

many years. We discussed the country's work to join NATO, as well as its progress in efforts to prepare for membership in the European Union. With regard to public opinion, President Kucan indicated that public support for NATO is not a problem. He said people want to discuss the implications of membership in the Alliance and debate the merits of joining NATO. We also discussed Solvenia's progress on military reforms, as well as the country's interest in working to promote security and stability in southeast Europe.

I again discussed these issues and found the same enthusiasm for Slovenia's membership in NATO and the European Union with members of the Slovenian parliament, including the President of Parliament Borut Pahor, President of the Foreign Affairs Committee Jelko Kacin and President of the Defense Committee Doran Marsic. Even the opposition expressed a solid commitment to moving forward with efforts to join the NATO Alliance. During consideration of a resolution on whether or not to have a national referendum on Slovenia's membership in NATO before the Prague summit, there was a very strong consensus that this should not happen until after the November meeting—with 63 agreeing that this should not happen immediately, with 9 opposing.

I also discussed these issues with Prime Minister Janez Drnovšek, who has recently announced his intention to run for President of Slovenia, as well as Minister of Defense Anton Grizold. Additionally, I visited with our ambassador, John Young, and discussed the country's strong candidacy for membership in both NATO and the European Union. I am hopeful that public support for NATO membership will continue to grow, and I am glad that this will be an enlightened decision in Slovenia given the high level of discussion on the issue.

Following meetings in Slovenia on Friday, May 31, 2002, I traveled to Brussels to visit with our Ambassador to NATO, Nick Burns, and the director of Javier Solana's Balkans Task Force, Mr. Stefan Lehne.

During my meeting with Stefan Lehne, I discussed my long interest in southeast Europe and impressions from my recent visits to Macedonia and Kosovo. I spoke with him about my strong concern with political situation in Macedonia, and urged the European Union to remain involved in efforts to bring all parties to the table to discuss disagreements over the order between Macedonia and Kosovo. I also told him I believe it is essential that the international community do everything in its power to encourage the Macedonian government to remain committed to free and fair parliamentary elections scheduled for this September.

We also discussed my interest in the Stability Pact—in particular, the Stability Pact's Quick Start Infrastructure Projects. I believe it is critical that the Pact make its intentions clear on the Quick Start projects.

Finally, we discussed my concern with organized crime, corruption and trafficking in human beings, drugs and weapons that plague many countries in central and eastern Europe. I encouraged Mr. Lehne to make these problems a top priority, as they undermine efforts on behalf of the international community to promote democratic reforms and respect for the rule of law in many of Europe's new democracies.

With Ambassador Nick Burns, I discussed my interest in NATO enlargement and observations from my visits to Bulgaria, Macedonia, Slovakia and Slovenia. While I share the vision of President Bush for a large round of enlargement in Prague, I expressed to Ambassador Burns my strong concern with the need for continued action in candidate countries.

As we approach Prague, we must decide whether each candidate country has gone far enough to take the necessary steps to join the Alliance. And as we answer that question, we will also ask whether or not action is still needed, and whether reforms are best encouraged if that country is extended an invitation at Prague, or if that country is instead asked to continue reforms while looking toward the next round of enlargement. These will be difficult questions, and we must be prepared to answer them.

I look forward to continued discussion with the administration and my colleagues in the Senate on NATO enlargement in the months ahead, and I encourage NATO aspirant countries to take as many steps as they can between now and November to address issues outlined in their respective Membership Action Plans.

Additionally, I will continue to be active and involved in the Senate on issues affecting southeast Europe. We had a very productive Helsinki Commission hearing to examine the situation for ethnic minorities in Kosovo earlier this month, and I will continue to discuss this issue when I participate in the annual meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly next week.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN CELEBRATES 140TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the Children's Aid Society of Southeastern Michigan (CAS) on its 140th anniversary. In that time CAS has been an organization dedicated in service to children, youth, and families. For nearly a century and a half, CAS has been a dynamic and compassionate presence in the Michigan community.

CAS, the oldest child welfare agency in Michigan, is a non-profit, non-sectarian private organization dedicated to the preservation and quality of family life in Southeastern Michigan based in Detroit. Begun in 1862 by members

of the Presbyterian Church to help Civil War orphans, CAS has expanded in the years since to help hundreds of thousands of troubled children and families. CAS aims to build strength within the family unit by providing a variety of comprehensive child and family-focused services, seeking to create the foundation for a better and healthier society.

The services that CAS provides are innovative and humanistic, viewing each individual and problem as unique. For example, the Work Works program gives high-risk youth between the ages of 13 and 17 training in employment skills and helps them in finding a job. Alumni of the program help other staff teach the skills of positive self-esteem, work ethics, and job readiness. Another program, Moving Families in the Right Direction, aims to prevent delinquency and school dropout by strengthening family functioning and relationships. Staff go into homes, schools, and the community to conduct counseling sessions and group work with youth between the ages of 10 and 17 who have been referred to them by the Police Department or Juvenile Court. By giving at-risk children and families early attention, CAS tries to help prevent the family break-up and juvenile delinquency that plagues so much of our country today. CAS also provides day care and has programs for early childhood education, mental health, child abuse, teen families, and parents.

Southeastern Michigan and the larger Detroit metropolitan area are deeply indebted to the work CAS has done for families and children over the last 140 years. Year in and year out CAS has fought to hold families together and ensure the welfare of children. The vital support services that CAS provides help children and parents deal with the difficult personal and societal issues they face in the 21st century. Having performed these important social services for over 140 years is indeed a tremendous accomplishment and deserves hearty commendation.

I know my Senate colleagues will join me in congratulating the Children's Aid Society of Southeastern Michigan for 140 years of success and in wishing it a fruitful future that only adds to its rich legacy of compassion.●

EDS' 40TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President. I extend my congratulations to EDS and to its employees on the company's 40th anniversary. On June 27, 1962, Electronic Data Systems was incorporated in Texas, and EDS is still headquartered in Plano, TX. The company's initial goal was simply to help companies use their computers more effectively. Since then, EDS has been a leader in the information-technology services industry.

EDS has flourished by adapting to its clients' needs and by providing information-technology and business consulting services to every sector of the

global economy. Evolving from a staff of fewer than 30 to a team of more than 140,000 employees in 50 States and more than 60 countries, EDS helps companies to excel in the digital economy.

In the 1960s, when the business world's use of computers was still novel, EDS recognized an opportunity to help companies use their computers effectively. In the 1970s, EDS expanded into new international markets, which today include some of its fastest-growing opportunities. Over the last two decades, personal computers and Web-based business models have changed the way people and businesses interact and access information. EDS has worked to ensure the strategic technological alignment of its clients in light of these developments.

EDS prides itself on consistently demonstrating resourcefulness and innovation, such as in aiding disaster recovery and providing information security in business continuity efforts. Responding quickly to unmet needs is a hallmark of successful businesses, such as EDS.

I commend EDS for its vitality and innovation, and send the people of EDS best wishes for the future.●

THE VANNEMER BUSH AWARD FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO ERICH BLOCH

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to bring to my colleagues' attention the fact that the National Science Board, NSB, has honored Erich Bloch as the 24th recipient of the Vannevar Bush Award for Science and Technology, its highest award for scientific achievement and statesmanship. Mr. Bloch's record of innovation and leadership in the advanced technology sector and the immense impact that his career has had on the field make him especially deserving of lofty praise. He received the award on May 7 in Washington, DC.

Mr. Bloch is a member of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, a distinguished fellow at the Council on Competitiveness, a former director of the National Science Foundation, and an outspoken supporter of fundamental research in leading innovation. He occupies a senior statesman status in science and engineering and has been a longtime supporter of science and mathematics education programs funded by the Federal government.

Erich Bloch is a visionary innovator of enormous stature—in both high technology for the private sector—and in the organization and objectives of science and engineering research. Eamon Kelly, National Science Board chair, stated in announcing the honor. "He has been an exceptionally effective communicator of the benefits of public funding for science and technology, and a leader in establishing widely emulated mechanisms for productive partnerships in research and education across public, academic, and private sectors.

Before moving to Washington to become the National Science Founda-

tion's only director from industry, Mr. Bloch was a famed electrical engineer at IBM and was one of the key figures responsible for IBM's STRETCH Computer Systems Engineering Project and in the groundbreaking developments of the IBM Systems 360. Until the 1960s, every computer model was generally designed independently, and at times individual machines were custom modified for a particular customer. The advent of the IBM-360 family of computers changed this forever. All these machines had the same user instruction set, taking advantage of IBM's engineering leadership in powerful disk drive systems. On the smaller machines, many of the more complex instructions were done in microcode rather than in hardware. Mr. Bloch headed IBM's development of the solid logic technology program, which provided IBM with the microelectronics technology for the System/360. Mr. Bloch's leadership ability was one of the key reasons for the success of the System/360. His strategy was to work around organizational structures and, as technical problems were identified, to assign groups or individuals who offered the best proposals. Mr. Bloch was the first to develop an IBM product with a ferrite core memory—a significant achievement in the search for memory technology. Mr. Bloch's accomplishments on the system, and the developments that occurred as part of his management style, helped revolutionize the computer industry and led to his receiving the 1985 National Medal of Technology with his IBM colleagues, Frederick P. Brooks, Jr. and Bob O. Evans.

In his 6-year term as NSF director, Erich Bloch built national support for advances in high-performance computing and networking. Mr. Bloch's important leadership in transitioning NSFNET to a commercialized Internet helped create an immense economic and societal impact from the 1990s to today. Mr. Bloch supported NSF's take over of the Defense Department's ARPANET, creating the government-owned and managed NSFNET connected to five university-based supercomputer centers via a 56-Kbps backbone. NSFNET replaced ARPANET in 1990 and expanded to include a variety of regional networks that linked universities into the backbone network. The only other wide-area networks in existence, all government owned, supported only limited numbers of specialized contractors and researchers. Mr. Bloch supported key colleagues at NSF, like Steve Wolff, and they had the vision to see the power of networking in the academic and research communities, and in the process created a powerful user base, the first real customer base, that would not let the networking revolution stop. Just 10 years later, the Internet was "owned" by no one and managed by a wide variety of commercial and nonprofit organizations on a decentralized basis. NSFNET's backbone operated at 45

Mbps, which was raised to 155 Mbps after NSFNET was decommissioned. NSFNET was decommissioned in 1995 when there was enough commercial Internet service providers, web browsers, and search engines to sustain the networks, operations, and management—nearly 60,000 networks were connected to the backbone. Now, 61.4 percent of the U.S. population has online access according to the latest Nielsen Net Ratings.

According to a report published by the policy division of non-profit corporation SRI International entitled "The Role of NSF's Support of engineering in Enabling Technological Innovation," Erich Bloch played an important leadership role in three key decisions that spurred today's Internet. First, he influenced the NSF decision to make NSFNET an "open" network rather than one that served supercomputer researchers exclusively. NSF decided to make NSFNET a three-tiered, distributed network consisting of backbone, regional or mid-level networks, and local, initially campus-based, networks. Finally, NSF decided to make the Internet self-supporting, and a series of decisions Mr. Bloch backed concerning the implementation of the self-supporting Internet led to its burgeoning. DARPA in the '70's developed the prototype for the Internet, ARPANET. Assisted by Erich Bloch's leadership, NSF played a crucial role in transitioning NSFNET in the 1980s into the remarkable Internet system so important to us today.

Internet innovation was not Mr. Bloch's only role at NSF. Before his arrival at NSF, the agency largely saw computing as a research tool for existing science disciplines. As detailed in the book, "Funding the Revolution" by the National Research Council, Mr. Bloch treated computing as a new scientific field in its own right, both a new science and an interdisciplinary science connector. Mr. Bloch created a new science directorate at NSF entirely for computing, consolidating all of NSF's computing initiatives in one place, and recruited another famed computer pioneer, Gordon Bell of DEC, to head it up. Computer science was now on a par with the established physical and biological sciences and budgeting at NSF grew from \$23 million in 1984 to \$100 million in 1986 and has continued to rise since then. While NSF had followed distantly behind DARPA's leadership in computing, under Erich Bloch it came into its own and began sponsoring important scientific computing advances.

Erich Bloch has always realized government's significant role in technology development, in coordination with the academic and commercial sectors. In receiving this award, he acknowledged that, "we have learned that in these days of rapid development and keen competition much is to be gained from cooperative activities." He continued that, "the global market is a reality" due to the development of