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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

His Eminence Archbishop Michael J. Champion, Coadjutor to the Primate, Archbishop of Cleveland, Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church in the U.S.A., offered the following prayer:

O God, we acknowledge Your greatness and power over all things in the universe. We know that our lives, with their accomplishments and goals, their victories and advancements, are like grains of sand in the ocean compared to Your all-knowing and wonderful goodness. Help us to see any progress we make in this life to be truly a gift from You and a reflection of Your loving concern for all humanity.

Teach us to work for peace and justice and to remember that every good thing comes from You above, the God of light. Give us sincere compassion for those who need our help the most and make us always realize that preferential love for the poor and marginalized, whom we are destined to serve, for when we speak on behalf of those who have no voice and work for the betterment of those who otherwise could not help themselves, we are not only doing Your work, but ministering to You in the least of our brothers or sisters.

Guide these women and men, O God, to always work for the type of justice that reflects Your will and bless our Nation along the path of peace. Since You, O God, know the name and need of each person, even from their birth into this world, grant all people of our country the good things for which they ask, and lead us all with Your wisdom and mercy. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed until later today.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SUNUNU led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL J. CHAMPION, ARCHBISHOP OF CLEVELAND, COADJUTOR TO THE PRIMATE, UKRAINIAN AUTOCEPHALOUS ORTHODOX CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

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

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today and recognize our guest Chaplain, His Eminence Archbishop Michael of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

As the Archbishop of Cleveland, His Eminence helps to oversee administration of the Metropolia and is widely recognized in the Orthodox community, both here in the United States and abroad, for the rapid growth of his church. He is also one of the youngest Archbishops in the country, a reflection of His Eminence's vision, energy and leadership skills.

He is a gifted writer and works closely with His Beatitude, Metropolitan Stephan, on several health care initiatives for the indigent, both here and abroad.

At a time when the messages of religious tolerance and religious liberty are more important than ever, we are pleased to hear the words of a spiritual leader whose faith and church have overcome great adversity in the 20th Century to establish a foundation of strength today.

We welcome Archbishop Michael and wish him continued success.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, May 1, 2001, the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair, to receive the former Members of Congress.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

RECEPTION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER of the House presided.

The SPEAKER. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone here this morning. On behalf of the House of Representatives, I am happy to welcome to this Chamber very good friends of this institution, former Members of Congress. You are not only friends of this institution, you are also friends of ours, and for many of us, and for many of you, we stand on your

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shoulders. The things that you have accomplished, the works that you have done, we are able to carry on. We are able to carry it on in the way that we have been able to because of your great works that have gone before us.

Every one of the Members here has spent precious years of their life in this chamber. Some of the best years of their lives were spent in this Chamber working to represent the needs and the concerns of the American people.

Your commitment to your Nation did not end when you left Congress. Many of you went on to do other things in public service. Many of you excelled in the private sector. Many of you have continued to serve our Nation in many other honorable ways.

Jack Kemp is one of those people. He is certainly an ideal and worthy choice to receive the Distinguished Service Award that this body, your group, is about to give. After 18 years in Congress, Jack Kemp had still more to do, including his service as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; and we were all impressed, but not surprised, when Jack was nominated for Vice President in 1996. Today, he has continued to work to advance the kinds of policies he cares about that empower America. He is truly dedicated to the betterment of our Nation, and I say to you, congratulations, Jack.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the former Members. Thank you for being here and for your continued effort, both home and abroad. Your outreach to college campuses throughout the country helps to strengthen the work of our government and encourage public service. Your support to parliaments around the world is invaluable, and I want to thank you for those efforts.

At this time I would request that the gentleman from Idaho, Mr. LaRocco, Vice President of the Former Members Association, take the Chair.

Mr. LAROCO (presiding). The Chair would recognize the gentleman from New York, Mr. McNULTY.

Mr. MCNULTY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of Minority Leader DICK GEOPHARDT and all of the Members of our side of the aisle, we want to welcome all of the former Members of Congress to this session today. It is a great opportunity for us to reminisce.

I personally try never to miss this particular event. I walked into the Chamber and one of the first people I saw was one of my former leaders on the Committee on Armed Services, Sonny Montgomery. Before I came into the Chamber, I had breakfast with my class president, Bill Sarpalius, of the class of 1988. George Sangmeister, another member of our class, is over here. I saw my old buddies, Denny Hertel and Larry LaRocco. Last night at the reception I had a chance to visit with Ambassador Lindy Boggs and thank her for her outstanding service to our country, especially in her latest assignment.

I see so many members of the New York family, Matt McHugh and Bobby Garcia and Norm Lent and Jerry Solomon and Dave Martin, and New York, I am happy to say, is very, very well represented here today.

So, on behalf of DICK and DAVE BONIOR and all of the members of the Democratic Party, I join with Speaker HASTERF and the Republican leadership in welcoming all of you to this session today, and to thank you for your outstanding service to our country, and for reminding us of our great history and our heritage.

Thank you very much.

Mr. LAROCO. The Clerk will call the roll of the former Members of the House and the Senate who are present today.

The Clerk called the roll of the former Members of the Congress, and the following former Members answered to their names:

ROLLCALL OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ATTENDING 31ST ANNUAL SPRING MEETING, MAY 2, 2001

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

William V. (Bill) Alexander, Arkansas

Bill Barrett, Nebraska
J. Glenn Beall, Jr., Maryland
Tom Bevill, Alabama
Lindy Boggs, Louisiana
William Broomfield, Michigan
Glen Browder, Alabama
Clarence "Bud" Brown, Ohio
James Broyhill, North Carolina
John H. Buchanan, Jr., Alabama
Jack Buechner, Missouri
Beverly Byron, Maryland
Elford A. Cederberg, Michigan
Charles Chamberlain, Michigan
Norman E. D'Amours, New Hampshire

Joseph J. DioGuardi, New York
John N. Erlenborn, Illinois
Lou Frey, Jr., Florida
Robert Garcia, New York
John Paul Hammerschmidt, Arkansas

Robert W. Hanrahan, Illinois
Ralph R. Harding, Idaho
Dennis M. Hertel, Michigan

George Hochbruechner, New York
Ken Holland, South Carolina
Marjorie Holt, Maryland

William J. Hughes, New Jersey
Robert Kastenmeier, Wisconsin
Jack Kemp, New York

David S. King, Utah
Herbert C. Klein, New Jersey
Ernest Konnyu, California

Steven T. Kuykendall, California
Peter N. Kyros, Maine

H. Martin Lancaster, North Carolina
Larry LaRocco, Idaho

Norman F. Lent, New York

Tom Lewis, Florida

Jim Lloyd, California

Catherine Long, Louisiana

Daniel E. Lungren, California

Connie Mack, Florida

David O'B. Martin, New York

Bob McEwen, Ohio

Matthew F. McHugh, New York

C. Thomas McMillan, Maryland

Lloyd Meeds, Washington
Robert H. Michel, Illinois
Clarence E. Miller, Ohio
G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery, Mississippi

John Myers, Indiana

Richard D. "Dick" Nichols, Kansas

Ed Pease, Indiana

Howard W. Pollock, Alaska

Don Ritter, Pennsylvania

Carlos Romero-Barcelo, Puerto Rico

George E. Sangmeister, Illinois

Bill Sarpalius, Texas

Richard T. Schulze, Pennsylvania

Bud Shuster, Pennsylvania

Carlton R. Sickles, Maryland

Jerry Solomon, New York

Jim Symington, Missouri

Steve Symms, Idaho

Charles W. Whalen, Jr., Ohio

Harris Wofford, Pennsylvania

Howard A. Wolpe, Michigan

Joe Wyatt, Jr., Texas

□ 0915

Mr. LAROCO. The Chair announces that 53 former Members of Congress have responded to their names.

The Chair recognizes the distinguished majority leader of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), for the purpose of making some remarks to the association.

Mr. ARMEY. Well, good morning. I look around the room, I think I know most of you, and it is nice to see a lot of your faces back. Sonny, we will probably have a veterans bill on the floor later today by unanimous consent.

It is so nice to see all my good friends, Bob Michel, who is a bit of a mentor and a somewhat frustrated disciplinarian in my case for a lot of years. I see Jerry. And, oh, look here. Bill, how are you? A true mentor. I was thinking about this this morning as I was coming in here. Joe, how are you this morning? One of the things that has been a blessing in my life, and some of you remember when I came here. I was what was known as a bomb thrower. I still am, am I?

You know, you come to this body, I think, without any full appreciation of what this institution is. Then yesterday I happened to be downtown; and as we were driving back toward the Capitol, I looked up and I saw the dome, and I had two or three of my young staffers, and I began to comment that it is a big deal where we work and are we not privileged to be here. And I think that one of the things that we develop over here is a genuine love for this institution.

I am sure that some of you remember, frankly, my lack of understanding of that, appreciation for it and respect for it, and thought, as a young new Member, that this guy will never come to this point. Well, let me just say I believe I have come to the point that you have come to and that has brought you back today. We love this House of Representatives. I consider it the most unique institution of democracy in the world. There is nothing really quite

like it. And for you and me, we have had, I think, an extraordinary privilege, a privilege that unfortunately we do not always fully respect during the time we are here.

Let me first thank you for coming back here as you have done to pay respect to this institution and to honor this institution; and let me ask you, as you visit with some of us that are still here, particularly some of us that are new here that you may know, that maybe replaced you, take the time, take a chance on us and give us a word of encouragement to come and know the love of this House. It is a special place. We have been so privileged to serve here together. We have learned a lot from one another, we have learned that we can filter through this love of the institution a respect for one another and our differences.

For me, of course, the unbelievable privilege of being the majority leader of the House, being trusted by my colleagues to schedule the House, this prompted a discussion with former Speaker Jim Wright. Some of you may recall that when Speaker Wright was here and we were in the minority he and I did not necessarily have the most cordial relationship. But Jim asked me, he said, "Dick, is there anything you have learned while being majority leader?" I said, "Yes, Jim, I learned I should have had more appreciation for you when you had the job."

So help us, if you will, to know what you now know, that has brought you back here today. This is a wonderful institution. We are privileged to be here. We ought to first manifest our love for this institution and through that perhaps gain some regard and respect, appreciation, patience, and good humor between ourselves even in the heat of our debates.

Thank you for coming back. Thank every one of you so much for what you did for me. I see so many people here that helped me, encouraged me along the way. Bob, if you think it is hopeless to try to discipline that ARMEY, you have a soul mate, my wife has the same feeling. So in the House or the house in Texas, I am still incorrigible. We will try to at least be good natured and well-mannered while being incorrigible.

Thank you for letting me be here.

Mr. LAROCO. At this time the Chair would recognize the gentleman from Illinois, the Honorable John Erlenborn, president of our association.

Mr. ERLENBORN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker pro tempore. My colleagues, members of the Former Members Association, and others who are here today with us, first of all, let me say that right now represents for me a somewhat unique situation. After 20 years in Congress, this is the first time I have spoken from the Democratic podium, but I wanted to highlight our bipartisan nature today.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to you and to all of you who have come here today. We are especially grateful to the Speaker,

DENNIS HASTERT, for taking time from his busy schedule to greet us, and for Representative MICHAEL McNULTY for his warm welcome on behalf of the Democratic leadership.

It is always a privilege to return to this institution which we revere and where we shared so many memorable experiences. Service in the Congress is both a joy and a heavy responsibility. And whatever our party affiliation, we have great admiration for those who continue to serve the country in this place. We thank them all for once again giving us this opportunity to report on the activity of our association of former Members of Congress.

This is our 31st annual report to Congress, and I ask unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker, that all Members be permitted to revise and extend their remarks.

Mr. LAROCO. Without objection, so ordered.

Mr. ERLENBORN. Our association is nonpartisan. It has been chartered, but not funded, by the Congress. We have a wide variety of domestic and international programs, which several other members and I will discuss briefly.

Our membership numbers approximately 600 former Members of the House and the Senate, and our purpose is to continue in some small measure the service to this country that we began during our terms in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

□ 0930

Our most significant domestic activity is our Congress to Campus Program. This is an effort, on a bipartisan basis, to share with college students throughout the country our insights on the work of the Congress and the political process more generally. A team of former members, one Republican, one Democrat, spend 2½ days on college campuses throughout the United States, meeting formally and informally with students and members of the faculty and local communities. This is a great experience for our members.

I have made the trip five or six times myself. It has always been enjoyable. But our primary goal is to generate a deeper appreciation for our democratic form of government and the need to participate actively.

Since the program's inception in 1976, 120 former Members of Congress have reached more than 150,000 students through 273 visits to 186 campuses in 49 States and the District of Columbia. In recent years, we have conducted the program jointly with the Stennis Center for Public Service at Mississippi State University. The former Members donate their time to this program. The Stennis Center pays transportation costs, and the host institution provides room and board.

At this point, I yield to Dennis Hertel, the gentleman from Michigan, to discuss his participation in the Congress to Campus Program.

Mr. HERTEL. Thank you, John.

The Congress to Campus is the major program of our Association, in conjunction with the Stennis Center for Public Service, as was just stated. We send one Republican and one Democratic for 2½ days to various campuses. I have been fortunate enough to go to South Dakota, Mississippi, North Dakota and Oklahoma with Rod Chandler from Washington State, George Wortley from New York, and John Erlenborn, just 2 weeks ago, to Minnesota.

What we do is talk with the students about what our government does and how it works. We are not running from office or seeking anything. They realize that we are going to give them frank answers to their questions. We meet with assemblies, classrooms, small groups and have lunch and dinner with the students. My wife, Cindy, and I have three students in college now, one a first-year law student, and so you can see where our focus and finances are. Sometimes my children ask, where are you going now and why are you going there. They wonder if I have any knowledge to tell these other college students.

The truth is, I learn from the students every time. The things that they are talking about, the questions that they are debating, the questions that they ask us provoke us to reflect on what we have done and what Congress is doing today.

Mainly, we let them see us as people and tell them our history as to how we got involved and how we were elected to Congress and got involved in the political process. Our goal is to combat that cynicism out there and to give them an understanding what this Congress does, but mainly it is to let them know that there are people from the Democratic and Republican parties that care, and to let them know that it is their responsibility to get involved, whether in the community or State, or here in the Congress in the future. I am sure that we have talked to many future leaders, many future Congressmen and Congresswomen.

And I always emphasize that we are not up to 51 percent of the population in the Congress reflecting the Members, even though we have made great strides in terms of the number of women in the House and Senate. It is satisfying and electrifying when I talk to the students, and I thank all former Members who have participated.

Mr. ERLENBORN. One outgrowth of the Congress to Campus Program was an interest in producing a book that would take an inside look at the Congress from different viewpoints. There are many fine books written by individual Members of Congress, but to our knowledge there was no compendium that goes beyond or behind the scenes in a very personal way. So a past president of the association, Lou Frey, recruited 34 members, a congressional spouse, two former congressional staff members, and a former member of the Canadian parliament to write chapters for a book on Congress. Lou and the

head of the Political Science Department at Colgate University, Professor Michael Hayes, co-edited the book, *Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works*, which was published in March of this year. The book has been very well received and already is in its second printing. We hope that you and others will find it interesting and informative. Lou Frey will tell you more about the book a bit later.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, although many of our former Members live in the Washington area, there are quite a few who reside in other parts of the country. Therefore, in an effort to broaden participation in the Association, we have held some meetings outside of Washington. In recent years, we have held a regional meeting in California each fall. In October of last year, we switched the venue to Texas and held the meeting in Austin. Our former colleagues, Jake Pickle, Jack High-tower, Kent Hance, Joe Wyatt and Bill Patman planned an interesting schedule that included visits to the LBJ Library and ranch, tours of the State capitol building and the governor's mansion, and meetings with students at the University of Texas.

I would like to yield to Bill Sarpalius, the gentleman from Texas, to provide more details about the meeting.

Mr. SARPALIUS. Mr. Speaker, the trip that we had occurred from October 21 through October 25. As the chairman mentioned, the trip began with a trip to San Antonio, where we took a ride down the River Walk and toured one of the famous buildings of United States, which is the Alamo.

The next day we took a private tour of the State capitol, and I might add, the people from Texas made sure is that everybody understood that that dome is a little bit taller than the one here in Washington. And we took a private tour of the governor's mansion. But being the last part of October, for some reason the governor of Texas was not there. He was out campaigning for something.

Probably the highlight of the entire meeting and trip that we had was all of us went to the LBJ Library and had lunch with students there, and then we broke up into different classes. Of course, Lady Bird Johnson was there and was a tremendous hostess to us.

To participate in those classes with those students and to see the brilliance of the future generations of these young people and their knowledge of politics, and not only politics in the United States, but politics around the world was extremely impressive.

After the classes, we then took a tour of the LBJ Library, which I personally found, and I have been through that library many, many times, but I recall walking with Jack Brooks and Jake Pickle and Graham Purcell, and we hit a particular spot in that museum where I was facing them, and all of a sudden their expressions changed. We

were entering the part that was on the assassination of President Kennedy, and to hear them reminisce of when they were in the motorcade and what they remembered happened at that event was extremely educational to me personally.

The next day the delegation had a private tour of the Nimitz-Bush Pacific War Museum, and then toured the LBJ ranch, and then finished up with dinner in the Lieutenant Governor's Room at the State capitol.

I might add, in closing, that one of the things that I hope we all will recall is that the good Lord has given many, many people the breath of life, and he never created anybody identically the same; we were all created different. But there is one thing that all of us in this Chamber have in common, and that is we were Members of the most powerful governmental body in the world.

We were given that blessing by our constituents, and we were there to try to help the future, but we are cheating the future if we do not take those experiences that we gained and share it with future generations, like the opportunities that we had to participate in speaking to those classes at the LBJ Library in Austin, Texas. It was a wonderful trip.

Mr. ERLENBORN. On December 5, 2000, the Association once again sponsored a "Life After Congress" seminar, a program we have traditionally organized for the benefit of Members leaving Congress. During the seminar, former Members Larry LaRocco, Jack Buechner, Martin Lancaster, Henson Moore, Fred Grandy and I shared our experiences about the adjustments we had to make when we left Congress and how we managed to seek and pursue careers in a variety of fields.

Congressional spouse Leslie Hayes described how members of families of former Members cope with leaving Congress and beginning a new life. In addition, congressional support staff outlined the services available to former Members of Congress. As in the past, the seminar was followed by a reception sponsored by the Association's Auxiliary to afford more time for informal exchanges.

Mr. Speaker, beyond the events we organize here, the Association is very active in sponsoring programs that are international in scope. Over the years, we have gained considerable experience in fostering interactions between the leaders of other nations and the United States. We have arranged more than 424 special events at the U.S. Capitol for international delegations from 85 countries and the European Parliament, programmed short-term visits for individual members of Parliament and long-term visits for parliamentary staff, hosted 47 foreign policy seminars in nine countries involving 1,500 former and current parliamentarians, and conducted 18 study tours abroad for former Members of Congress.

The Association also serves as the secretariat for the Congressional Study

Group on Germany, the largest and most active exchange program between the U.S. Congress and the parliament of another country. Founded in 1987 in the House and in 1988 in the Senate, it is a bipartisan group involving 170 Representatives and Senators. They are afforded the opportunity to meet with their counterparts in the German Bundestag to enhance understanding and greater cooperation.

Ongoing study group activities include conducting a Distinguished Visitors Program at the U.S. Capitol for guests from Germany; sponsoring annual seminars involving Members of Congress and the Bundestag; providing information about participants in the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Program to appropriate Members of Congress; and arranging for members of the Bundestag to visit congressional districts with Members of Congress.

New activities are being explored to enhance these opportunities. The Congressional Study Group on Germany is funded primarily by the German Marshall Fund of the United States. Additional funding to assist with administrative expenses has also been received this year from eight corporations: BASF, Celanese, DaimlerChrysler, Deutsche Telekom, J.P. Morgan Chase, S.A.P., Siemens, and Volkswagen, whose representatives now serve on a Business Advisory Council to the study group, which is chaired by our former colleague, former Member Tom Coleman, who served as the chairman of the study group in the House in 1989.

I now would like to yield to the gentleman from Missouri, Jack Buechner to report on the 18th Congress-Bundestag Seminar held in Germany from April 9 to 12 and other study group activities.

Mr. BUECHNER. I thank the gentleman from Illinois for yielding to me. It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities of the Congressional Study Group. This program remains the largest and most active parliamentary exchange between the U.S. Congress and the legislative branch of any other country.

□ 0945

I would add that I do not think there are any similar programs anywhere in the world that would compare with this program. Currently 170 Members of Congress, 33 Senators, and 137 Members of the House, participate in the activities of the congressional study group. With the inauguration of the 107th Congress, the study group saw significant changes in its congressional leadership.

In the House, JOEL HEFLEY of Colorado assumed the post of chairman and NICK LAMPSON of Texas became the new vice chairman. On the Senate side, TIM JOHNSON of South Dakota remained the Democratic cochair while CHUCK HAGEL of Nebraska replaced Bill Roth as the Republican cochair.

I would hope everybody would join with me in thanking Bill Roth for the

tremendous service and commitment that he gave to this program in his years in the Senate. Under the Study Group's new director, Peter Weichlein, the study group has significantly expanded the number and scope of its activities. However, the two main programs of the group remain its distinguished visitors program at our Capitol and its annual Congress-Bundestag seminar. The Distinguished Visitors Program has hosted numerous high ranking elected and appointed officials of the Federal Republic of Germany here on Capitol Hill.

In this congressional session alone, the study group brought together with Members of Congress Germany's Federal Minister of Economics, Werner Mueller, and just last week the chair of Germany's CDU party, that is the Christian Democrats, Dr. Angela Merkel, who quite possibly could be elected Germany's next Chancellor in 2002.

I now have had the pleasure of attending several Congress-Bundestag seminars. The annual meeting arranged by the Congressional Study Group on Germany that brings together Members of Congress and their confreres from the Bundestag for in-depth dialogue. This is the 18th year the seminar was hosted by the study group and they just seem to be getting better each year, although I would add I think they get colder each year. As we were leaving Usedom, we looked out the window and we were greeted by some good Baltic Sea snow.

GIL GUTKNECHT of Minnesota led a delegation of current and former members first to Berlin and then to Usedom Island from April 7 to April 13. We arrived in Berlin on Sunday, were treated to a private tour of the Reichstag by a member of the Bundestag, Volkmar Schultz. The next morning, we had a working breakfast with Germany's foreign minister. It was over an hour. I would be hard pressed to think that our Secretary of State would have given the same greetings and in-depth discussion with Members of the Congress. We also went with the Vice Chancellor, Joschka Fischer, where we discussed global security issues including China and the Middle East. We then traveled to Usedom, which is a beautiful island in the northeastern part of Germany three kilometers from the Polish border.

As you can imagine, as I said before, the second week of April and Usedom in the Baltics, it was a bit cold but that did not deter anyone from having a joyful experience. There were four days of meetings with seven current Bundestag members ranging from the Greens to the Christian Democrats. Our discussion focused on domestic issues, especially East Germany 10 years after reunification and the United States under the Bush administration. We also had a dialogue on trade questions, such as the trade implications of EU expansion to the east. We discussed security policy issues, for example, NMD and NATO expansion.

The study group also organized several memorable excursions and activities. For example, we toured Peenemuende where Werner von Braun and his team developed rocket technology still in use today. We were flown by military helicopter to Eggelsen Army Base where the German, Polish, and Danish troops form the tri-national corps. Here we were briefed on the Kosovo mission. We witnessed several troop exercises which are used to prepare the soldiers for their Balkan mission.

The activities of the Congressional Study Group on Germany as highlighted by the annual seminar are quite impressive and they serve an important purpose of providing current Members with the opportunity to communicate with legislators from one of our most important allies and trade partners. The Association of Former Members, through this program, provides a very unique and vital service to the current Members. I believe the Congressional Study Group on Germany is an excellent example of how the talents and efforts of former Members can be used to benefit current Members and to a larger extent the public. I thank you.

Mr. ERLENBORN. Our association also serves as the secretariat for the Congressional Study Group on Japan. Founded in 1993 in cooperation with the East-West Center in Hawaii, it is a bipartisan group of 86 Members of the House and the Senate with an additional 49 Members having asked to be kept informed of the study group activities. In addition to providing substantive opportunities for Members of Congress to meet with their counterparts in the Japanese Diet, the study group arranges monthly briefings when the Congress is in session for Members to hear from American and Japanese experts about various aspects of the U.S.-Japan relationship. The Congressional Study Group on Japan is funded primarily by the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission.

In 1999, the association began a parliamentary exchange program with the People's Republic of China. In October of that year with funding from the U.S. Information Agency, the association hosted a delegation of nine members of the National People's Congress of China in Washington. This program marked the inauguration of the U.S.-China Interparliamentary Exchange Group whose members are appointed by the Speaker. The visit included in-depth discussions between Members of the two Congresses as well as meetings by members of the Chinese delegation with high level executive branch representatives, academics, and business representatives.

In 2000, the association received a grant from the Department of State to continue this exchange program by arranging a visit to China by members of the exchange group. The trip to China, which is scheduled to take place in August of this year, will include stops in

Beijing for in-depth discussions with members of the National Peoples Congress of China and meetings with other government representatives and in Tibet to observe conditions there.

The association also has received funding from private sources to initiate a Congressional Study Group on China which will hold monthly meetings at the Capitol for current Members to discuss with American and Chinese experts topics of particular concern in this important relationship. We believe the current situation with China underscores the need for forthright and open dialogue between the leaders of the United States and China, and we are working with the leaders of the U.S.-China Inter-Parliamentary exchange group to encourage the continuation and expansion of this vital dialogue.

The U.S. Congress and the Congress of Mexico have been conducting annual seminars for 40 years under the auspices of the U.S.-Mexico Inter-Parliamentary Group. However, there is little interaction between legislators from these two countries during the rest of the year. The association hopes to initiate a Congressional Study Group on Mexico, with funding from the Tinker Foundation, so that Members of Congress can meet on a regular basis with visiting American dignitaries and other experts about various aspects of the U.S.-Mexico relationship.

These plans have been delayed by the advent of new administrations both in the United States and Mexico. However, knowing the importance placed on both new Presidents and the U.S.-Mexican relationship, it is anticipated that this program will get under way in the near future. In the aftermath of political changes in Europe, the association began a series of programs in 1989 to assist the emerging democracies of central and eastern Europe.

With funding from the U.S. Information Agency, the association sent bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress, accompanied by either a congressional or a country expert to the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland for up to 2 weeks. They conducted workshops and provided instruction on legislative issues for new members of parliament, their staffs and other persons involved in the legislative process. They also made public appearances to discuss the American political process. In addition, the association brought delegations of members of parliament from these countries to the United States for 2-week visits.

With funding from the USIA, the association sent a technical advisor to the Hungarian parliament from 1991 to 1993. With financial support from the Pew Charitable Trust in 1994, the association assigned technical advisers to the Slovak and Ukrainian parliaments. This initial support was supplemented by other grants to enable the Congressional Fellows to extend their stays. From 1995 through 2000, with funding

from the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Eurasia Foundation, the association managed a highly successful program that placed Ukrainian students in internships with committees, legislative support offices, and leadership offices of the Parliament of Ukraine. This program met not only the Parliament's short-term need of having a well-educated, motivated, and professionally trained staff to conduct its current legislative work effectively, but also the longer term need to develop a cadre of trained professionals. Former Members of Congress visited Ukraine from time to time to assist with these efforts by meeting with the students involved in the program as well as with Ukrainian government leaders.

At the end of 2000, the association turned over the administration of this program to local Ukrainian management to ensure its long-term viability. Two independent Ukrainian groups, one academic, and the other the Association of Ukrainian Deputies, have committed themselves to maintaining the high professional standards in the nonpartisan selection process.

The Ukrainian program proved to be an excellent pilot that was well worth replicating in other emerging democracies, particularly in the Central/East European and NIS areas. In late 1999-early 2000, under a grant from the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, with funding from the Agency for International Development, the association sent a congressional staff member to Macedonia for 6 months. He selected university students and recent graduates in that country and trained them to provide research and drafting services to the Members of Parliament who lacked such resources. A young Macedonian lawyer worked with our congressional fellow and assumed the management of the program upon his return to the United States. I was privileged to have traveled to Macedonia in January of 2000 to confer with Members of the Macedonian Parliament concerning the intern program that we had established for them.

I believe that one of the most important programs the association has undertaken is providing help to emerging democracies, especially their parliaments. The transition from the old ways to democratic governments is a basic test of the success of the newly emerging democracies. Similar problems are being faced by all of them with varying successes. I believe the intern projects that we have initiated are necessary to help the legislatures transition to independent and meaningful roles if the voice of the people is to be heard as it must in a democracy.

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress is uniquely qualified to provide the resources for the education of the legislators in the emerging democracies. Former Members have experience in State legislatures and in Congress. We cannot ex-

pect other countries to adopt our ways, but we can help them identify the basic elements of a free, representative government sensitive to the traditions of their country. I believe that each and every one of us, having served our country in the past, still has the urge to serve in some capacity. With our experience, we can help other countries move toward responsive democratic governments. It would be a shame to waste the resource that we represent. I hope that we can have more programs such as those in Ukraine and Macedonia. The association would be happy to respond to requests to assist other emerging democracies.

The association also has been interested in assisting with U.S.-Cuban relations. In December of 1996, we sent a delegation of current and former Members of Congress to Cuba on a study mission to assess the situation there and analyze the effectiveness of U.S. policies toward Cuba. Upon its return, the delegation wrote a report of its findings which was widely disseminated through the media and was made available to Members of Congress as well as to personnel in the executive branch.

A follow-up to this initial study was conducted in January of 1999. Again, the delegation wrote a detailed report of its findings and shared it through media and briefings with congressional leaders and representatives of the executive branch. A final study mission to Cuba took place from May 29 to June 3 of 2000. A delegation led by John Brademas of Indiana and including Jack Buechner of Missouri, Larry LaRocco of Idaho, and Fred Grandy of Iowa met with representatives of the Cuban Government, dissidents and others to assess the present state of the U.S.-Cuba relations.

□ 1000

This program with Cuba was funded by the Ford Foundation.

I would now like to yield to the gentleman from Idaho, Larry LaRocco, to share his observations from the most recent trip to Cuba; and I will replace the gentleman while he is in the well.

Mr. LAROCO. Thank you, Mr. President.

I am pleased to report on the third fact-finding mission to Cuba by a bipartisan delegation from the Association of Former Members of Congress. Our trip was just about 1 year ago, from May 26 to June 3, 2000. Our purpose was to explore firsthand the current political, social and economic realities in Cuba and to consider what steps might be taken to improve relations between Cuba and the United States.

Before traveling, we were fully briefed by officials in the Department of State, key Members of Congress, leaders of nongovernmental organizations, and officials of the Cuban Interests Section in Washington, D.C.

Unlike the two previous delegations, we did not travel as a group officially

invited by the Cuban Government. We had the appropriate documentation from the U.S. Government, however.

The Cuban Government did not extend an official invitation to the delegation. We were simply issued tourist visas. This unofficial character of the trip allowed us to control our own time, to have a variety of meetings, and to gain a much better idea of what a cross-section of the Cuban population thinks. Unencumbered by the protocol demands that normally accompany an officially approved trip, we were free to visit a wide range of independent organizations, art centers, church and church-sponsored groups, and research centers.

We were also able to attend church services, visit markets, travel into the countryside and talk freely to private citizens. On the ground in Cuba, we heard a remarkably diverse array of voices and observed a highly complex set of political and social circumstances.

The report we wrote upon our return from Cuba reflects the collective deliberations of the delegation, and lists six specific recommendations we all endorsed. We did not attempt to tackle every issue involved in the relations between our countries. In order to make concrete recommendations, we focused, however, on a core of matters that seemed particularly significant to us.

Our recommendations closely paralleled those of the previous two bipartisan delegations. To date, 15 former Members of Congress, eight Republicans and seven Democrats, have traveled to Cuba on these Ford Foundation-sponsored missions. The recommendations of all three delegations have been unanimous and are remarkably similar in terms of their implications for U.S. policy.

I would like to briefly summarize our recommendations: number one, Congress and the administration should begin a phased reduction of sanctions legislation as defined in the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-484) and the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, that was known as the Helms-Burton P.L. 104-114. At the time of our report, we supported the enactment of H.R. 3140 and S. 2382 to remove all restrictions on the sales or gifts of food and medicines.

Number two, serious consideration should be given to the establishment of a U.S. bank in Havana, if legislation to authorize the sale of food and medicine is approved by the Congress and the administration.

Number three, opportunities for people-to-people contact between citizens of the United States and Cuba should be expanded, particularly through the two-way exchanges in the fields of education and culture. More links between educational, cultural and nongovernmental institutions in our two countries should also be established.

Number four, the current ceilings on annual remittances from the United

States to Cuba should be raised significantly, if not eliminated.

Number five, steps should be taken to facilitate direct flights between the United States and Cuba.

Finally, number six, steps should be taken to improve Internet communications between the citizens of both countries. Initiatives aimed at enabling Cuban citizens to gain greater access to the Internet should be encouraged and support should be given to individuals and entities involved in the creation of Web sites and other electronic platforms aimed at improving mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and Cuba.

That, Mr. President, and members of the association, is our report. At this time there are no future missions to Cuba that are planned, but we look forward to playing a role in developing better relationships between Cuba and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, that concludes my report on our trip to Cuba.

Mr. ERLENBORN. I must confess that I arranged to have the gentleman from Idaho give this report. For the last 2 years, I was privileged to occupy the Speaker's chair during our report to the Congress. This year, of course, I am enjoying this role; but I hated to relinquish the Speaker's chair, so I made it possible I could occupy it for part of the time at least.

The association organizes study tours for its members and their spouses who at their own expense have participated in educational and cultural experiences in Canada, China, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand, the former Soviet Union, Western and Eastern Europe, the Middle East and South America.

In March 2000, 65 association and auxiliary members, spouses and friends, visited Italy where there were three former Members of Congress serving as ambassadors. Our ambassador to the Holy See, Lindy Boggs. Lindy, good to see you here today. George McGovern, who was then ambassador to the Food and Agricultural Organization; and Tom Foglietta, our ambassador to Italy.

In September of 2001, we are planning a study tour to Turkey which will include visits to Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, and Ephesus, with an optional cruise along the southern coast at the end. The trip will include meetings with Turkish business representatives and government leaders, as well as opportunities to visit many of the historic sites in Turkey. I hope many of our association and auxiliary members will be able to participate in what should be an exceptional opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, the association conducts a wide variety of programs and is continuing to expand them. All of this requires financial support. At present, our funding comes from three primary sources: program grants, membership dues, and an annual fund-raising dinner and auction.

On March 6 of this year, we held our fourth annual Statesmanship Award

dinner at which our friend and colleague, Norm Mineta, was honored. We presented Norm with the Statesmanship Award in recognition of his service as a Member of Congress, as Secretary of Commerce, as the current Secretary of Transportation and for his many other outstanding achievements.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Florida, Lou Frey, who provided the leadership that helped make our first four dinners so successful, and to yield to him to report on this year's dinner, our plans for next year, and for any additional comments he would like to make about the association's book, "Inside the House," which was mentioned earlier.

Mr. FREY. Thank you, Mr. President. Before we start, I would like to thank you and Larry, Jack Buechner, Tom Downey, Matt McHugh, the executive committee, for the leadership you have given us and given us all an opportunity to put back and continue our public service in a small way.

The fourth annual Statesmanship Award dinner was held on March 6 at the Willard Hotel. It was a sellout with over 460 people attending. As a matter of fact, our honoree, Jack Kemp, called up at the last minute for tickets to go and our staff turned him down since it was a sellout. That was quickly corrected; but you better get your order in early, Mr. Secretary, for that.

As I said, Norm Mineta got the award. We are pleased to report that the revenues for the ticket sales were over \$150,000 from it. We had two outstanding auctioneers, Jimmy Hayes and Larry LaRocco. We were joined by a rookie this year, who we gave him a chance to perform for us, TOM DELAY. He performed very well. As a matter of fact, we have asked him back he did such a good job. So we hope he will join our team next year.

We raised over \$12,000 from the auction itself. And for those of you who wish, there is still an opportunity left if you see Jack Buechner to have a chance in a raffle that we are continuing.

I put in the RECORD the names of everybody who worked on this dinner for us, who we really appreciate. The next dinner will be March 5 of next year. I know there are people like Jim Lloyd who have been beating on me saying, When is the dinner? I want to go out and sell tickets again. Jim, I appreciate that offer of yours and everybody else's. So we need all of you who served to serve again. Frankly, some of you who have not joined in could really help us because this is really the key fund-raising event for our association. We really need the help.

We have the date for the dinner. It is going to be at the Willard Hotel. I had the opportunity with some of you here to have breakfast with the Vice President, I think a week or so ago, and used that opportunity and our old friendship to ask him if he would receive the award next year; and before his staff could intercede he said yes. I

am just putting it on the record now so that we think we have him locked up for it, and he has agreed to come so we have it all set for next year. We just need your help to make it even more successful.

I also want to talk a little bit about the book, "Inside the House," which many of you out here wrote and which we have even got help from our good friend Barry Turner with a chapter which we would not have gotten done without your help, Barry; and we certainly appreciate that. For those of you who have not read it, it is really a good book. Sonny Montgomery called me the other day and he said, that is a pretty good book, and it really is. It is a human look at the Congress. It is a case study of the Congress. It is unique. There is nothing else, to my knowledge and to those of us who have been working on this, that exists.

It is not one person's look at the Congress, but it is 34 people and other people who are looking at it. It is really the human side of it. If you read this book, you will come away, I think, number one, with a feel of how all of us care about this place and what we are doing and how proud of it we are, and the different approaches to it.

I have a bunch of grandkids now, and I am in the reading mode again; and there is that Aesop's Fable, I think, of the seven blind men and the elephant who reach out and touch different parts and talk about it. That is sort of what this book is like. It comes from all different things, from the spouse's standpoint, from the academic standpoint, from Jim Symington talking about how he got into public service, going back to the time that one of his relatives was with Pickett and the other was on the other side of the fight in the same battle, and just different interesting looks at people, how they got there, how they feel and what they do.

Not really to our surprise but to our relief, we have seen some really good reviews from political scientists across the country. It has been covered on C-SPAN. It has been covered up here. We have had it sold out already, another printing coming back. It is being used at the War College out in California. Colgate University is using it.

One last thing I want to say, we really owe a great debt to Professor Michael Hayes. He is the chairman of the Political Science Department at Colgate University, and he really put a lot of work and effort into this. So for those of you who have not had a chance to read it or use it, please do it. It is a good book, and I guess there will be a sequel to it so you will be getting some phone calls in the future.

Mr. ERLENBORN. Would the gentleman from Florida please remain in the well.

I would like to now yield to the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Symington.

Mr. SYMINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois, our esteemed president, Mr. Erlenborn, for

this opportunity to present to the gentleman from Florida, our former president, Mr. Frey, on behalf of the Association of Former Members of Congress, this Moroccan leather-bound copy of "Inside the House," the collection of congressional memoirs, perceptions and insights which he conceived, inspired, doggedly pursued, co-authored and proofread.

Mr. FREY. Not perfectly.

Mr. SYMINGTON. For the edification of students and teachers of government, current and future legislators, and the American people. It is inscribed, "For the Honorable Lou Frey, Jr., with the admiration and esteem of his grateful colleagues."

□ 1015

Mr. ERLENBORN. Mr. Speaker, in addition to financial support, the Association benefits enormously from the effort and leadership of many people. I want to thank the officers of the Association, Larry LaRocco, Vice President; Jack Buechner, Treasurer; Jim Slattery, Secretary; and Matt McHugh, the immediate past President, and the members of our board of directors and our counselors who are providing the excellent guidance and support necessary to oversee these activities.

In addition, we are assisted by the auxiliary of the Association, now led by Nancy Buechner. We are particularly grateful for their help with the "Life After Congress" seminars and our annual dinners.

Needless to say, our programs could not be so effectively run without the exceptional support provided by our staff, Linda Reed, Executive Director; Peter Weichlein, Program Director, with special responsibility for the Congressional Study Group on Germany; Katrinka Stringfield, Executive Assistant; and Jamie Pearson, Receptionist. Many thanks to all of you.

The Association also maintains close relations with the counterpart associations of former members of parliaments in other countries. I am pleased to recognize and welcome Barry Turner, the President of the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, and Richard Balfe, Member of the European Parliament, who are here to find out some of the ways that our Association has functioned over the past and as part of an effort of beginning a new former Members of the European Parliament Association. I hope that you have found a lot of help here with some ideas for your new association.

Mr. Speaker, it is now my sad duty to inform the House of those persons who have served in Congress and have passed away since our report last year. The deceased Members of Congress are:

Homer E. Abele, Ohio;
William H. Ayres, Ohio;
Herbert H. Bateman, Virginia;
Marion T. Bennett, Missouri;
William T. Cahill, New Jersey;
Alan Cranston, California;
Paul D. Coverdell, Georgia;

Julian C. Dixon, California;
Henry B. Gonzalez, Texas;
Paul G. Hatfield, Montana;
Allan T. Howe, Utah;
Robert J. Huber, Michigan;
James M. Leath, Texas;
John V. Lindsay, New York;
Koln G. McKay, Utah;
James D. "Mike" McKevitt, Colorado;

Helen S. Meyner, New Jersey;
James H. Morrison, Louisiana;
John O. Pastore, Rhode Island;
L. Richardson Preyer, North Carolina;
William J. Randall, Missouri;
John G. Schmitz, California;
Timothy P. Sheehan, Illinois;
Norman Sisisky, Virginia;
Joe Skubitz, Kansas;
William G. Stratton, Illinois;
Bruce F. Vento, Minnesota;
E.S. Johnny Walker, New Mexico;
Sidney R. Yates, Illinois.

I respectfully ask all of you to rise for a moment of silence in their memory.

Thank you.

As you know, each year the Association presents a Distinguished Service Award to an outstanding public servant, and, Jack, I know you have been waiting, thinking we were bringing the program to a conclusion without remembering your part in this ceremony today.

The award normally rotates between the parties, as do our officers. Last year, we became totally nonpartisan and presented the award to former House Chaplain James David Ford. This year, we are pleased to be honoring an outstanding Republican, Jack Kemp.

Jack is a native of California. After graduation from Occidental College, he began his 13-year career as a professional football quarterback. After serving as captain of the San Diego Chargers, he moved east and became captain of the Buffalo Bills, whom he quarterbacked to the American Football League championship in 1964 and 1965, when he was named the league's Most Valuable Player. He cofounded the American Football League Players Association and was five times elected president of that association.

His public service began with 18 years of service from 1971 to 1989 in the House of Representatives, representing the Buffalo area and western New York, during which he served for 7 years in the Republican leadership as Chairman of the House Republican Committee. After leaving Congress, Jack served for 4 years as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. In 1995, he served as Chairman of the National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform. Jack received the Republican Party's nomination for Vice President in August of 1996, and since then has campaigned nationally for reform of taxation, Social Security and education.

Jack currently is codirector of Empower America, a public policy and ad-

vocacy organization that he founded in 1993 with William Bennett and Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick.

Jack, will you please come and join me in the well.

To the gentleman from New York, on behalf of the Association, I am delighted to present our Distinguished Service Award to you, Jack. The plaque is inscribed as follows.

Here, I will let you read along to see if I get it right.

Mr. KEMP. I trust you.

Mr. ERLENBORN. "Presented by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress to the Honorable Jack Kemp for your outstanding performance in the world of sports, public service and private life. As a star professional football player, a Member of Congress for 18 years and a member of the leadership of the Republican Party, you distinguished yourself. Your nomination for Vice President in 1996 and service as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for 4 years added to an already impressive list of accomplishments. We know that you still are dedicated to public service, and we salute you. Washington, D.C., May 2, 2001."

Jack.

Mr. KEMP. Thank you.

Mr. ERLENBORN. Jack, I also am pleased to present you with a scrapbook of letters from your colleagues offering their congratulations, along with mine, for this well-deserved symbol of our respect, appreciation and affection.

We would be pleased to receive some comments from you.

Mr. KEMP. Well, first of all, thank you so very much. It is a great honor. John, thank you for your kind comments.

I just have a few remarks that I would like to make. I ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks.

Mr. LAROCCO. So ordered.

Mr. KEMP. Thank you. Like my other speeches.

To be introduced as a former professional football quarterback and a former Member of the House of Representatives and a former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and a former next Vice President of the United States for about 2½ months in 1996, my grandson in Seattle, Washington, introduced me to his Sunday school class in Seattle, Washington, one time as "a former very important public serpent."

I am thrilled today to be joined by my wife, Joanne, many of you know her, my granddaughter, Babbi, and daughter, Jennifer. My son, Jimmy was here with his two sons, our 12th and 13th grandchildren. We did not have any grandchildren when I came to Congress. We had four children. They subsequently all got married and have wonderful families.

I am very grateful to have served with you, many of you, in this body, to think and reflect upon the wonderful times through which we went, as well as the great challenges that we faced.

It is pretty well-known that I am known as the Hubert Humphrey of the Republican Party. He said one time that he did not think he spoke too long, because he enjoyed every minute of his speeches.

Having served for 18 years in this body, and to hear Members of the House on both sides of the aisle reflect upon this House of Representatives and how much it means to them, I wanted to thank the Association, thank Lou Frey, former President, and you, John, as the new President. Lindy, I too want to salute you as our Ambassador to the Vatican. And to think as I stand here that I served with Hale Boggs.

It is overwhelming to come back. I feel a little bit like I did when I went back to Buffalo for a reunion of my old championship team. They showed a film of my highlights. There were a couple of bubble gum cards and a photograph or two. But they played Gladys Knight and the Pips singing "Memories, the Way We Were."

I can remember watching a football spiral through the air in slow motion, and I realized that I would never throw a football again, maybe with my grandchildren, but not in professional ranks, and I really had a tear in my eye going back and thinking that I would never do that again. And to stand here today in front of you, so many of whom I served with, makes me realize that I will never do this again. I doubt if I will ever give a speech on the floor or from the well of the House.

To look at you and realize the friendships we made, I came during the Vietnam War, there was Watergate, the cul-de-sac of the economy into which we had burst in the late 1970s, inflation, unemployment, an energy crisis of unbelievable proportions. And, Bob Michel, to have served with you and Gerry Ford as my leaders, it really does flood my mind's eye with memories.

But I will not go into it except to say it was the greatest honor of my life, other than to get this award, to be recognized for a legislative career that spanned those 18 years. To see Bobby Garcia over here, with whom one day in the late 1970s when Governor Munoz Marin died and Bobby got up and memorialized him, and I was over on the Republican side, had read about him, never met him obviously, but when Bobby Garcia spoke and CHARLIE RANGEL spoke, I said, would you mind if a Republican helped memorialize the great career and leadership of Munoz Marin?

I got up and I said, he was the author of Operation Bootstrap in Puerto Rico, and I thought, would it not be wonderful, Bob, if we could do that for the South Bronx, and, CHARLIE RANGEL, if we can do it for Harlem, and Buffalo, and Watts, Los Angeles, and East L.A. and East St. Louis and all the areas of urban America that had been troubled by the problems of our deteriorating inner cities.

It was at that moment, having never met Bob and having never met CHARLIE

RANGEL, I walked across that center aisle and shook hands, met them, became fast friends of both RANGEL and Garcia, and that became the Enterprise Zone, Operation Bootstrap, that I stole from Luis Munoz Marin.

Every idea I ever had in this body I stole from someone else. The Kemp-Roth bill was stolen from John F. Kennedy; privatization of housing was stolen from Abraham Lincoln's idea of homesteading. I guess my mother was right when she said, ideas, no one has a proprietary right over an idea. They are universal, and when you share them with each other, you do not lose anything. It is a win-win.

I like to think that some of us, and I know that many of you have, have had a huge impact upon this democratic system of ours. I want to thank my colleagues from the Democratic side of the aisle for all that they have meant to me. The Bible says he who wrestles with us strengthens us.

□ 1030

I think I have been strengthened by the debates in this Chamber. I know you have, too. That really means a lot to me.

I appreciate the civility. Yes, we used to go at it hammer and tongs, but there was great civility. I realize that you can disagree without being disagreeable. I must say, some of my best friends are not only on the Republican side of the aisle, but on the Democratic side of the aisle. I appreciate that. The best friends I made in football were the guys who used to beat me up on Sunday, and oh, did they beat me up. But I appreciate that and I am stronger for it.

Many of the ideas I had at HUD came from this body, things that I wanted to do when I got into that huge agency to help urban America.

So I just want to close with the thought that we all served, or many or most of us served, when democracy was in retreat. There was an evil empire. There was a Berlin Wall. There were walls of segregation and discrimination.

Many of them have come down. This hemisphere today, 97 percent of this hemisphere freely elect their leaders. When Buchanan, John Buchanan and I were here, I think it was something like 25 percent. I am reminded of the words of Benito Juarez, the great President of Mexico, who said, "Democracy is the ultimate destiny of all mankind."

I really believe that. I believe that freedom and democracy is the ultimate destiny of all mankind. There is a struggle. There is always a struggle. But we are on the side of history. This House is at the epicenter of a revolution taking place around the world.

So as I conclude my remarks, particularly with a member of the European Parliament here that we all welcome and a great Brit, may I say to all of you, stop and think in this year of our Lord 2001 that 225 years ago on this

Earth, think back to July of 1776. There was a Holy Roman Empire. Venice was a Republic. France was ruled by a king, China by an emperor, Russia by an empress, Great Britain was a monarchy, Japan was ruled by Shogun.

All of those regimes and systems have passed into the pages of the history book. There is really only one that has lasted for 225 years with its basic, rudimentary, democratic form of government and Constitution. That is this little experiment in human freedom and democracy founded on the northeastern shores of North America by a group of men and women who founded a nation predicated upon the inalienable right of people to be free, the inalienable right of all of us to freedom and democratic rule, and the inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It is pretty amazing that those words of Jefferson 225 years ago are quoted from Wenceslaus Square in the Czech Republic in Prague to Tiananmen Square in Beijing. They are not dead, they are alive, and we are part of that history.

I get a chill standing here telling you how honored I am to have been your colleague, to have been your friend, to have wrestled and argued and debated and discussed and talked and talked and talked, I am sure you would think. But how else would people learn if I did not?

Thank you for this award. Thank you for the association. Thank you for your friendship. Thanks for honoring Jack and Joanne Kemp, because I could not have done it without my wonderful partner of 42 years and 13 grandchildren later. Like all of us, that was the greatest decision of my life. I love you.

Mr. ERLENBORN. Thank you again, Jack, for your friendship and service.

Mr. Speaker and members of the association, we are honored and proud to serve in the U.S. Congress. We are continuing our service to our Nation in other ways now, but hopefully ones that are equally as effective.

Again, thank you for letting us return today to this Chamber. This concludes our 31st Annual Report by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress. Thank you.

Mr. LAROCCHI (presiding). The Chair again wishes to thank the former Members of the House for their presence here today. Before terminating these proceedings, the Chair would like to invite those former Members who did not respond when the roll was called to give their names to the Reading Clerks for inclusion on the roll.

The Chair wishes to thank the other former Members of the House for their presence here today.

Good luck to all.

The Chair announces that the House will reconvene at 10:45 a.m.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 34 minutes a.m.), the House continued in recess.

□ 1045

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BASS) at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and that all Members and former Members who spoke during the recess have the privilege of revising and extending their remarks

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

There was no objection.

KEEP PUBLIC LANDS PUBLIC

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the new administration has certainly had its hands full reviewing hundreds of hastily conceived and poorly drafted regulations issued in the waning hours of the Clinton administration.

For example, the Clinton roadless initiative proposes to protect the environment by slamming the door and locking up 58 million acres of public land from public access. Certainly we need to protect our public lands and our sensitive lands, but this rule does not only prohibit the construction of new roads in these areas, it also closes thousands of existing roads used by Americans to enjoy firsthand the beauty of our public lands. Closing off public lands should be made only on a case-by-case basis and not by hurried and executive edicts.

Protecting our pristine environment does not justify banning Americans from accessing and enjoying these lands. We must revise any roadless initiative which would force Americans to experience the beauty of our lands by looking into a photograph instead of experiencing and appreciating nature's magnificence in a firsthand measure.

STRIKING THE GAG RULE

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a strong supporter of international family planning and in strong opposition to the antiwoman gag rule which is being debated before the Committee on International Relations right now.

First and foremost, this debate is not about abortion; it is about women dying to the tune of over 600,000 a year.

That is the equivalent of a jumbo jet crashing each day. And it is about saving women's lives.

The fact remains that since 1973, no U.S. Federal funds can be used around the world for abortion. Let me be clear: the global gag rule is about restricting foreign nongovernmental organizations in the use of their own money. This language would be unconstitutional in our own country, and it is unconscionable that we are exporting it to some of the world's poorest countries where it affects some of the world's poorest women.

The gag rule is enough to make me gag. It exports the worst of American internal politics. I urge a "no" vote in committee and a "yes" vote for the amendment of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the HOPWA program, or the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, is the only Federal program that helps the housing crisis facing people with AIDS.

Rental help, mortgage assistance, help with utility payments, and information on low-income housing opportunities are some of the ways in which HOPWA helps low-income persons with AIDS in securing stable living environments and in living longer and in more productive lives.

Unfortunately, there is an estimated 40,000 new AIDS cases reported every year, and the demands for housing that will provide for the safety and stability for these individuals to benefit from drug treatments greatly outweighs the resources currently available. President Bush, however, has proposed to allocate \$277 million in his budget, an increase of \$57 million from last year's budget, to address the housing crisis facing people with AIDS.

I urge my colleagues to consider funding HOPWA and alleviate the growing needs of individuals living with HIV and AIDS.

GLOBAL GAG RULE

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, family planning saves lives. Whether we are talking about Sonoma County, California, or Somalia, women who have control over their reproductive health are better off, and so are their families. That is why we must repeal the global gag rule.

Denying women around the world access to a full range of reproductive choices not only limits their health care options, it leaves women trapped

in abusive relationships; held back by a lack of education and financial stability, and unable to care for themselves and their families. That is not acceptable.

Today, the Committee on International Relations will take up the measure offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) to end the global gag rule. I urge my colleagues on the committee and throughout this House to vote "yes" on her legislation and vote "yes" for women's rights around the world.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, the global gag rule will cost women around the world their lives. Women in the United States may enjoy reproductive freedom today, but our rights are only as safe as the rights of all women.

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION TO STUDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation to establish a commission to take a comprehensive look at assistance programs and ways to reduce the disincentives that result when they are phased out.

Our task must be to help people move from subsidized jobs into self-sufficiency. Current welfare and tax policies put up tremendous roadblocks to that goal, as each time a low-income worker increases his or her income, the Government takes all or most of the increase away.

The miracle is that there are some who, perhaps out of pride, work their way out of this lower-income range. We must focus on this problem and look for solutions. The commission provided for in the legislation I am introducing today will help us do that, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this initiative.

THE SELL-OUT OF AMERICA

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Great Lakes are now open. The first foreign ship to dock in Cleveland, Ohio, carried 10,000 tons of steel from Russia. While mills are closing in Cleveland, Youngstown, and Pittsburgh, steel mills are closing all over America. Ten thousand tons of illegally dumped steel just came in to America. Unbelievable.

Think about it. It is getting so bad the Army almost bought, without Congress' interference, black berets for the Army from China. Beam me up. If our trade program is so good, why does Europe not do it? Why does Japan not do it? Why does China not do it?

I think it is time to put things in order in America, my colleagues. Enough is enough. I yield back the sell-