

Finally, it is critical that we move quickly to adopt a legislative response to the need for enhanced security in our airports and on our aircraft. The federal government must play a major role ensuring the safety of our travel, and we must act soon. I understand that the House leadership intends to address these concerns in the near future, and, in the spirit of bipartisanship, I stand ready to work with them in these efforts.

TRIBUTE TO PEREZ BROTHERS,
INC.

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to congratulate one of Guam's premier construction companies, Perez Brothers, Inc., on their Golden Anniversary marking 50 years of service to the people of Guam.

Tracing its origins from a retail outlet of residential electrical products operating out of a modest quonset hut in the capital city of Hagåtña in 1951, Perez Brothers, Inc. has grown to be a great contributor in the development of the island of Guam. The company's founder, the late Frank D. Perez, Sr., founded the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) and introduced Federal Housing Authority (FHA) residential financing to Guam.

The destruction brought about by World War 11 opened a window of opportunity for the company to grow and serve the needs of the island. The establishment of a concrete block plant in 1952 led to Guam's first private housing development, Perezville, in 1954. Soon Perez Brothers would rebuild the damaged cathedral in Hagåtña. Completed in 1958, the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral remains one of Guam's most prominent buildings.

The company continued to grow in the 1960's. The concrete, block and crusher plants established in 1959 were augmented by a new two-story hardware store in 1962 and another block plant in 1969. By the 1970's, the company had acquired a modern and fully equipped asphalt plant that enabled Perez Brothers to take part in a number of significant road paving projects on the island.

Several setbacks in the mid-1970's and the early 1980's forced the company to downsize. However, the last ten years have been marked by an increased share in the construction market. Recently, the company has participated in a number of projects including the construction of high-rise structures and concrete "outfall" for underwater pipes. This is in addition to road paving and residential construction.

Fifty years after Frank Perez, Sr., brought together a conglomerate comprising of a hardware store, a concrete block plant, and a construction company, a new generation has been tasked to carry on his legacy. Thomas "Tom" Perez serves as the company's President. Margarita "Marge" Perez is it's Corporate affairs vice-president while Gregory "Greg" Perez serves as Personnel and administration vice-president and John Perez is the company's Comptroller.

For the past fifty years, Perez Brothers had been at the forefront of Guam's construction

industry. I offer them my sincerest congratulations on their landmark anniversary. I wish them the best in the years to come.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2586) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2002 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of the Stump/Skelton amendment to H.R. 2586, the National Defense Authorization Act. The transfer of \$400 million from missile defense to intelligence and anti-terrorism initiatives is just the beginning of what actions Congress should take to defend our nation against future threats of terrorism. In light of the September 11, 2001 attacks on America, it is evident that our nation must re-evaluate its priorities to address a list of a broader range of threats to our national security. Developing and implementing premature technology to defend this nation from a foreign missile attack is not at the top of that list. Instead, we need to start focusing our attention on the threat of and preparation for chemical or biological warfare. It would not only be fiscally irresponsible to appropriate the full amount, of some \$8 billion plus dollars originally requested by the committee for this sole purpose, but it would also be detrimental to our country's role in the international community and open the United States to even more threats.

Limited Ballistic Missile Defense is an ambitious program that will require the commitment of enormous resources in order for it to be even remotely successful. This ill-conceived initiative, from all projected estimates, will cost this nation \$60 to \$120 billion over the next 20 years, and there is no guarantee that we will be able to intercept an incoming missile. Before any defense system implementation takes place, much more research needs to be done to develop a total or layered missile defense system that can intercept a missile in all phases of flight. The Bush administration has been adamant in its willingness to go forward, even if unilaterally, with implementation of a limited missile defense system, but I ask: "Why risk violating the 1974 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and triggering a new arms race to implement a system that is not even failsafe?" An arms race this time around would not only include the traditional player, of Russia, but also China and North Korea. After years of brokering disarmament and nuclear reduction treaties, like SALT and START, we would once again start to witness the dramatic proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and biological weapons. This proliferation would make it much easier for rogue nations or terrorist organizations wanting to do harm to the United States to get their hands on weapons to commit acts of terrorism and instill fear into American citizens.

POPOY ZAMORA'S RETIREMENT AS
HOST OF BUHAY PINOY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend and congratulate Popoy Zamora, a distinguished community leader, for his achievements and his well-earned retirement as host of the Guam television program, Buhay Pinoy.

Our geographic location on Guam makes us a true melting pot. Within our small island, the many variations of eastern and western thought and cultures meet and coexist in a state of cooperation and harmony. It is, however, the diversity and interesting aspects of these particular cultures that has made Guam the special place that it is today. Achieving unity while focusing upon diversity is no simple task. Community leaders like Popoy Zamora greatly contribute in making this possible.

For the past twenty-seven years, Popoy worked hard to produce a weekly television program which highlights the interests and activities of the Filipino community on Guam. In a market where it is mostly difficult to locally sustain a cultural and ethnic program, Popoy had great success in keeping the pulse of his viewers. To keep his show interesting, Popoy brought in guests from the local community as well as personalities and politicians from the Philippines. Through his show, he was able to promote Filipino culture, increase the involvement in community activities of Filipinos on Guam and remind us all of the strong friendship and close relations between the United States and the Philippines. His eagerness and perseverance made all this possible.

For all his work and dedication, we, in Guam are most thankful. Upon his retirement, I offer my congratulations for his distinguished career and my personal commendation for a job well-done. On behalf of the people of Guam, I wish him the best on his well-earned retirement and all the luck in his future endeavors. Tauspusong pasasalamat, Popoy.

CANADA: NO TRUER FRIEND

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today The Buffalo News carried an editorial entitled "No Truer Friend," expressing thanks to Canada for its support for the United States following the attacks of September 11, 2001. I commend this editorial to the attention of all Members and know they join me in thanking Canada for its long friendship, even brotherhood, with the United States.

The United States cannot, and will not, forget the special relationship between our two countries. We will not allow terrorist attacks to strain that relationship. As Canada's reaction to the events of September 11 show, Canada is the truest friend of the United States.

Again, I thank all Canadians for their steadfastness and friendship to the United States.

NO TRUER FRIEND

This is a time of tragedy and a time of crisis, and not a moment to invest nuances of

diplomacy with a gravity they don't deserve. But neither can Americans allow a perceived slight to go uncorrected, or retreat so deeply into sorrow that family goes unnoticed and gratitude is neglected.

Thank you, Canada. Thank you for the support, thank you for the huge banner in Fort Erie, just across our shared river, that proclaimed "God Bless Our American Friends." Thank you for your prayers.

Here in this border city, all of us listened with understanding and approval as a president burdened with the awful weight of a terrorist onslaught, and the duty to respond to it, acknowledged the presence of Great Britain's prime minister at an extraordinary session of Congress and singled out that nation for its support. But when he properly noted the strong ties both countries have forged in the fires of adversity, that America has no truer friend, we all in our hearts added the phrase, "except Canada."

We know who our friends are. We know that the very first international act of sup-

port for America in this terrible time came from Canada, which accepted more than 200 diverted American airline flights and took care of more than 45,000 stranded passengers.

We remember Canada's role in rescuing Americans from an earlier political maelstrom in Tehran, and we remember the stirring support the late Canadian broadcaster Gordon Sinclair provided nearly 30 years ago when he took on a world that was kicking America when it had been brought low by the Vietnam War.

We remember. Most of us in this northern city know the Canadian national anthem and many of us sing it at our shared sporting events. We also share an annual international Friendship Festival, and mean it. We quibble at times—the design of a proposed new international bridge springs to mind—but we do so as family.

Perhaps that's why President Bush didn't mention Canada in a stirring speech that focused on a global problem, but also recognized support from several nations. He may

simply have been looking beyond family. "No need to praise the brother," Bush asserted while meeting with Prime Minister Jean Chretien in Washington Monday. To be frank, it more likely was just a speech-writing snafu.

Some of you, in Canada, have read into it a snub, or petulance over Canada's liberal visa problems. Please don't. We are grateful for the forensic team that was dispatched immediately from Ontario to Manhattan, for the strong and ongoing cooperation of law enforcement and border agencies, for the more than 100,000 Canadians who turned out for remembrance services on Ottawa's Parliament Hill and for the countless American flags still waving in Canadian towns.

Most of all we are grateful that, once again, Americans and Canadians stand together. We may both need to draw comfort from that in the days ahead. In fact, we already have.