

military force of enormous proportions, we should send such a force.

But that should not be a politician's decision. Nor a presidential candidate's decision. The reason we call General Shelton "Chairman of the Joint Chiefs" is because he is assigned the duty of designing the campaign plan to execute the will of the American people.

And his assignment should be simple. With minimum American casualties, in the shortest possible time, deliver victory, as defined by the president.

Having finished with Serbia, we should return briefly to Iraq, and the world will be safe for at least twenty years, because the world will have learned that when the American nation is serious, it is un-opposable.

But if we are irresolute in Serbia, if we accept a papered-over, phony victory, not all the press conferences and all the spinning in the world will convince the North Koreans, the Chinese, the Indians, the Iranians, the Iraqis, the Russians and others, that we are a nation to be dealt with seriously.

This president has put his stamp in the middle of the table. He has said the American nation is now committed, and NATO, which is essentially the American nation and its European allies, is now engaged, and we have to insist, for our children's safety, that we succeed.

Let me close, by first of all thanking all of you. As was mentioned several times, part of this resource is going to go to Juvenile Diabetes research. The rest is going to go to help launch our political efforts, to continue with vision and strategies and education.

Let me also close at a very personal level. In 1958, as many of you have heard me say, my step-father took me to the battlefield at Verdun. He was serving in the United States Army, as he did for 27 years. And he convinced me, at the end of my freshman year of high school, that civilizations die, that wars are real, that freedom is precious.

It has been for 40 years, 41 years this coming August, my privilege, as a citizen, to be a part of this extraordinary process by which the ethnically most diverse nation in the world governs itself, and seeks to provide opportunity for all of its citizens.

In that time, I've watched Barry Goldwater launch a movement that was considered a little nutty, and went down in glorious defeat in 1964, and created modern conservatism.

I watched Ronald Reagan give wonderful speeches, retire as Governor, emerge briefly to be defeated for the nomination, do a radio show from the ranch, and then emerge, in a magic moment, as America lost its way, as malaise took over, as the economy decayed, as the Russians invaded Afghanistan, and with Margaret Thatcher gave us a dual performance of the power of human leadership that changed the future. And in eight brief years he defeated the Soviet Empire, reestablished the American economy, reestablished American morale, and reminded us of the difference between evil empires and bastions of freedom.

I was privileged to serve with President Bush at a decisive moment, which is often forgotten by our friends, when every member of the Democratic elected leadership in the Congress voted against Desert Storm. We tend to forget after victory how rapidly they are forgotten. And yet President Bush had the courage, from day one, to insist that Kuwait would be taken, that Saddam's army would be destroyed, and that we would do what was necessary.

With your help, with your hard work, with your contributions and your tireless effort, we broke a 40 year monopoly, transferred power in the legislative branch, and truly changed the lives for millions of Americans.

As Mary said earlier so generously, all of us working together saved people with diabetes, we saved people with breast cancer, we put massively more money into medical research, we began a process of preventive disease approaches that I think are going to lead to wellness and major changes.

We saved hundreds of thousands of Americans from poverty by moving them into work and education, we taught their children that there is a better future than waiting on the check and sitting in public housing.

We created opportunities for our parents to have better choices in Medicare, and we began the slow, laborious process of rebuilding and rethinking our defense and our intelligence capabilities.

From that tiny country, on the fringe of the Atlantic Ocean, to a nation which stands astride the world, it has been an amazing process of two hundred and twenty-three years this July 4th. Our generation has a chance to extend that freedom, that prosperity, and that safety to every person in America, and to every person in the world.

It is, in Franklin Delano Roosevelt's words, our generation's rendezvous with destiny.

To each of you in public office I wish you God-speed. As Marianne pointed out the night we announced we would step down, we will be around in public life, and we will work with you in every way we can to give our children, and now my grandchildren, a better future. Thank you, good luck, and God Bless you.

A TRIBUTE TO ARLO PETERSON

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the important achievements of Arlo Peterson, a Minnesotan who was a pioneer and visionary leader in bringing affordable energy and electricity to thousands of rural and later suburban Minnesota residents. Arlo is retiring from his position on the board of Connexus Energy after 34 years of service to his state. Arlo served 25 of those years as Chairman of the Board of Directors. He took on this leadership position for one of the country's leading electric cooperatives upon the death of his father Ed Peterson in 1964, who had been a board member for 17 years. Together, these two men gave their state more than a century of service to help bring affordable electricity to their fellow residents.

A farmer from the small town of St. Francis, Minnesota, Arlo has been a model of stewardship for rural cooperative growth, ensuring that Minnesotans in his vast service area would have the energy and electricity they needed at rates they could afford. He has embodied a spirit of dedication and commitment to service for more than 34 years. Arlo took time from his primary endeavor as a family farmer to improve the lives of others in his own and neighboring communities, and helped to provide a national model of a successful electric cooperative. We are grateful for his tremendous contributions.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CROP INSURANCE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Mississippi Valley National Historical Park Act of 1999. This legislation will establish a Historical Park on the former Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Arkansas.

The former Eaker Air Force Base, which is located just outside of Blytheville in the Mississippi Valley region, is the site of 14 archaeological sites associated with Native Americans. The central and lower Mississippi Valley region contained the highest population levels and the most complex Native American societies north of Mexico before the arrival of European peoples in the 16th century. It has also hosted Spanish, French, English, and ultimately American societies at different times in the last 450 years.

Because of its value in illustrating and interpreting the heritage of the United States, these sites have been recognized by the National Park Service in numerous ways, such as designation as being placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, and as a National Historic Landmark in 1996.

Archaeological sites such as these benefit, educate, and inspire present and future generations of Americans, but no unified heritage park for the central Mississippi Valley region exists within the National Park Service. This legislation will protect the archaeological sites located on the former Eaker Air Force Base, and preserve, maintain, and interpret the natural, seismic, cultural, and recreational heritage of the central Mississippi Valley region.

A TRIBUTE TO ARLO PETERSON

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Crop Insurance Improvement Act of 1999. I am honored to have Representative THUNE, Representative MINGE, and Representative BOSWELL joining me as original cosponsors of this comprehensive crop insurance reform proposal.

The basis for this legislation is quite simple. Frankly, the current federal crop insurance program is broken and needs serious repair. Too many of our nation's farmers—especially in North Dakota—have suffered from severe weather disasters in recent years only to fall victim to a federal crop insurance program that does not protect them adequately. With so many producers being driven off the land because of uncontrolled circumstances caused by Mother Nature, the federal government must act quickly and thoroughly in enacting comprehensive crop insurance to allow our nation's farmers the opportunity to manage their risk. However, I caution that even though crop insurance reform is desperately needed, it is only the first step in reforming a safety net in American agriculture.

The Crop Insurance Improvement Act of 1999 reforms the current program by encouraging the broadest possible participation of producers in the program and to ensure greater affordability of the program for producers. It

reforms the current program by increasing the subsidy levels to encourage higher participation at the buy-up coverage levels, alleviating the impact of natural disasters on producers' actual production history (APH), assigning 100 percent transitional yields (T-yield) for the newly acquired acreage and new crops, creates cost of production, rating methodologies, and livestock revenue insurance pilot projects, and restructuring the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) Board of Directors to better represent producers' interests.

During the 106th Congress, I am hopeful that the crop insurance reform will occur. Both Congress and the Administration, have made crop insurance their number one priority in agriculture. In fact, Secretary Glickman coined 1999 as the "year of the safety net." I look forward to working in a bipartisan manner with my colleagues in Congress to pass a comprehensive crop insurance reform bill. The Crop Insurance Improvement Act of 1999 is a step in that direction.

THE EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1999

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, it is for our impoverished urban communities that I am introducing the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999. This bill will empower low-income parents living in poverty-stricken areas to provide the best education possible for their children.

I am honored to introduce this education plan for our urban communities, which is embraced and co-authored by the Congressional Renewal Alliance. The Renewal Alliance is a coalition of representatives and senators committed to working with community leaders to find legislative proposals which facilitate local solutions in impoverished regions. This will lead to individual empowerment.

I have worked closely with my colleagues in the Renewal Alliance to craft a bill that provides educational alternatives in our inner cities, and provides relief for those parents who invest in their children.

The Educational Opportunities Act of 1999 adopts the principles of another bill I have introduced, H.R. 600, which provides up to a \$1,000 per-child tax credit for educational expenses. In the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999, this tax credit is extended to parents in Enterprise Zones and Enterprise Communities to cover the cost of textbooks, tuition, tutors, computer software, and other needs that will increase a child's learning opportunities. Thanks to the education tax credit included in this bill, low income parents will have far more resources to educate their children from kindergarten through high school.

Another important component of this bill grants Opportunity Scholarships to children of the most needy parents. Under this Opportunity Scholarship Program, states and localities would be able to use existing federal funds to run a low-income public and private school choice program. Scholarships would be directed to students whose families are at or below 185 percent of the poverty rate. The scholarships would be used to cover the cost of tuition at any public or private school lo-

cated in an Enterprise Zone or Enterprise Community. At least \$310 million will be used for this scholarship program.

It is time to give children in the poorest communities a meaningful chance to learn and excel. Bureaucrats in Washington cannot meet this need; those who make a real difference in the lives of these kids are parents and local community leaders. With the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999, we will provide poor parents the resources and choices to educate their children. Furthermore, we will liberate low-income communities to create schools where children have a true chance to learn and rise up from their challenges before them.

I urge all Members who are interested in lifting children up from poverty to join me in supporting the Educational Opportunities Act of 1999.

COLONEL THOMAS S. LAMPLEY,
USAF—A CAREER OF SERVICE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to recognize Colonel Tom Lampley, USAF, who will retire tomorrow from the U.S. Air Force after 29 years of service. This Member has had the pleasure of working and traveling with Col. Lampley in this Member's capacity as Chairman of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (formerly the North Atlantic Assembly). Col. Lampley has been serving as the Chief, Congressional Action Division, Air Force Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, directly supporting the interaction between the Air Force's senior leaders and Members of Congress. In recognition of Col. Lampley's exemplary record of service, this Member would like to congratulate him upon his retirement and take this opportunity to acknowledge Col. Lampley's credibility and good will for which the Air Force and the Department of Defense will long reap the benefits of his tenure.

Colonel Thomas S. Lampley was born in Washington, DC on 31 August 1947. He attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and received his commission upon graduation in 1970. Col. Lampley also received a Master of Science degree in business management from Troy State University in Alabama.

As a master navigator with over 2,200 flying hours, Col. Lampley has served in numerous flying positions including 225 combat sorties in the F-4 Phantom as a forward air controller in Southeast Asia. Out of the cockpit, he has served in staff positions at Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, the Pentagon and Headquarters Tactical Air Command. Col. Lampley is an experienced commander, having commanded a flying training squadron at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the 14th Support Group at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi. Prior to moving to his present position, Col. Lampley also commanded the 42nd Support Group, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and subsequently became the Vice Commander, 42nd Air Base Wing, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. In addition, Col. Lampley has received the following major awards and decorations:

Legion of Merit;
Distinguished Flying Cross with one oak leaf cluster;

Defense Meritorious Service Medal;
Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters;

Air Medal with 23 oak leaf clusters; and
Air Force Commendation Medal.

Again, this Member wants to offer his congratulations to Col. Tom Lampley for his fine record of service to the Air Force, to the Department of Defense, to the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, and to our country.

Colonel Lampley, you have performed your duties as an officer in the United States armed forces in a manner which reflects the best traditions and principles of the U.S. Air Force and our nation.

TRIBUTE TO AN UNCOMMON LEGACY FOUNDATION'S FIFTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF WOMEN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in a special tribute to An Uncommon Legacy Foundation, Inc. ("Legacy"). On Saturday, April 24, 1999, Legacy will host its Fifth Annual Celebration of Women at the home of Hilary Rosen and Elizabeth Birch. At the event, Legacy will honor Sheila Alexander-Reid, founder of Women in the Life, Inc. and publisher of Women in the Life Magazine. Legacy will also present grants to the Lesbian Health and Wellness Network ("LHWN") and After Stonewall and scholarships to three outstanding students: Katie Batza, Amanda M. Gunn, and Suzanne Degges White.

An Uncommon Legacy Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to enhancing the visibility, strength, and vitality of the lesbian community. Legacy invests in the community by awarding scholarships to students with leadership potential and by awarding grants to fund projects and organizations that contribute to the lesbian community's health, education, and culture.

This year, Legacy will honor Sheila Alexander-Reid, who has made it her mission to empower lesbians of all colors. Women in the Life, Inc. is an events management company based in Washington, D.C., and it was honored last year with a prestigious grant from Avon and the Mautner Project to promote breast cancer awareness in the black lesbian community. Legacy will also award grants to the Lesbian Health and Wellness Network, a multi-disciplinary coalition of over 125 lesbian and lesbian competent providers serving the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. area. This grant will enable LHWN to improve access to health care for women in the lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities. Legacy will also award a grant to After Stonewall, a 90-minute documentary airing nationally on PBS on June 23, 1999. This important documentary chronicles the lesbian and gay experience since the 1969 Stonewall riots—the historic moment 30 years ago which gave birth to the modern gay and lesbian civil rights movement. Finally, Legacy will award scholarships to three outstanding students: Katie Batza, who attends