

little common sense, we can do it. I urge my colleagues to look at my bill.

#### WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO OUR GIFT BAN?

(Mr. WATT of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, what ever happened to our gift ban? Last year the House voted two separate times to stop lobbyists from paying for Members' meals, entertainment and other "gimmees," but the Republicans in the other body stopped the gift ban in its tracks. On the first day of this Congress, Mr. Speaker, House Democrats moved to impose tough gift restrictions and royalty limits, but the effort failed with not a single Republican in support. In the meantime, the image of our Members continues to be battered by book deals and other appearances of impropriety.

If we are looking for respect, let us pass the gift ban. Mr. Speaker, give our image a break. Let us pass a gift ban.

□ 1420

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOEHNER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. MONTGOMERY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, our colleague, IKE SKELTON, is the recipient of the 1995 Minuteman of the Year Award from the Reserve Officers Association. He was honored this past week at the ROA's midwinter meeting in Washington.

I want to share with my colleagues the speech IKE made in accepting this deserving award.

#### COMMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE IKE SKELTON

There are magic, memorable moments within one's life, and being here with you this evening is truly one of them. I have neither the mastery of words nor the eloquence of diction to express my gratitude on receiving this honor. It is a particular thrill to join the ranks of colleagues such as Greg Laughlin, Daniel Inouye, Jack Murtha, Sam Nunn, Sonny Montgomery, Strom Thurmond, and others who have received this award.

Through the years, I have had many friends among the Reserves, particularly those from Missouri, such as Capt. Mike Nolan. I feel a close kinship to those present.

I am indeed proud of the Reserve forces of our country. From the battle at Lexington, MA in 1775 to the Persian Gulf in 1991, where Bronze Star recipient Jim Ahrens from Lexington, MO served with distinction, reservists have been prepared and ready to heed our country's call to arms.

As we speak, there are over 13,000 American reservists serving in 34 countries, including 800 in Operation Uphold Democracy

in Haiti; over 600 with Operation Deny Flight in Bosnia; and over 1,500 reservists supporting counter-drug operations along our borders.

This past November, two of my colleagues—Chet Edwards and Jim Chapman of Texas—and I visited NATO headquarters in Brussels, where we were told by Brig. Gen. John Dallegger, "If we didn't have the Guard and Reserve 'to spell us', we couldn't do our mission over the long haul." At the Aviano Air Base in Italy, whose mission is Operation Deny Flight, Col. Dick Brenner said, "We fly about 600 sorties a month. And Reserve air units are completely integral to our flight operations. They are darn good pilots, and I am proud to fly with them." In Zagreb, Croatia, where the U.S. Navy operates the field hospital, Col. Jack Fitzgerald of the UNPROFOR forces told us, "We operate a hospital for the United Nations protection force. Reservists contribute special skills we need to support the operation. They come from everywhere in the United States—Virginia, Missouri, Texas—everywhere." And it was an Army Reserve helicopter unit placing huge boulders along the Missouri River which successfully kept that river from cutting a new channel during the flood of 1993. In short, the Reserve forces of our country live up to the finest traditions of the words, "citizen soldiers."

Unfortunately, those who wear the uniform are not always appreciated. Historically, the gratitude of the public does not always extend to those whose duty it is to defend them. This is reflected by the words from Rudyard Kipling's 1890 poem "Tommy:" Then it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, and "Tommy, 'ow's yer soul?" But it's "Thin red line of 'eroes" when the drums begin to roll—

But appreciation or not, I know full well those who wear the American uniform will always do their duty.

Congressmen Edwards and Chapman and I also visited the Flanders Field American Cemetery in Waregem, Belgium. The village mayor came out to thank us for the American efforts on behalf of his country in two World Wars. We laid a wreath in memory of those 368 Americans who were killed in World War I. All of the men buried in that cemetery were soldiers of three National Guard divisions and one Army Reserve division. Citizen soldiers all. Four were from Missouri, and sadly, the crosses note that seven were killed in combat on November 11, 1918, just hours before the armistice.

During the wreath laying ceremony, a member of the cemetery staff read the poem that came out of that war, titled "In Flanders Fields." In the poem is the phrase "to you from failing hands we throw the torch, be yours to hold it high." The author, prophetically, was killed in battle later in the war, and through the poem spoke to succeeding generations of those who value freedom. The memory of our visit to that American cemetery in Flanders shall long remain with me.

This is a dangerous world in which we live. The long twilight struggle, the bitter contest against Communist expansion, has come to an end. With the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the implosion of the Soviet Union, a certain euphoria swept across our land, only to be replaced with the reality of Saddam Hussein and others whose values and designs are not the same as ours.

Few realize that during 1994, this country came close to armed conflict three times—in North Korea, Haiti, and Kuwait. The first two were diffused by the diplomacy of former President Jimmy Carter, and one was blocked by American forces being rushed to the Middle East once again. Conflicts and

threats rage throughout the globe, and those involving our vital interests are of concern not only to those who wear American uniforms, but to every citizen of the United States.

Our country, historically, has made the mistake of disarming after every major conflict. This fact was decried by an Army major in 1923, when he noted "The regular cycle in the doing and undoing of measures for the national defense." He added, "We start in the making of adequate provisions and then turn abruptly in the opposite direction and abolish what has just been done." Maj. George C. Marshall's words are as applicable to today's military downsizing as they were 72 years ago.

We should not allow the post-cold-war era to be one where we slash our national security as we have done heretofore in our history. We should learn from the past, and heed the warning of General Marshall.

The protection of freedom and American vital interests is no small thing. A ready and able military is our national defense insurance policy. In time of conflict, it allows us to be successful. It gives strength to our international diplomacy. In other times, it prevents the clash of arms. Every American should understand these basic truths regarding national security.

In 1935, Winston Churchill warned his countrymen that, "wars come very suddenly." This warning is worth keeping in mind in 1995. In other words, the ordeal of the 20th century is not over.

In 1939, we were surprised by the signing of the non-aggression pact between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany. The consequences were horrific.

In 1941, we were surprised by the attack of the Empire of Japan on United States naval forces at Pearl Harbor.

In 1946, we were surprised by the Iron Curtain and the cold war.

In 1950, we were surprised by the attack of North Korea against the South.

In 1961, we were surprised when the Berlin Wall went up.

In 1962, we were surprised when Khrushchev put missiles in Cuba.

In 1968, we were surprised by the Tet offensive by the North Vietnamese.

In 1979, we were surprised by the fall of the Shah of Iran.

In 1980, we were surprised by the attack of Iraq against Iran.

In 1990, we were surprised by the attack and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq.

And just last fall, we were surprised by the sudden movement of Iraq forces toward Kuwait.

Truly, this is an uncertain world. Unpredictable, like the patterns we see in the turning of a child's kaleidoscope. There are those in this audience who will once again hear the rattle of musketry, the crash of artillery, the roar of the jet engine, and the klaxon call to battle stations. No one seeks this, but until mankind finds a better way to solve disputes and conflicts, this prediction will come to pass.

The late President Harry Truman, who, coincidentally had both Army National Guard and Reserve careers, had a sign on his desk that stated, "the buck stops here." The Constitution states, without any further explanation, that the President is the Commander in Chief of our military forces. By contrast, that document sets forth in detail in article one, section eight the duties of the Congress, as representatives of the American people, to raise and maintain the military, and set the regulations that govern it.

Thus, the same could be said of Congress regarding our national security duties, "the

buck stops here." It is the job of the Congress to make sure that the Nation's insurance policy is paid in full and that we have an adequate, fully trained properly educated, well-equipped, and highly motivated military.

This Congress should heed the necessity to fully fund the Bottom-Up Review, which is designed to successfully fight two major regional conflicts nearly simultaneously; to maintain a high level of readiness; to give adequate pay raises to uniformed personnel; to allow our forces to have the quality of life they so well deserve; and to have continued modernization of equipment and weapons systems.

I say to you, Members of this distinguished organization: Your visits to Capitol Hill, and communications with Members of Congress, are extremely important. Never underestimate the impact of your presence as Congress debates our national defense policy. When the history of this new post-cold-war era is written, I hope the history books will say that the Americans in uniform stood tall and had the strong support of the Congress of the United States.

Let me share with you a magic, memorable moment from yesteryear. I remember it so clearly. I was 9 years of age, attending the fifth grade at Central School in Lexington. My father, a veteran of the First World War, trial lawyer, and well-known orator in Lafayette County, was invited to speak at the Armistice Day ceremonies at the Odessa High School, just a few miles from Lexington. That was November 11, 1941. He took me from my class and we drove to the Odessa High School, where I sat in the back of the student body, listening and watching the Armistice Day program. On the stage, students portraying soldiers were dressed in World War uniforms, and the beating of a bass drum simulated artillery fire.

Then my father gave his speech. He told of the freedoms of America, and how those in uniform had defended our country through the years. He also stated that there were those in that audience who might well have to defend our freedoms once again. How prophetic he was, for less than a month later, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, and our Nation was engulfed in what became known as World War II. Two young men from that Odessa graduating class of May, 1942 were killed in action.

My father concluded his speech to the student body by reciting—

"In Flanders Fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

"We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders Fields.

"Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders Fields."

Let those inscriptions on the crosses of Flanders Field be more than forgotten names. Let those men be remembered for their patriotism, courage, and dedication. Let those citizen soldiers who lie there ever cause us to remember that we, in our day and time, have the duty to hold high the touch of freedom in this dangerous and unstable world.

Thank you, and God bless you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Michigan [Mr. EHLERS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. EHLERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.].

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. DORNAN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.].

#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. SHUSTER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I submit for Members attention the following letter from myself and the chairman of the Committee on National Security, Mr. SPENCE, regarding jurisdiction.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, January 4, 1995

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,  
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: As Chairmen of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on National Security, we wanted to advise you of our mutual agreement concerning the division of jurisdiction over the merchant marine due to the dissolution of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Rule X, clause 1(k) of the Rules of the House for the 104th Congress provides jurisdiction to the Committee on National Security over:

"(7) National security aspects of merchant marine, including financial assistance for the construction and operation of vessels, the maintenance of the U.S. shipbuilding and ship repair industrial base, cabotage, cargo preference, and merchant marine officers and seamen as these matters relate to the national security."

The new Rule X, clause 1(q) provides the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with jurisdiction over:

"(12) Measures relating to merchant marine, except for national security aspects of merchant marine."

This split in jurisdiction in what was previously entirely within the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries is based on the fact that, while various aspects of the merchant marine and related activities are transportation matters that are handled in the executive branch by the Department of Transportation, certain aspects are so closely tied to national security that primary jurisdiction should be within the Committee on National Security. For example, the maintenance and control of the National Defense Reserve Fleet and the Ready Reserve Fleet would be within the jurisdiction of the Committee on National Security.

However, it may not be clear in all cases to which of the two Committees a particular bill should be referred. In general, matters relating to merchant marine activities will be referred to the National Security Committee if the national security aspects of the matter predominate over transportation and other merchant marine aspects.

While present programs of the Maritime Administration have both national security and transportation implications, we agree

that primary jurisdiction over the annual authorization for the Maritime Administration would be in the Committee on National Security. Primary jurisdiction over the annual authorization for the Federal Maritime Commission would be in the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Shipbuilding is a subject that has a particularly strong connection with national security because of the implications for our defense industrial base. We agree that the National Shipbuilding Initiative, including the loan guarantee program under Title XI, would be within the primary jurisdiction of the Committee on National Security. In addition, the Congress likely will be requested to approve legislation to implement an international agreement to eliminate shipbuilding subsidies worldwide. While this is generally a laudable goal, the contents of this agreement must be examined in the context of its long-term effect on the shipbuilding industrial base. Of particular concern is the question of whether U.S.-based shipyards are disadvantaged by this agreement to the point that a transition from naval construction to commercial construction is impossible. We agree that, as between the Committees on National Security and Transportation and Infrastructure, primary jurisdiction over implementing legislation for this agreement should reside with the Committee on National Security.

Jurisdiction over the State and Federal Maritime Training Academies is granted in the rule specifically to the Committee on National Security. With respect to the provision in Rule X, clause 1(k)(9) concerning merchant marine officers and seamen, it is understood that measures whose predominant purpose is the maintenance of a well trained merchant mariner manpower pool capable of meeting sustainment and surge sealift requirements will be within the jurisdiction of the Committee on National Security. Shortages of qualified U.S. mariners to serve during the mobilization for Desert Storm highlighted the need to consider these problems from a national security standpoint.

Jurisdiction over the Coast Guard is provided to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure by Rule X, clause 1(q)(1). This confers upon the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee authority over all matters handled by the Coast Guard that were previously within the jurisdiction of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

This letter may not address all merchant marine issues that will come before you. We will continue to work with you toward resolution of other issues as they arise.

Finally, it is understood that this agreement does not in any way alter or limit the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or of the Committee on National Security over matters discussed herein which were properly within the respective Committees' jurisdiction prior to the dissolution of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Sincerely,

FLOYD D. SPENCE,  
Chairman, Committee  
on National Security.

BUD SHUSTER,  
Chairman, Committee  
on Transportation  
and Infrastructure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. CHABOT] is recognized for 5 minutes.