

sure have not done anything to improve it.

A lot of people will say that the burden of proof rests on those who say abolish the Federal Department of Education bureaucracy and send it back to the States.

I say the burden of proof rests on those bureaucrats that take \$33 billion out of local communities and school boards all across this Nation and give us very little in return.

Look at the test scores. Look at the dropout rates. Look at violence in schools. They have to step forward and explain how the principals of the NEA teachers union and how the principals of the education bureaucracy are somehow in harmony with the philosophies of Jefferson and Madison. I have got to tell you, they cannot do it.

Again, listen to the great words of James Madison:

We have staked the entire future of the American civilization not upon the power of government but upon the capacity of each of us to govern ourselves, control ourselves, and sustain ourselves according to the 10 commandments of God.

It is a very simple premise. Trust communities, trust families, trust individuals, trust parents. You can do that.

Two hundred years after the greatest experiment in the history of government, we are getting back to a point where we once again are going to untie parents and communities and teachers and school boards, and say, "Be creative, dare to make a difference." If we do that, if we return authority back to parents and teachers and school boards instead of an education bureaucracy in Washington, DC, then my two boys and children all across this country will once again be able to take control of their school system and be prepared for the 21st century workplace. We have got to do it now. We cannot delay any longer. I certainly would ask for all of your support.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DORNAN. I just wanted to thank the gentleman. As one of my troopers on the Military Personnel Subcommittee, it has been a joy working with the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SCARBOROUGH].

Because my fatherly days are behind me as far as education is concerned—my youngest son is graduating from UCLA on Sunday, the 18th of this month—but I have got nine grandchildren and, God willing, more to come.

Your statement resonates in my ears. I also take personal affront to any bureaucrat saying, "I know how to teach your children better than you do."

No, when that report came out that showed that for the first time in the history of this great Nation, in over two centuries, a generation, the current one, was not as well educated as their parents, the prior generation, we hit a stonewall in education, where all the educrats, the bureaucrats of education, do not have the answers anymore.

□ 1745

That is why I am a strong supporter of home schooling. I have not had to do that with any of my sons or daughters yet, but home schooling is growing across this country because the main area where our education system has failed us is in the area of teaching values, ethics, and if we have to come down to a plan that a grandmother told me the other day, not my own wife, but a grey-haired grammy, said, "Why don't you people just broadcast to every school in America now that we are on the informational highway on Mondays and Tuesdays the prayer at the beginning of the House of Representatives, and then on Wednesdays and Thursdays—you are smiling, Speaker GILCHREST, this is not your idea, is it?—then on Wednesdays and Thursdays we broadcast the prayer to every public school in America at the beginning of the U.S. Senate's day, and on Friday, a special day, the prayer at the beginning of the U.S. Senate, in every school in America. And then occasionally we can sing at general assemblies the most popular song during the War between the States that kept our Nation together, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Mine eyes have seen the glory in the coming of the Lord. Who would that be? I do not know, would it be Jesus Christ, our savior, our redeemer, the son of God. Lilies across the sea in Jerusalem or Bethlehem or Nazareth, names familiar to one generation of schoolchildren, not anymore. I would love to see pumped to every school in America rabbis as we have seen here coming invoking the God of Abraham and the code of ethics of Moses, who is staring right down at the gentleman from Florida, look at him looking down at Speaker GILCHREST there, over in the corner, Maimonides, who in Sephardic tradition in Spain and Portugal rewrote the entire code of ethics for every Jewish person in the world. On this wall look at the wall of saints up there, Edward the Confessor, St. Ed, Alfonso, a saint of Spain, Gregory IX, a saintly pope, St. Louis, whose mother said "I would rather have my son dead at my feet than see him commit a grievous mortal sin."

So there is a lot of education our kids are not getting, it is being denied, and there is a way to do it, to recognize the Western civilization, culture, and there are a lot of colleges around, including UCLA, where in my son's first five classes Christianity was attacked by name in two of those classes, Catholicism attacked by name after they worked over Christianity, and in one of those classes Jesuits attacked. My son has never had the thrill of sitting in a class with a Jesuit teacher at the front, but I had 7 great years of it, and I am still grateful for my teachers. The Jesuits were all conservatives in those days and lived up to their fourth vow of being loyal to the Pope. They are having some problems these days. But I tell you, we are going to get this edu-

cation thing solved, and why are we going to do that, because Ronald Reagan said we are Americans, which means we can win any battle. Thank you for weighing in today. Glad to associate myself proudly with your words.

THE BATTLE OF OKINAWA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] is recognized for 30 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I am so, pleased is not a strong enough word, I am so ecstatic today over this rescue in Bosnia that I am glad I have got a Marine Corps sergeant sitting in the Speaker's chair today. Let me see that 1,000-yard stare, because as a former Air Force fighter pilot, peacetime to be sure, let me thank you for the whole Marine Corps in that superb rescue this morning, and wait till you get details tonight on CNN or C-SPAN or whatever, because I have got the bare outlines off the wire service stories, I called the Pentagon, they are having down in the cellar of the Rayburn Building a goodbye party for some of our great military people, liaison people who help us understand everything we can about our heroic men and women all around the world they will they cannot tell me much because they are hanging off the wire services' stories too.

But let me put this in perspective for the Marine Corps and the Army and every fighter pilot in those days was either Marine, Navy, or Air Force, I mean Army Air Corps, there was no Air Force. I was going to finish my Okinawa special orders today, June 8, 1945, and it is interesting, fascinating that the Battle of Okinawa started on Easter Sunday in 1945, that was April 1, and it was no April Fool's Day for the bloodshed on those beaches. It started off easily as the Japanese warlord forces were back in their caves and said come on, soft beach landings, everything looked good, and said oh, this is not going to be Iwo Jima, and then it became hell on Earth. That started April 1, 50 years ago. So all of April is 30 days, all of May, we are up to 61 days, this is the 8th, this was day 69 of an 87-day battle which means they had 18 brutal days to go where more marines and more Army soldiers died in a battle than ever before. This was the highest-fatality battle of the whole Pacific war.

And MacArthur took a bum rap there. Some people called him Dugout Doug because they wanted to see more of him up front. If he was not up front with one unit it is because he was with somebody else. Where was Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who stood right in front of you in one of the greatest speeches ever given at the Presidential lectern there and said and like most

old soldiers I will fade away, that ringing speech, hardly a dry eye on either side of the House here, everybody conceding that Harry Truman, President, had his right to fire him, but that on the merits of the issues MacArthur was right. We should have bombed Manchuria, we should have bombed the Yalu River bridges when once the Chinese came at him, which he did not think they would do because he did not realize we had filthy, sneaky, dirty, spying traitorous people in our government feeding a whole homosexual network of spies in the British Government of Burgess, Maclean, Kim Philby, all of them telling the Russians to tell the Chinese, go ahead and attack, the Americans will never come back at you, they will not bomb the bridges in the Yalu. All of our pasty-faced types in the State Department are not going to allow that to happen.

So, MacArthur was wrong about the Chinese coming in, but when he was fired in April of 1951 I had just turned 17. It was a sad day when he came to this Congress and said goodbye and kept the promises.

Where was MacArthur today? On the deck of a cruiser, in a combat action, could have been a kamikaze coming at him off the island of Borneo. He is on the bridge of one of our cruisers, the *Boise*, the *Nashville*, the *Phoenix*, and Australian cruiser *Hobart* named after the capital of Tasmania, seven destroyers with these cruisers, and they are bombarding one of the richest cities in the world today, the highest-income city. The wealthiest man in the world today on the planet Earth is the Sultan of Brunei, and they were in Brunei Bay bombing northern Borneo in that harbor and MacArthur is on the bridge of the task force softening up the landing beaches for Australia's Ninth Division. Their glorious feats in combat are known in Australia, little known to us. Their prisoners like all prisoners were being severely tortured, beaten to death. This is less than 2 months from the dropping of the atom bomb on August 6. But MacArthur was not aware of the bomb at this point. He was preparing for on this onslaught on the Japanese homeland islands where we would have lost maybe 300,000 men were in danger of KIA, higher than all of the war before that, certainly a million overall casualties and a million dead Japanese people, all of them innocent of what their warlords had done to them except for a few officers in the officer corps, they would have been wiped out.

So what else was happening in the South Pacific? Down in Sumatra, the Japanese cruiser, *Asha Gara*, overloaded with 1,200 young Japanese kids, peasant kids recruited out of the countryside in Japan without ever firing their guns in anger go to the bottom of the sea because the British submarine, the *Trenchant*, sinks this Japanese cruiser and all 1,200 soldiers and most of the crew drowned. Planes from the carrier *Cowpens*, the great *Independ-*

ence, the *Shangri-La*, so named because Roosevelt said the *Hornet* and Jimmy Doolittle was a Shangri-la where we launched our raid 53 years ago last April against 5 Japanese cities, and the *Yorktown*, the great fighting lady, the *Yorktown*, they were all pounding their planes kamikaze bases on the Japanese southern island of Kyushu, and when any of those pilots were captured they were murdered as some of the Japanese Bushido warrior, brace yourself Mr. Speaker, cut them open and ate their livers. I have just come across that research. They killed so many of our air crews out of the B-29's and our Navy pilots that we hung the Japanese commander on the island where George Bush almost drifted ashore, Chichi Jima, hung him for cannibalism.

This was a rough conclusion to this war, less than 2 months to the first atomic bomb, 2 months and a day to the Nagasaki bomb, and I still get angry when I think about that phony politically correct exhibit that a bunch of liberals almost put around the fuselage of the *Enola Gay*.

Back to Okinawa. Artillery, naval gunfire, air strikes pounding the Japanese positions on Yaeje-Dake Mountain. I spell that not only for our recorders but for the vets to jog their memory. It was a strong point of the military commander Ushi Jima's last defense line.

The Sixth Marine Division, there was a day when we had six Marine divisions, the Sixth Marine Division compresses Admiral Minoru Ota, his marines, into a 3-mile pocket on the Oroku Peninsular, and how many Americans met their God on that peninsula during the next 18 days of fighting? So let us close the loop from 1945 to today.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know as a ground NCO what your favorite motion picture representation of the hell that is warfare is. But for pilots, it has been a long dry spell. The best one ever was based on a fictional book, more truth than fiction, by the great writer, James Michener, written during the Korean war while it was still in progress in 1953. I read it on my way to pilot training, published in its totality in *Life* magazine, just as they did that same year with "The Old Man and the Sea" by Hemingway, and I read this story in *Life* magazine and then got the book later, called "The Bridges at Toko-Ri," and it had a gut-wrenching decidedly non-Hollywood ending. Bill Holden, at the peak of his career at 36 years of age playing a symbolic naval aviator named Brubaker is in a ditch in northern Korea, and he is with the rescue pilot, the crewman, the gunner on the rescue pilot, Mickey Rooney, and Mickey Rooney says to him "Lieutenant, what are you doin' here in a ditch in human feces," they probably softened that for the movie, "here in Korea? Aren't you a lawyer from Denver?" And he says, "That's what I'm trying to figure out."

Well, he was there because he was called. Within seconds the Skyraiders

flew right up until a few years ago, flew all the way through Vietnam as rescue support, Spads, they call them, their code name was Sandy, the Navy A-1 Skyraiders, then called AD's aforeship, then painted Navy dark blue, they made their last strafing run, kill some of the enemy coming in on Brubaker, and the young enlisted man from the rescue helicopter sitting there smoking, and then they pull off, just as they had to do in Vietnam sometimes, wiggle their wings, goodbye, good luck, friend, and within seconds, Mickey Mooney is dead, shot in the chest, and then Bill Holden starts running back and forth in this filthy human manure ditch, and finally they drill him again and again, and he dies spread-eagled in this filthy mud, and then it goes to the carrier bridge, Frederick March in one of his great final roles says those words that Ronald Reagan used to quote all of the time, this fictional admiral again more true than fiction, and says, "Where do we get such men, they go out, they do their job, they come back, they find this little pitching deck in these heavy seas, and they come home. Where do we get such men? Why is America lucky enough to have such men?" That was 1954. Here we are 41 years later and it is not a good Hollywood movie, it is real, somebody will make a movie out of this.

What happened with Capt. Scott O'Grady today is better than any Shakespeare could put it on print. Listen to this, Mr. Speaker.

□ 1800

June 2, Scott O'Grady's F-16 goes down over Bosnia. He had air-to-air missiles. He also had air-to-ground missiles. It was a deny-flight flight. As I argued with Secretary Perry, whom I deeply respect, and Shalikashvili, a soldier's soldier, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, they would contradict themselves in their own testimony in front of the Senate yesterday morning and in front of the National Security Committee yesterday, because they kept calling these air combat missions, and they kept saying we are not in combat. This is combat.

My colleague from Colorado once said fighter pilots are not athletes. I almost took off out of my chair. I said, "Excuse me? Would the gentle lady yield?" She got all flustered. Fighter pilots are athletes, and these women officers demanding to go into combat, they have given up the fight to go into special operations. They do not want to be Delta Force people. They do not want to rappel off of helicopters in the middle of the desert or jungle or Arctic situation. They are not asking for infantry anymore. They certainly do not want to work around artillery with 100-pound shells, slinging them around, and they are not asking anymore to go into tank armored units, because they know trying to pull a wounded 200-pound unconscious man out of a tank is something I have never seen a woman can do, not even the ones

pumping weight to get on the Glad-iators. I could not lift a 200-man out of a tank on fire about to explode. If I called for somebody, I want it to be somebody who, together, we can lift him out, not somebody with not too much upper body strength who says, "Oh, I can't be of any help. Sorry. Let's get a third person here."

No, they are not asking for armor, special ops, infantry, or artillery any longer. But they are still lusting for those fighter pilot seats.

So all the time I am discussing this, picture the strongest, best woman fighter pilot, and I do not think the Marines have any yet, in the Navy or the Air Force today, trying to do what Scott O'Grady did. He goes down June 2. His wingman, I just confirmed on the phone, did not see him go down.

I bailed out once in peacetime on a gunnery range in the Gila Bend Mountains. I had a towship, two guys in the towship with a target, four guys in my flight, three others, a flight behind me, a flight in front of me; nobody saw me bail out, because I was going straight down 500 knots, 500 miles an hour, 450 knots, and went out upside down. Nobody saw this guy go out.

National Security Adviser Tony Lake tells Mr. Clinton that we could probably launch a search and rescue mission. Lake tells the President that he may be alive, based on a variety of sources. Meanwhile, the military is lying to me, and I love it. I want to be lied to. If there is a search and rescue operation going on, I do not have a need to know and, therefore, I am not in a position to be wishing well to some newsman that I trust for the umpteenth time and stabs me in the back, because an Air Force officer trusted some newsman, and they went running right out yesterday while Scott O'Grady is still on the ground and published we were getting beeper signals. Is the media not great with their first amendment right to know? Could have gotten O'Grady captured.

So now we skip forward. That was on June 7, yesterday, that he might be alive, 5 days, for 5 days, and I will tell you the truth, Mr. Speaker, I started to say prayers for this young pilot without knowing his name. I thought his wingman was probably right, that he was blown up.

June 8, that is today, Scott O'Grady, U.S. Air Force captain, F-16 Fighting Falcon, snake-eating face on fire, fighter pilot makes contact with NATO aircraft. That is probably an Air Force AWACS.

Two-twenty, and let us see, what time was it here in Washington, 7-hour difference, so this is 7:20 at night, after I had said in committee to Secretary Perry and General Shalikashvili, in my mind thinking that Scott was probably gone, in heaven 5 days ago, I said, "And our F-16 pilot who may be lost," and I said, "God willing, the F-16 jockey is hiding in the bush as we speak," and that is exactly what was happening

yesterday at about 11, no, at about 1:30, when I asked that question.

O'Grady makes contact with NATO airplane, 2:20, 7:20 last night, D.C. time, 4:20 in California, the signal is positively identified. The reason I brought up the West Coast is his mother, Mary Lou Scardapane, is up there in Washington State, in Washington, so she did not know, wherever you were, Mary Lou, at 4 o'clock, and I think she is watching this special order, wherever you were at 4:20, think about that moment. That is when God answered your prayers.

The father, a physician, Bill O'Grady, over here in Alexandria, VA, at 7:00 at night, maybe he is in the office late, trying not to bug the Pentagon, but like any dad, worried about his hero son. Three-thirty a.m., Bosnia-Herzegovina, Lake calls the President in his residential quarters and says, "It looks like it is real. It looks like a go." Sunrise, Bosnian time, 5:06, so it is 10:06 at night. I am watching the Channel 5 news, still no word about our missing pilot; name kept secret.

By the way, I want to tell you about Scott so you can picture him, and I do not know how tall he is or what color his hair is.

Do know he graduated from Embry-Riddle University. There are two of those, one in New Mexico and one in Florida. I do not know which one. He has got a younger brother, Paul, who is 25, a sister, Sheila, 26. She is the one I woke up to this morning to hear through her eyes and ears that her father walked into her room in the middle of the night and says, "Scott is alive. They have got him. He is rescued."

She said she thought it was a dream, and then she shook her head and realized that it was not a dream. Then she said, "We went berserk." So I guess that means Paul and Stacey and Dr. Bill were jumping around, that God had answered their prayers.

So it is now 5:45. A backup group of rescue aircraft and helicopters is launched. They remain offshore to monitor the rescue operation, to assist, if needed. Meanwhile, the Air Force guys, Avion, the best rescue guys in the world, are probably chomping at the bit to get there. But the Marines are closer on the deck of the *Kearsage*, and the primary rescue aircraft are told, "Go get him." They are launched from the *Kearsage*, two gigantic CH-53 Sea Stallion assault helicopters made up here in Connecticut, two AH Cobra attack helicopters, probably made in Texas, if I am correct, and two AV-8 Harrier jump jets made in St. Louis, all of them launched from the *Kearsage*.

I have been lucky enough to fly in all of these, and that Harrier still steals every air show everywhere in the country, everywhere it goes, when it bows to the audience, turns around, turns the vanes on those jets, and then it is up, up and away like Superman.

Six-twelve, rescue aircraft make radio contact with O'Grady, a happy

ending here to the bridges of Toko-Ri. This is utterly fantastic.

Six-forty-four, rescuers spot a yellow smoke flare. Yes, Scott, our equipment does work, that O'Grady released to mark the landing site.

O'Grady, Captain Scott O'Grady, runs out of the woods, pistol in hand, and is picked up by a big Marine Corps CH-53 helicopter.

Six-forty-nine, 5 minutes later, Lake calls the commander-in-chief and says, "Got him." Clinton says, "It sounds like this is one amazing kid." Not a kid, a man, an athlete, a fighter pilot, a real man, not a young boy at 23 ditching classes at Oxford.

Seven-oh-seven, missile fired at helicopters after they lift off with O'Grady. Helicopter carrying O'Grady leaves Bosnia. The way the Marines probably said that to the *Kearsage* is, "Crossing the beach."

Over the Adriatic, 7:30, O'Grady is safely aboard the USS *Kearsage*. Break out the champagne aboard. So, from first contact, let us see, rescue makes contact at 6:12, and 1 hour and 8 minutes later, he is back on the deck of the *Kearsage*, and the Air Force rescue guys, Avion, probably launched, are probably saying, "Oh, well, next time."

Now, you could not write a better story than that, Mr. Speaker. Listen to this, what a great happy day for America. We have gone from what was, in my mind yesterday, questioning our Defense Secretary, one killed in action, our first in 3 years of that Bosnian fratricidal, horrible killing scene; I thought we had our first KIA. By the grace of God, we have gone from one KIA back to zero, no American man or woman dead in the Balkans, and I want to keep it that way.

Listen to this, Air Force Captain Scott F., and I wonder if that is for Fitzgerald or Francis, Scott F. O'Grady survived for 6 days after his F-16 was shot down by Serbs in Bosnia, shot down by a SAM-6 missile. That is 4 quad missiles on a mobile unit, very tough to hunt out and destroy. He hid out by day, slept by day, and hid out, moved at night, living on a small supply of survival rations, sparingly activating a radio transmitter.

His sister, Stacey, says he knew they were hunting him down, looking for him. She finally spoke to her brother by telephone between 3 and 4 a.m. this morning. What a happy day for them. Over there it is already 10 o'clock.

"He told us he was thinking about us and that helped him get through," O'Grady's younger brother, Paul, said. "If he made it out of the plane," Paul said, "I was not worried about my brother's survival or not. He has been well trained. He told me about all the survival things. I knew he would be okay."

The siblings all gathered at the home of their father, Dr. William O'Grady, in Alexandria, immediately after hearing, and I hope you are watching, Doc. He remained there throughout the week waiting for news. Stacy flew in from

Chicago, where she is a teacher. Oh, gosh, what a heart-gripping vigil for the O'Grady.

Paul drove up from Chapel Hill, NC, where he has a summer job before beginning dental school in the fall. The family stayed in contact with Scott's mom, who lives in Seattle. I am going to call her when I walk off the floor here, Mr. Speaker.

"We had a lot of ups and downs as the week went on," said the elder O'Grady. Dr. O'Grady said, "We knew he was hit by a missile. But at first we really did not know if he had ejected. There was no evidence of life." Later, news media reports indicated a parachute had been found. I missed that. A radio signal was being received. That sounded good. There was nothing definite.

Then the military may have known more than they could tell us. Yes. And they handled it perfectly.

I am a chairman, and they did not tell me, Doctor, and I am on the Intel Committee, and they did not tell me, Doctor, and I asked them, and I am glad I was not told. He was the first person to tell us that they had been contacted, if they contacted Scott by radio, and they were going in to get him, said the dad.

A short time later, perhaps 20 minutes, an Air Force general called to say O'Grady had been brought out by helicopter, a class act, hearing from a general officer.

The siblings reminisced, joked about old times together. "I slept with it last night, and I told them," because she was dreaming about her brother being rescued when she got the call, adding it was a very emotional moment. He was overwhelmed by the fact that so many people were fussing over him.

Stacey said she had been born on Scott's third birthday. They have the same birthday. "I took the limelight away from him. Now he is getting it back. He can have it all."

In Seattle, Scott's mother, Mary Lou Scardapane, was relieved enough to joke with reporters, typical fighter pilot's mom. "As a parent, I think one of our fears is when our kids are out at night and they are not at home on time. When they get home, they had better have a darned good reason. When he gets home, he had better have a darned good story." Oh, he does, Mary Lou, and Mrs. Scardapane and the stepfather, Joseph, said they planned to go to Italy to see Scott.

O'Grady suffered little more than a burn on the neck. Little more than a burn on the neck? That is not a sunburn. That is from the SAM-6 missile. Hunger pangs, he probably did not worry about that too much; and dehydration.

Clinton has called the O'Grady family. Clinton says bravery and skill are an inspiration. Yes, sir, just what is needed up and down the whole civilian chain of command who is still abusing our military men and women, so are the bravery and skill of those who took part in the operation, just doing their

duty, Mr. President. They are all American heroes. That is right, particularly under these trying times, no pay raises.

Marine Colonel Marty Berandt, who helped coordinate the mission and was in one of the rescue choppers, it is getting too good to be believed here, Mr. Speaker, Marine Corps bird colonel, eagle type, in a chopper over enemy country, in the hot zone, with SAM-6 missiles and big SAM-2's tracking him; he is on the rescue board; that is my kind of Marine colonel, excellent, Marty, this is great.

"It won't be very soon," says the colonel, "that I will forget the look on the pilot's face as he approached the helicopter this morning." He said in a NATO commander's report that he pulled the pilot aboard was wrong, well, a Marine Corps colonel being a little humble. Here he was probably watching from the front cockpit, and why did he not pull him aboard? I bet he would have loved to have. Berandt said O'Grady was very talkative. That is called high adrenaline rate, in good spirits, and got a block here, lost 3 or 4 lines, helicopter this morning, no, here it is, here it is, I skipped ahead.

Once on board, O'Grady took some water and then dug right into a meal-ready-to-eat. Meals rejected by Ethiopians, and an MRE must have looked good to Scott, so he must have really been hungry, the colonel said.

Paul O'Grady praised his brother's rescuers. "I want to thank the Armed Forces, just from the bottom of my heart. I cannot thank them enough."

O'Grady, oh, it is getting better, born in Brooklyn, NY. I am born in Harlem, I hate to trump him, but Harlem trumps Brooklyn, probably not if you are born in Brooklyn, born on Columbus Day, October 12, 1965, so he has got his 30th birthday coming up. What an adventure for a 29-year-old.

O'Grady grew up in Spokane, WA, his home of record, earned a degree in aerospace aviation management in 1989. So he has only been out of college 6 years this month, from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. It is the one in Prescott, AZ. He was commissioned on April 20; that is the birthday of my young nephew, Matt, who is fighting as we speak to get into pilot training. Good luck, Matt. Commissioned April 20, 1989, 6 years ago, pilot training in the Euro-NATO joint jet pilot training. That is my nephew's fondest dream, at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas, served as an F-16 pilot in Korea, Osan, I will bet, in Germany, and most recently in Italy, and has more than 780 hours of flying time.

□ 1815

I am glad I went long enough to get one of the hottest Marines serving in this House, my vintage, from the early fifties, the chairman of our great Committee on Rules, JERRY SOLOMON.

May this Air Force peacetime fighter pilot thank this Marine, as I did Wayne Grisham when he was in? God bless you

for saving this snake-eating, face-on-fire, 29-year-old fighter pilot, plucking him right out of the hands of the crazed Serbian guys there.

I yield happily to the gentleman.

Mr. SOLOMON. I just want to thank the great American for yielding to me, but you know what happened yesterday in the rescue of that downed pilot just speaks to the real need of what we are going to be doing next week on the floor of this House, and I do not have to tell the gentleman because he is such a valuable member of the Committee on Armed Services, but we are going to take up a bill which is going to turn this country around and turn our military preparedness around.

The gentleman knows the condition that we were in back in the early 1970's, when just to attempt to rescue our hostages in a place called Iran we had to cannibalize about 14 helicopter gunships just to get 5 that would work, and they failed. So did the mission. That is the condition of our military preparedness back in the seventies. We have almost reached that area now.

Mr. DORNAN. Same helicopters, by the way, big H-53—

Mr. SOLOMON. Absolutely, and in the budget that we are going to be taking up, the armed services bill, on next Tuesday, which the gentleman had a lot to do with writing that bill, we are going to increase procurement by 11 percent instead of cutting our defense. We are going to be increasing procurement by 11 percent—

Mr. DORNAN. Hurrah.

Mr. SOLOMON. Research and development increased by 5 percent instead of a 20-percent cut, operation and maintenance up 3 percent, military facilities and installations up 5 percent.

And more than anything else, BOB, instead of putting a ceiling on how many Members can serve in the Armed Forces, we are putting a bottom on it, saying that this is how we cannot go any lower than this. We are going to maintain a strong military preparedness.

But the whole idea was in the rescue of that pilot which you know so well, the state-of-the-art technology in order to find the pilot, to communicate with him, and then to go in there and bring him out. That took great state-of-the-art technology, the same kind we used in Desert Storm where we could see them with night vision; they could not see us.

That is what we need to do any time we put any man or woman in combat. They better be there with the best we can give them, and that is what this bill is going to do next Tuesday, and I thank you for what you have done that way.

Mr. DORNAN. JERRY, I just wanted to touch on one thing.

I am the chairman of the Military Personnel Committee, so all of these ceilings and floors on military strength falls under my purview at first, until I turn it over to my friend and super chairman, FLOYD SPENCE, Navy captain

type on Armed—now renamed the National Security Committee.

We also re-added to the floor that we put there now 7,500 new slots, and so as not to get into micromanaging, we told the Secretary of Defense, fine gentleman, Mr. Perry, "Look, here is 7,500 birds. You need them in Patriot missile batteries. You may need them in the Air Force and AWAC's. You may need them in the Marine Corps in certain areas where the Marines are stretched too thin. You pick them out for us, and, if we have disagreement with you, try not to micromanage. We will counsel together and figure out where we can put these slots."

Now I had an account for something else, and it looks like the battle is over. Even though you know just about everything on that Rules Committee, you do not know that I just went over to the Senate and asked my equivalent over there—we served with him, one of our class of '80, great Members in the House, DAN COATS, Senator, Indiana, chairman of their Military—

Mr. SOLOMON. Great Senator.

Mr. DORNAN. Right.

He told me he will put in his chairman's mark my HIV language, and it is not cruel. It simply says, as you and I have spoken, that if you have contracted the AIDS virus, and nobody is left in the military who got it through polluted blood.

You and I know that the odds are a 100 to 1, a 1,000 to 1, 10,000 to 1 you got it from violating the Uniform Code of Military Justice. You put a dirty needle in your arm. That is the biggest category out of the roughly 400. You went to an off-limits house of prostitution where 100 percent of the prostitutes are infected with AIDS—the killing venereal disease virus—or you went to an off-limits homosexual bar. That is the smallest of the three categories. You are going to get a honorable discharge, and you ought to thank your stars for it, and you got 6 months to pack up your bags. I hope the military will move paster because they are going to go "figmo," and you remember what that means, not much you can get out of somebody when they know they are going to leave in a few months and they are leaving a little disgruntled. They will get the world's best hospital treatment in the VA hospitals. You worked those hospitals for almost two decades here. They transfer even to the very same hospital where they are already getting care.

But here is the important part. I have actually bought our military by putting off active duty honorably 1,400 HIV carriers. Not only do we make the walking blood bank safer, but we now have 1,400 slots to add to the 7,500 of men and women who are deployable anywhere in the world, who can fly, shoot, sail, and get in an armored vehicle, JERRY.

These people could not do any of this, and we have put off active duty, Mr. Speaker, 8,114 good, patriotic Americans because they did not have the will

power to control their diet, for being overweight, and a few hundred for being underweight or too weak to do push-ups, lack of discipline. They are being honorably discharged.

How could we put our 8,000 people who have not violated the UCMJ, and, to be politically correct, keep on board 1,400 who cannot leave Virginia or California, if they were under the Naval Department, and not much else if they are Air Force or Navy? We have won that battle. No abortions in military hospitals. There is going to be a fight on the House floor.

Chairman COATS said he will put that in his mark, and next year, you will be happy to hear—and I am kind of an up front guy, that is my style, it is yours, too, JERRY—hearings on women in combat. We have agreed to have that this winter, hearings on "Don't ask."

I believe it is immoral not to tell a confused young person who maybe comes out of this all homosexual, weird high school in New York City that it is not compatible with military life. Democrat SAM NUNN's words, or IKE SKELTON, Democrat here in this House, other side of the aisle, good patriotic, gung-ho American whose son is in the First Armored Division in Europe. You must ask them so they can go, "Oh, I didn't know that. I won't join, then, if you don't want me." Instead, we bring them on board. They then get the news that then it is an administrative discharge and we wasted all that money.

We have fixed a lot of things, and there is more to fix, and, Chairman SOLOMON, you know how I look at this as a one-two punch in the 104th Congress. We have a lot of work left to do. We have got to work together.

Next year's defense bill will continue this earth-shaking bill that you have just discussed. It is going to be a great debate on the House floor, and hopefully this weekend I will be in Aviano hugging a lot of heroes over there and be back to give you a firsthand report; okay?

Mr. SOLOMON. We wish you well over there, and I will be interested in getting your report when you come back.

Mr. DORNAN. You got it.

Mr. SOLOMON. Thanks so much for being such a great Congressman.

Mr. DORNAN. You got it. Semper Fidelis, and, if I may say so, the Air Force is still aiming high. Off we go into the wild blue yonder, but not over Bosnia. Off the coast, stay out over the Adriatic.

I yield back the balance of my time. Have a good weekend, Mr. Speaker, and take care of all your Air Force guys down there in your neck of the woods.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. SOLOMON, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-136) on the resolution (H. Res. 164) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1530) to authorize appro-

priations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. HARMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of personal business.

Mr. YATES (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of personal business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. VOLKMER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. POSHARD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SANDERS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DREIER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. RIGGS, for 5 minutes each day, on June 13, 14, and 15.

Mr. DORNAN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GONZALEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. VENTO.

Mr. MARKEY.

Mr. GORDON.

Mr. DEUTSCH.

Mr. BONIOR in six instances.

Ms. DELAuro in two instances.

Mr. LIPINSKI.

Ms. SLAUGHTER.

Mr. HINCHEY.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

Mr. GEJDENSON.

Mr. DINGELL.

Mr. SCHUMER.

Mr. THOMPSON.

Mr. POSHARD.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

Mr. COSTELLO.

Mr. CLEMENT.