi Arabia has been weakened financially. Iran and Iraq continue to exhibit great hostility to the West and pose threats to their neighbors. And the boundaries of the oil and gas heartland are being redrawn to the north, to include the great hydrocarbon deposits of the Caucasus, Siberia, and Kazakhstan.

In this "new energy order," many of the most important geopolitical decisions—ones

on which a nation's sovereignty can depend—will deal with the location and routes for oil and gas pipelines. In response, our strategy, our diplomacy and our forward military presence need readjusting.

REALITY NO. 3: SPREAD OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

The third inevitable reality for America—and for the world—is the fact that while the Berlin Wall may have crumbled, weapons of mass destruction haven't.

Listen to just a partial roll call of countries and groups that already possess nuclear, biological or chemical weapons: North Korea. Iraq. Iran. Libya.

Have any of these nations earned our trust? And given their past behavior, is it any surprise that there are startling signs that a world wide black market in nuclear weapons has emerged?

All this is taking place as talks to review the global treaty limiting the spread of nuclear weapons will soon begin. Even if the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty is extended indefinitely, however, we must avoid falling into a false sense of security. We must prepare now for the future.

Iraq, Iran, and North Korea all illustrate the failures of traditional non-proliferation efforts, which depend largely on the cooperation of other states.

Only after Desert Storm did the West learn just how far Iraqi nuclear ambitions had progressed. And instead of announcing that the United States will veto any efforts to ease or end U.N. sanctions on Iraq, the administration dispatches an envoy to plead with the Europeans for cooperation. Where would such timidity have gotten us in the Cold War?

Iran also appears poised for a great leap forward in its nuclear program—thanks to a cash-hungry Russia doing for Iran what the Clinton Administration has done for North Korea.

And make no mistake about it, the Agreed Framework with North Korea has little prospect of successfully addressing the North Korean threat, and apparently, has already been violated by Pyongyang.

American leadership in addressing these non-proliferation challenges is essential if additional states are not to choose the nuclear option. It's worth asking: What would we have done—or not done—if Iraq had one or two nuclear weapons in 1990? Preventive military action as a non-proliferation policy tool cannot be ruled out.

There are defensive options, however, that could provide the United States and our allies with protection against accidental and limited ballistic missile strikes. Pursuing an effective ballistic missile defense capability should be a top priority for U.S. defense policy now and for the foreseeable future.

REALITY NO. 4: INCREASE IN EXTREMIST RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC MOVEMENTS

The fourth new global reality is the increase in violence due to extremist religious and ethnic movements in many parts of the globe.

Some of these movements, like the tribal warfare in Rwanda, or conflicts in Burma or West Africa have little direct impact on American interests.

However, some of the instability and turmoil due to ethnic and religious violence is important for American interests—and could lead to the disintegration of key states. Serbian genocidal aggression in the Balkans, for example, threatens to spill over to Macedonia, Albania, and beyond. American and European inaction in the face of that aggression cannot help but embolden other radical "ethno-nationalists" by giving them a green light for ethnic cleansing.