

food, and protected national treasures. Our environment is, literally, our common ground.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 19, 1997.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, 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 Florida [Mr. CANADY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

A SUCCESSFUL BIPARTISAN RETREAT

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

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I think we have established a bit of a tradition by now that when those of us that have been involved in putting together the bipartisan retreat in Hershey are here to talk about that, we will make the symbolic gesture of going to the other podium and talking to our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, in part.

It has been interesting in the days since the weekend in Hershey to notice how many references have been made to the retreat to Hershey, to civility, both in debate on the floor and in the committee hearings that I have been a part of. I hope that is good evidence of things sort of taking seed, anyway. I know we have a great deal of work to do to make good on the beginnings that occurred at the retreat at Hershey, PA.

Before getting into a little bit of that, I just want to recognize and express my deep thanks to all that were involved in planning the weekend; my cochair, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. LAHOOD], and the other members of the planning committee that worked literally for months and months and months together, a gratifying experience in its own right, to put together with the help of some great outside experts a plan for the weekend.

Those colleagues included the gentleman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON], the gentleman from California [Mr. DREIER], the gentlewoman from Missouri [Mrs. EMERSON], the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. FOWLER], the gentleman from Texas [Mr. HINOJOSA], the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON], the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. SAWYER], and the gentleman from Texas [Mr. STENHOLM].

As I think most of our colleagues are aware, we came away from the week-

end in Hershey with many excellent ideas. Those are going to be reviewed and vetted and scrubbed and we hope then produced as recommendations coming out of the continuing work of the planning committee, that I hope now can be called an execution committee. We have met once since the weekend and will be meeting again.

Among the things we have already put in place, and Members will be advised of this by correspondence to their office, is a briefing on the retreat, the evening of April 16, from 5 to 7 p.m., downstairs in HC-5, where we hope our colleagues who were not able to attend the weekend, and their spouses, if at all possible, can join many of us who were there and our spouses for an opportunity to review some of what went on that weekend, to take a look at a video that is being compiled of the opening session, which included remarks by the Speaker and the Democratic leader, as well as a truly inspirational talk by the historian David McCullough.

We will have a time for socializing a bit, as well as dealing substantively with what went on in the weekend at Hershey and what our hopes are for carrying forward in very concrete terms the many, many good ideas that came out of that weekend.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my good friend, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. LAHOOD], for any comments he might wish to make at this point.

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I too want to add my thanks to all of those who worked so hard on making the retreat possible, including the Pugh Charitable Foundation, the Aspen Institute, and the Congressional Institute. Those folks contributed mightily to making our weekend a success.

But in large measure it was successful because of the Members who came, the 200 Members, about equally divided between Republican and Democratic Members, and then about 150 spouses and 100 children, and the weekend was a success because of the fact that Members took the time to come. The kind of encouragement that Members have been exhibiting to carry on the suggestions that were made at the weekend I think means a great deal.

I hope that our group can get together and come up with some recommendations. I think many of the recommendations have a great deal to do more with running the House, the institution of the House, how to make it more effective in the sense that people have a chance to debate, knowing that there are going to be differences, there are going to be partisan and political differences, but in reality when we leave the floor and the vote has been cast people will continue to talk to one another and carry on discussions beyond the House floor, and it does not relegate itself to the extent that Members will not carry on conversations after they leave the House floor.

Mr. SKAGGS. The gentleman's point is very well made. There have been some who have wanted to misconstrue our efforts in this regard as somehow getting rid of disagreement, which could not be further from the truth.

We recognize, I think, that representing this big country of ours—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for 1 additional minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That request may not be entertained by the Chair. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, if I may finish this one sentence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the place of my colleague, the gentleman from Colorado, [Mr. MCINNIS], in the 5-minute rotation today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

LOCKHEED MARTIN TO ROLLOUT F-22 ON APRIL 9 IN MARIETTA, GA

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado, [Mr. SKAGGS].

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding.

Just to complete the thought with my friend from Illinois, we just wanted to make sure that folks understand that our purposes are not to eliminate disagreements, which are inevitable, given the strongly held views that we have on the many important issues facing the country.

What we do believe is that we can replace what was becoming ever more sour debate among us with healthy debate which will live up to the expectations that I think the country and we hold for this institution.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I rise today to celebrate what I think is going to be a very historic moment in the national security of this country. On April 9, 1997, in Marietta, GA, at the Lockheed Martin plant we will have the rollout of the F-22.

I rise today along with my colleague from the 7th District of Georgia, [Mr. BARR], to talk about this historic event and to say that it marks the dawn of air dominance for the United States of America in the 21st century. The F-22 will be the fighter for the United States of America in the future.

The F-22 contains three major characteristics that will allow the United States of America to maintain the air dominance that we have been able to maintain in every major conflict over the last 40 years. Those three attributes, those three assets, are:

stealth, integrated avionics, and super-cruise.

Folks, this is one heck of an airplane that Lockheed Martin has put together, and I rise today with my friend from Marietta to celebrate this historic moment.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the 7th District of Georgia [Mr. BARR].

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague from the 8th District for yielding. The gentleman from the 8th District has been a very, very strong and consistent supporter of our military, and particularly recognizes the need to maintain air superiority and air dominance well into the next century, a role which the United States of America has not forsaken since the early days of World War II.

As the gentleman has indicated, the F-22 fighter, which I am very proud to say is being assembled in the 7th District of Georgia at the Lockheed Martin facility at Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Marietta, GA, is the aircraft that will do that.

The roll-out that the gentleman mentioned on April 9, Wednesday, is something that I and my colleagues hope will be witnessed by Members throughout this Chamber as well as from the Senate. This truly will be an historic event, witnessing the rollout of this unique aircraft.

This aircraft, as the gentleman from the 8th District has indicated, not only will fly faster than anything out there today, it will have stealth capabilities that go far, far beyond any aircraft in any country in the world, and it has the capability of delivering weapons systems before the enemy, whether it is an aircraft or land installation, even knows that aircraft is there. As a matter of fact, they will probably never know what hit them with the F-22.

I appreciate again the work that the gentleman from the 8th District has done in working in his position on the Committee on National Security to ensure the appropriate funding and development of this most unique aircraft.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I wish to congratulate Lockheed Martin for the superb job they have done in the development of this airplane.

I also wish to congratulate the U.S. Air Force for the work that they have done in moving this project forward.

Mr. Speaker, we look forward to April 9.

CIVILITY AND THE BIPARTISAN RETREAT

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

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I come to join my colleagues today who are taking this opportunity to speak on behalf of the retreat that took place 10 days ago or so. I do so in a way that we real-

ly did not have time to do at the retreat itself.

What I would like to do today is to share with my colleagues in substance an article that was published 9 years ago in *The Atlantic*. It was the cover story. It was entitled "Why Study History?" It begins with a recollection of the election of 1892, over a century ago, in which the author, Paul Gagnon, describes the election as one of exchanges between Grover Cleveland and Benjamin Harrison, which were notably superficial, sometimes unsavory, and avoided most of the toughest questions facing America at the time.

It probably sounds familiar to many Americans. Cleveland and Harrison were not simpletons, but like most political leaders, as the author points out, they knew more than they dared to say and worried more than they dared to show.

The Committee of Ten, organized in that year to elevate the level of public debate, put civic education at the top of the school agenda because they saw a need to raise the level of political debate in the country.

We still need to do it. Not much has changed since then, and it was that which was a motivator behind the retreat itself.

The author pointed out in that article in 1988 that it takes a real understanding, a bone-deep understanding of democracy, to know how hard it is to preserve civilization or to better human life. And in describing what it takes, he touched on the kind of thing that I think we need to understand as a product of the retreat we undertook.

As he pointed out, the kind of work we do is difficult because it asks people to accept the burdens of living with tentative answers and with unfinished and often dangerous business. It asks us to accept costs and compromises, to take on responsibilities as eagerly as we claim rights, to honor the interests of others while pursuing our own, to respect the needs of future generations, to speak the truth and do the right thing when falsehood and the wrong thing would be more profitable, and generally to restrain our appetites and expectations. All this while working to inform ourselves on the multiple problems and choices of our Nation.

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It is easy enough to lay out these kinds of wholesome values when things are going well, to remember the attitudes that we learned in classroom lessons and repeat over and over throughout our lives, and it is not even so hard to practice them provided that a certain level of morale prevails. There is no trick to virtuous behavior when things are going well. Most people will hold ethical attitudes, without much formal instruction when they feel themselves to be free, secure, and justly treated.

The truly tough part of all of this is to prepare us for the more difficult times. The question is not whether we

will remember the right phrases but whether we will turn words into practice when we feel wrongly treated or fear for our freedom or security. It is particularly difficult when we see others in the public or private sector appear to flout every value that we would hold highly for one another. The chances for democratic principles to survive such crises depend on the number of representatives and indeed the number of citizens who remember how free societies have responded to these kinds of times in the past, how we have acted to defend ourselves and emerge from the bad times. Citizens need to tell one another, and we need to tell one another, and we need to tell those that we represent before it is too late what struggles have had to be accepted, what sacrifices borne and comforts given up, to preserve freedom and justice.

I can think of no single commentary that more completely strikes the recognition that we faced in Hershey, that it will not solve all of our problems of personal acrimony within the Congress, but it was never intended to do that. The retreat helped remind us that we can disagree with one another on matters of philosophy and belief while treating one another with respect personally. There will always be partisan differences, there should always be partisan differences.

The retreat was not intended to end them, but really to serve as a starting point, to build understanding among Members of the House and understanding that each of our personal outlooks has validity. Even if they do not agree, it will help reduce tensions. It is a baseline from which to build and the dialog that began in Hershey has provided the foundation for the rebuilding of civility within the institution, to understand where we all have been and where we all are going.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank our distinguished colleagues, Congressman DAVID SKAGGS and Congressman RAY LAHOOD, for reserving this special order. I was among Members of this legislative body who traveled to Hershey, PA, earlier this month for the bipartisan congressional retreat. I am pleased to share the success of this undertaking with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

In short, the bipartisan congressional retreat provided us with the opportunity to engage in candid discussions of how we can improve the working environment of the House. We focused on how Members currently deal with differences of opinion and how improvements can be made in this area.

Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, this was the finest retreat that the House of Representatives has held during my entire tenure in Congress. While we are accustomed to having House Democrats gathered for retreats and Republicans holding separate retreats, I can say that the Hershey retreat was truly bipartisan. More than 200 Members of the House, and an equal number of family members were in attendance at the Hershey retreat. In my case, I was pleased to have my wife, Jay, my daughter and her husband, as well as two of