

IN HONOR OF ALAN L. HOFFMAN  
IN RECOGNITION OF HIS OUT-  
STANDING PERFORMANCE AS  
SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE AS-  
SISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
IN THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE  
AFFAIRS

HON. PORTER J. GOSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 1997*

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House to the dedicated work of Alan Lawrence Hoffman as special counsel to the assistant attorney general in the Office of Legislative Affairs. During the last 18 months, Mr. Hoffman was of immeasurable help to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence by expeditiously handling a range of matters of interest to the committee.

There were many difficult issues that came before the committee during the 104th Congress. Mr. Hoffman can take great pride in knowing that he approached every issue with a spirit of nonpartisanship that is a tribute to his professionalism. Mr. Hoffman should be particularly proud of his work on the Economic Espionage Act of 1996. This act will contribute substantially to the protection of U.S. trade secrets whose compromise could endanger the national security of the United States. Mr. Hoffman also helped to develop a proposal that assisted in the clarification of the mission of the National Drug Intelligence Center in Johnstown, PA.

Mr. Hoffman will continue his public service as an assistant U.S. attorney in Philadelphia. He will be genuinely missed at the Department of Justice and by members and staff of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. It gives me great pleasure to recognize Mr. Hoffman's hard work and I want to wish him well in his new and exciting career. On behalf of the committee, I want to thank him for his continued service to our country and for the unstinting nonpartisan support he gave to the intelligence community.

CHARRO DAYS, INC., CELEBRATES  
60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 1997*

Mr. ORTIZ, I rise today to commend all those associated with Charro Days, Inc.—the organization which sponsors a 4-day February festival in south Texas—for their 60th anniversary.

Each year, the communities of Brownsville, TX, in the United States and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico, join forces to commemorate the exceptional international relationship found on the United States-Mexico border. Charro Days, Inc. is composed of members from both communities and oversees the three parades and festivities of the celebration. This festival, which features many bands and theme floats during Charro Days, represents the legends, cultures, international spirit, and sometimes difficult history that leads us to where we are today.

Charro Days was originally a pre-Lenten holiday, along the lines of Mardi Gras in New

Orleans. It has grown from a very small festival to an extraordinary international holiday that offers a variety of music, from mariachis and conjunto to modern Tejano. It has drawn the attention of visitors and has become 1 of the top 100 events in North America as highlighted by several organizations which guide tourists to North American attractions.

In this southernmost U.S. city, our hands are joined during Charro Days with the hands of our international neighbors as we celebrate all that makes us unique. We participate in events that contribute to the preservation of our border history, heritage, and traditions of our two nations. There is song, dance, costumes, food, craftsmanship, and a celebration of our past as well as our future.

Celebrations like these ensure both nations will remain friends and compaños for a very long time to come. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Charro Days, Inc., for their 60th anniversary.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE  
PALESTINIAN CHARTER?

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 1997*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 15, 1997, Israel and the Palestinian authority reached an agreement on a protocol for the redeployment of Israeli forces in Hebron. Accompanying the protocol is a note for the record, prepared by the U.S. Special Middle East Coordinator, Ambassador Dennis Ross, which specifies reciprocal actions that must be taken by both Israel and the Palestinian Authority. U.S. officials have described this note for the RECORD as a road map for further progress in the peace process.

Among its various provisions, the Note stipulates that the Palestinian side must "complete the process of revising the Palestinian National Charter" to expunge from it all clauses inimicable to Israel. Previously, both the Clinton administration and the PLO claimed that the charter had been changed by a vote taken by the Palestinian National Council [PNC] in April 1996. That vote claimed to have canceled all clauses in the charter which contradict the letters exchanged between the PLO and the Israeli Government.

But at the same time, the PNC ordered the adoption of a new charter, which would demonstrate to the world the exact textual changes made with regard to Israel. It referred the matter to a legal committee that was charged with submitting a new draft charter by October 24. Nothing happened then, and Yasir Arafat failed to meet this obligation in violation of the PLO's stated commitment. Moreover, the fact that the charter revision is included in the note drafted by Ambassador Ross is evidence that the Clinton administration knew and acknowledges that the Palestinian side is not in compliance.

Several weeks ago, the PNC delegated to another special legal committee the authority to draft a new charter. However, many questions still remain unanswered. In delegating authority, the PNC once again did not specify which clauses in the charter require amendment, nor did it specify a deadline for the revised text.

More recently, Chairman Arafat reportedly told two French publications that the Palestinians have already fulfilled their commitments, and that he does not intend to adopt a new charter because the Israelis do not have a constitution. "When they will have one," Mr. Arafat said, "we will do the same."

Mr. Speaker, such utterances from Mr. Arafat are not helpful to progress in the peace process. Mr. Arafat knows what he had to do. There is no reason for further delay.

Mr. Speaker, the PLO's failure to amend the Palestinian Charter is a violation of the peace agreements with Israel. That failure, along with continued hostile rhetoric toward Israel, indicates a lack of sustained commitment by Yasir Arafat to the peace process. Accordingly, I call on Chairman Arafat to demonstrate his commitment to peace by leading the effort to amend the Palestinian National Charter at the earliest possible opportunity. That is his responsibility. We will be watching his actions closely. The time has come and gone for prompt compliance. Further delay is additional evidence that Chairman Arafat and the PLO are not willing to meet.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. PERRY

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 1997*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William J. Perry, who retired on January 24, 1997 as our 19th Secretary of Defense of the United States.

Dr. Perry has a long and distinguished record of serving his country. In the 1970's and 1980's, Bill's work on stealth technology for the Defense Department earned him the title "father of stealth." We all know how important this technology has become to our military and to our Nation. Bill was at the forefront of many other technology breakthroughs as well that today give America's forces the ability to dominate any potential adversary on the field of battle.

But I think crowning achievement came in quite a different arena than the scientific laboratories and high technology factories of this country. Beginning on "day one" of his tenure as Secretary of Defense, Bill Perry became a tireless advocate for the people who are the heart and soul of America's military might. He has led the fight for better pay, better housing, better health care, decent retirement benefits, and maintaining the highest standard of training for our men and women in uniform. This is not cheap and it is certainly not easy to accomplish given the competition we have for limited funds in a declining defense budget.

But Bill Perry has been true to the principle he so often recites: "Take care of the troops, and they will take care of you." Bill understands the lesson history tries to teach us again and again, but some never learn. That is, you can have the best military equipment in the world, but if you don't have well trained and well motivated people to operate that equipment, you don't have much. During his tenure Bill Perry put the men and women in

uniform first, and those men and women have taken care of this country.

Over the years, some who don't know Bill will have misunderstood his quiet and studious manner to mean that he might waver on certain issues. Nothing could be further from the truth. Bill has been a rock when it came to fighting for this administration's core defense policies. After 3 years of holding the reins at the Pentagon, he has left no doubt in anyone's mind that the readiness of our forces and the quality of life for the men and women who serve would come first, and he followed through on those convictions. For this I salute him.

Secretary Perry has had other important achievements as well. I know he is especially proud of his efforts to reduce the nuclear danger, particularly in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. Under Secretary Perry's steady hand, the sometimes foundering Cooperative Threat Program got off the ground to help these countries destroy over 4,000 nuclear warheads aimed at the United States and dismantle more than 800 bombers and ballistic missile launchers. This program also has been instrumental in helping the former Soviet nuclear states put tighter controls on nuclear materials such as highly enriched uranium to keep them from finding their way into the global marketplace.

These are real, measurable national security accomplishments that have made the world safer, and Bill Perry deserves to be proud of his record.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Perry made a difference throughout his many years of service to our country. On behalf of the Congress, and on behalf of the citizens of our great Nation I want to say to Bill and his family: "Thank you for a job well done, and Godspeed".

The most suitable closing to this tribute I can think of is in Bill's own words. I ask unanimous consent to enter into the RECORD Secretary Perry's farewell address delivered at Ft. Myer on January 14, 1997. His words are eloquent and poignant.

WILLIAM J. PERRY, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
FAREWELL ADDRESS-FT. MYER, JANUARY 14, 1997

I shall be telling this with a sigh.

Somewhere ages and ages hence.

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—

I took the one less traveled by.

And that has made all the difference.

—Robert Frost

Four years ago, America faced a choice; a choice between two roads that diverged. One road led to isolation and apathy, the other road, to engagement and action. This century has taught us that the road of isolation and apathy leads to instability and war.

President Clinton chose the road of engagement and action. He strove to bridge the Cold War chasms; to reduce its nuclear legacy; to reach out to former adversaries, to prevent the conditions for conflict, and to create the conditions for peace. And *that*, as Robert Frost has said, has made all the difference.

It has made all the difference in Europe, where, by establishing the Partnership for Peace we have replaced an Iron Curtain which divided the nations of Europe with a circle of security which brings them together.

It has made all the difference in our own hemisphere, where all nations, save one, have chosen democracy, and by establishing the Defense Ministerial of Americas we have forged new links of trust and cooperation.

It has made all the difference in the Asia Pacific, where by establishing a Framework Agreement we froze the North Korean nuclear program and prevented a nuclear arms race; and where, by strengthening the Security Agreement with Japan, we have ensured America's security presence—the oxygen that fuels the region's prosperity.

Choosing the right road has made all the difference around the world. By executing the Nunn-Lugar program, we have dismantled 4,000 nuclear weapons that once targeted America's cities. Today, the threat of nuclear holocaust no longer hangs like a dark cloud over the heads of our children.

Four years ago, the Department of Defense faced a choice. One road was well-traveled and easy to follow, but it would have allowed our forces to atrophy as we completed the post-Cold War draw down. The other road was less traveled by, twisting and bumpy with hard choices—hard choices to ensure that we had strong capable military forces ready to respond in a world of new dangers.

Twice before in this century when faced with that same choice, we chose the well-traveled road of neglect. And we paid the price—in Korea with Task Force Smith, and after Vietnam with a Hollow Army. This time we chose the road less-traveled by—the road of readiness. We established training as our highest priority. Training designed to make the scrimmage tougher than the game. We established the iron logic that quality of life for our forces meant quality people in our forces. We reformed our acquisition system to give our quality people the most effective technology. Technology that enables them to dominate the battlefield; to win quickly, decisively, and with minimum losses. And *that* has made all the difference.

It made all the difference wherever we sent our forces to prevent, deter, or defeat aggression. In Haiti, where we restored democracy. In the Arabian Gulf, where we contained a brutal dictator. In the Korean Peninsula, where we stood firm with an ally. In Bosnia, where we have stopped the killing and brought to a war-ravaged people the blessings of peace. The readiness road ensured the success of each of these missions. Readiness made all the difference.

Four years ago, I faced a personal choice between a well-traveled road to a quieter life, centered around family and friends; and a less-traveled road that led to turmoil, tension, and tough decisions. But it also led to an opportunity to serve our nation, to support the troops I cared for, and to achieve the dreams I cherished.

I thought long and hard upon that choice and took counsel from sage friends. I questioned my wisdom, my patience and my ability to endure. But the courage to meet the test came from the advice of a tough sergeant major: "Take care of the troops," he said, "and they will take care of you."

I have followed that advice, and that, for me, has made all the difference.

It made all the difference every time I advised the President on when and how to use military force. It made all the difference when I negotiated with ministerial colleagues, when I met with Presidents and Kings. It made all the difference when I decided on force levels, mission goals and rules of engagement every time we put our troops in harm's way. It made all the difference when I met with soldiers, Sailors, airmen and Marines, in distant lands, on domestic bases, on training fields, ships at sea in cargo planes, or fighter jets. It made all the difference when I shared Thanksgiving meals with them in Haiti, in Macedonia, in Bosnia.

That advice—"Take care of the troops, and they will take care of you"—has made all the difference as I learned from my mistakes, as I took pride in my achievements.

Today I say farewell to the President who honored me by asking me to serve as Secretary. I say farewell to my colleagues in the administration who worked with me to achieve common goals. I say farewell to my friends in the media, and in the Congress, and to the wonderful friends I have made in the embassies.

And I say farewell to our military leaders who have served our country so brilliantly. They have prepared our forces for war, but they are dedicated to peace. Elie Wiesel has said, "Peace is not God's gift to mankind. It is our gift to each other." And for the last four years peace is the gift we have given the American people.

But the hardest farewell to say is to the troops who have served me and whom I have served. Words cannot adequately describe my pride in you. So my farewell to you is a simple benediction:

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord cause His face to shine upon you, and give you peace.

#### REGARDING TERM LIMITS

HON. JAY DICKEY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 1997

Mr. DICKEY. Mr. Speaker, due to an inadvertent staff error, my name was added as a cosponsor to House Joint Resolution 2. Although my position has always been strongly in favor of limiting the number of terms for Congress, House Joint Resolution 2 does not comply with the State of Arkansas' congressional term limits amendment passed on November 5, 1996, as amendment 73 to the State Constitution. Unfortunately, House Joint Resolution 2 was reported from committee last week, and under the rules of the House, I am unable to remove my name as a cosponsor. My name being added as an original cosponsor to a resolution by Mr. HUTCHINSON containing the exact language contained in the Arkansas term limit amendment. Further, I plan to vote in favor of the Hutchinson resolution and against all other proposals that contain limits longer than 6 years for House Members since this represents the dictate of the recently passed amendment to the State Constitution.

AMBASSADOR MALEEHAH LODHI

HON. BOB LIVINGSTON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 1997

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize the outgoing Ambassador of Pakistan, Dr. Maleehah Lodhi, for her distinguished service. Ambassador Lodhi returned to Pakistan on January 31, 1997.

As many of my colleagues will attest, Ambassador Lodhi was a strong and objective advocate of her country and for freedom and democracy worldwide. Pakistan has been a great friend and ally of the United States. I can say with confidence that the Ambassador's tireless work over the past 3 years has enhanced and improved this bond. In fact, her endeavors contributed greatly to recent advances in our nations' relations. Advances that