

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD PROVES USEFUL FOR PRESERVING REMARKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, we have heard from several people tonight on the other side of the aisle who spoke out against the activity in Iraq and said that they were opposed to the activity in Iraq, and that is their right, their privilege, their obligation to do so.

Madam Speaker, I was not here when the Congress voted on authorizing the use of military force in the country of Iraq. I think had I been here that I would have voted in favor of that use of military force, but that is merely speculation. I was not here.

But, Madam Speaker, I think it is useful to go back in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and read the remarks of people who were here who had those debates, who had to work through those issues, and who did then ultimately vote for the use of force in Iraq.

I quote the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD from September 12, 2002, where an individual said, "I firmly believe the issue of Iraq is not about politics, but it is about national security. We know or have known for at least 20 years that Saddam Hussein has aggressively and obsessively sought weapons of mass destruction by any means available. We know that he has chemical and biological weapons today. He has used them in the past, and he is doing everything he can to build more. Each day he inches closer to his long-term goal of a nuclear capability, a capability that could be less than a year away. I believe," this speaker said, "I believe that Saddam Hussein's Iraqi regime wants a clear threat to the United States, to our allies, to our interests around the world, and to the values of freedom and democracy that we hold dear."

Madam Speaker, this individual went on to say, "Saddam has proved his willingness to act irrationally and brutally against his neighbors and against his own people. Iraq's destructive capability has the potential to throw the entire Middle East into chaos and poses a moral threat to our vital allies. Furthermore, the threat against America is all too clear. Thousands of terrorist operatives around the world would pay anything to get their hands on Saddam's arsenal."

The speaker went on to say, "There is every possibility that he could turn those weapons over to terrorists. No one can doubt that if the terrorists had had weapons on September 11, had had those weapons of mass destruction, they would have used them. On September 12, 2002, we can hardly forget the terrorist threat and the serious danger that Saddam would allow his arsenal to be used. Iraq has continued to develop its arsenal in defiance of the collective will of the international

community as expressed through the United Nations Security Council. It, Iraq, is violating terms of the ceasefire that ended the Gulf War and is ignoring as many as 16 United Nations Security Council resolutions, including 11 resolutions concerning Iraq's efforts to develop weapons of mass destruction. These U.N. resolutions are not unilateral American demands; they involve obligations that Iraq has undertaken to the international community. By ignoring them, Saddam Hussein is undermining the credibility of the United Nations."

Let me repeat that.

"By ignoring them, Saddam Hussein is undermining the credibility of the United Nations openly and openly violating international law and making a mockery of the very idea of international collective action."

Madam Speaker, this individual on September 12 of 2002 wrapped things up with the very concise statement that goes on to say, "The path of confronting Saddam is full of hazards, but the path of inaction is far more dangerous. This week, a week before we remember the sacrifice of thousands of innocent Americans made on 9/11, the choice could not be starker. Had we known that such attacks were imminent, we surely would have used every means at our disposal to prevent them and to take out the plotters."

Well, Madam Speaker, unfortunately, these words were spoken by a Member of the other body, and the decorum of the House prevents me from properly attributing them, but most people would recognize the speaker of these words as the man who has recently been designated for the second highest office in this land, the Democratic, purported Democratic nominee for Vice President of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CONYERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to proceed with my 5 minute at this time.

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

There was no objection.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF ROLLAND "BOB" LYONS OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to honor and remember Rolland "Bob" Lyons,

who lost his struggle with cancer June 17, 2004.

Bob was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and lived in several Michigan cities before graduating from Kalamazoo High School in 1948. He served his country in Korea as a second lieutenant in the Army. A graduate of the University of Michigan, he founded the Michigan Trenching Service, Incorporated, and became a prime contractor for service companies. Although he was a highly successful businessman, he humbly referred to himself as "just a ditch digger from Ann Arbor."

Bob Lyons inspired optimism and a community-minded spirit that has left a lasting mark on those who were fortunate enough to have known him. Bob's commitment to improving society can be seen through his membership on the Mackinac Center Board of Directors. However, he will best be remembered, I think, for his boundless energy and commitment to numerous causes: Cleary University, St. Joseph Hospital, the Boy Scouts, the Hands On Museum, and many, many others.

Bob Lyons' humor and outgoing personality made him a natural at fundraisers and political events where he was a regular. He recruited, encouraged, supported and helped elect many political candidates.

Bob was passionate for his causes and was a role model for all of us who seek to improve our communities and our country. Thank you, Bob, for all you did for us. You will be remembered fondly. We offer our condolences to your beloved wife Jan, daughter Suezahn, son Rob. Bob, your service to your community and your country will be remembered.

□ 1900

HONORING Doug Bereuter

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, at this time we would like to honor the gentleman from Nebraska (DOUG BEREUTER), who is from the First Congressional District. I would like to begin the Special Orders by recognizing the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), who is the chairman of Committee on Ways and Means and who graciously arranged this hour for us.

Mr. THOMAS. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) because those of us who came in the 96th Congress in 1979, and I see my friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), is with us who was a member of that class, there were 77 of us, both Democrats and Republicans who came. And when you come in the same class, you then have seniority established alphabetically.

So you need to understand that from the first day DOUG BEREUTER was envied by me for the seniority which he achieved immediately in the House. However, the years, and it is now 25, DOUG and Louise and my wife, Sharon, and I have gotten to know each other in a way that you can say that we are colleagues. We professionally deal with a number of issues, but probably as much as any other person in the House, DOUG is a friend, and I admire him so much.

If you look at his background, rarely is anyone as prepared as he was to take on the responsibilities as a Member of the House of Representatives. And then when you look at what he has done and the manner in which he has done it, I admire him so much for the professionalism that he has brought to this House. And I know that as he now decides to go a different way, and Louise leaves her home by the river and they move into other activities, that Sharon and I will keep in touch with them because the memories that we have shared will be renewed as he moves on.

I will conclude, I will tell the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), by saying this: Republicans have now been in the majority for a decade. Some of us have been privileged to be able to chair committees in this great body. I can without refutation say that up to this point the most well-qualified mind-set approach, Member of the majority not to be able to be a chairman is DOUG BEREUTER. It saddens me. Although he has done a marvelous job in his professional career here in the House, in a number of committee assignments, I want to underscore that DOUG BEREUTER should have been a chairman of a full committee.

He and I will lament that over drinks in a number of countries over the next few years as we continue to share our lives in many ways. I am saddened to see DOUG go, but I am not sad because I get to move up one spot in seniority. I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. OSBORNE. I thank the gentleman for his comments. I know Mr. BEREUTER appreciates very much those comments as well.

At this time, I would like to yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TAUSCHER), and I appreciate her participation in this Special Order.

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the finest Members of this institution, DOUG BEREUTER of Nebraska. After 26 years of service, DOUG is retiring from the House to be the president of the

Asia Foundation, and this body will not be the same without him.

In his time in the House of Representatives, Madam Speaker, DOUG BEREUTER has embodied the best of public service. His commitment to his constituents and his Nation has never wavered. While staying true to his values, he has worked across party lines to achieve compromise and advance sound public policy. He is known all over Capitol Hill as a man with strong convictions but even stronger commitment to working in a bipartisan, collegial manner and a dedication to doing good.

DOUG BEREUTER is a committed internationalist who understands that in this world of ever increasing globalization, it is essential that our Nation maintain strong relationships around the world. DOUG has dedicated a significant part of his career to improving international cooperation, and he is known and respected around the world.

I have had the opportunity to travel with DOUG and Louise Bereuter as a member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. I have been very impressed by his knowledge of our European allies and his grasp of the issues the alliance faces. I have seen the ease with which he relates to foreign leaders. And I have also seen the grace with which he conducts diplomacy.

On a very personal note, and I am sure to the great good news to my colleagues from California, I am pleased to tell you that not only will DOUG and Louise be relocating to the San Francisco Bay area, they are moving not only to my district but my home town. So I have the blessing of not losing DOUG and Louise completely. Although he has a very nonpartisan job, I believe that they will enjoy living in my town, and it is a beautiful place indeed. And we will be very, very blessed to have them. They will add greatly.

Louise is especially someone I have gained tremendous appreciation for. She is an artist, a great mom and a great grandmother; and I am happy to say that we are proud to have DOUG BEREUTER and Louise Bereuter moving to California. We are happy to have his service to the people of Nebraska and our Nation, and I wish him the best of luck. When he sees the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), he will be drinking California wine.

I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) for hosting us.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

At this time I would like to call upon the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), chairman of the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) very much for yielding to me. I must say to the coach that he has always associated himself with class throughout his career. I can

see he is doing this one more time by handling this Special Order on behalf of a wonderful Member of the House of Representatives.

DOUG BEREUTER is one of the classiest people to have ever served in this place. As my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), suggested, there are few and far between those who have his kind of class.

The gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and I came to Congress with DOUG. At that point, there were 79 Members in our class as freshmen; 10 of us remain. And, indeed, as DOUG leaves us, all who remain will remember him for as long as we can possibly maintain contact.

California is a long ways for some, but it is not very far for several of us. It is my intention as I visit my grandchildren up north, to certainly come visit DOUG and Louise and remember the times we had together way back when, several years ago when we arrived here in the House of Representatives.

DOUG BEREUTER is one of those classic Members for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the leadership that he has demonstrated in the field of foreign affairs. He is a Member of the House during my service here who has, from at least a Republican perspective, caused our caucus to focus in a way that recognizes that we are living in a shrinking world. And it is very, very important in that arena not to dwell upon partisan politics alone, recognizing that whoever the Commander in Chief is, whoever the President of the United States is, as we leave this country we need to speak in one voice on behalf of country.

In a very special way, he penetrated our caucus in connection with that understanding. DOUG BEREUTER is a person who I very much regret see leaving the House. But as he goes forth on his work on the part of the Asia Foundation, he will have a special way of communicating there as well, I am certain.

DOUG's impact here in the House of Representatives now will have a very special impact upon a very important part of the world, as we all know Southeast Asia is such a significant part of our future.

To my friend, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), I really want him to know how much we appreciate his taking this time, this special effort to pay tribute to our mutual friend. It is a pleasure to be here with him.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much. I know Mr. BEREUTER will particularly appreciate the gentleman's comments.

At this time, I would like to yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER), who has shown great patience, endurance, who has even delayed a medical procedure to help us tonight. So we are honored to have him with us.

Mr. TANNER. I thank the gentleman. I wanted to be here tonight because I

think so highly of DOUG and Louise Bereuter. I have had the privilege of traveling with DOUG and Louise, Betty and I have for the last 8 or 10 years, to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which is arguably now in this age of worldwide global terrorism, one of the stronger links that we have with Europe, one of the most important relationships we have with respect to international cooperation and international help as it relates to our foreign policy.

I must tell Members, I know DOUG has been a terrific representative for the people of Nebraska while he has served here in the House, but he has made an enormous contribution to this country. As my friend, the gentleman from California (Mrs. TAUSCHER), said earlier, his diplomacy and his ability to relate with legislators, parliamentarians from other countries around the world, and particularly in the time that I have been with him in Europe, is something that is going to be sorely, sorely missed.

We need the cooperation, respect and the help of other countries as we attempt to lead the world in this war of international terrorism. DOUG BEREUTER has made a contribution presently serving as President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. And I want to pick up on something the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) said. When we go to Europe to the NATO meetings, DOUG does not go as a Republican. I do not go as a Democrat. We go as American parliamentarians, American Members of Congress, to try to further our country's interests abroad.

He was a quintessential and is a quintessential salesman, a man who is respected not so much because they always agree with him or us, but because he always treats people with the kind of kindness, understanding, and commitment to their point of view that we expect them to extend to us. And so I just wanted to come tonight and say thanks in this formal way to DOUG and Louise for their many years of service to our country and particularly for their leadership within the European sphere.

He is moving on now to the Asia Foundation, and I would hope and I know that his service there will be as rewarding and as fruitful to the country, to his country, to our country as his time serving in Europe has been.

I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) for hosting us tonight in this tribute to DOUG. We appreciate it very much.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much. I appreciate his comments.

At this time, I would like to yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. REGULA), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, I wanted to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE). He is a good

neighbor to DOUG, and he is doing a great service to bring and have this Special Order.

I would like to begin my tribute to the service of DOUG BEREUTER by quoting a noted Irish statesman and philosopher, Edmund Burke, who said: "Your representative owes you not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion."

This quote reflects the hallmark of DOUG BEREUTER's service to his constituents and his country.

□ 1915

He has brought integrity and leadership to his service in the Congress and the people of Nebraska have been well-served by his dedication to effective government.

On a personal note, Mary and I treasure the friendship of DOUG and Louise. We have been with them on their little farm out in Nebraska. It has been a wonderful relationship to have them as friends over the years.

It has also been a special privilege to be part of a U.S. delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly under the very capable leadership of DOUG. I am pleased today to join my colleagues in wishing DOUG Godspeed in his new challenge for service to our Nation.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments and appreciate his patience in being here this evening. At this time, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE).

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I appreciate his taking out this Special Order tonight to honor our colleague DOUG BEREUTER, retiring after 26 years of distinguished service in this body.

I first got to know DOUG as a thoughtful and productive Member of the House Committee on Banking soon after my arrival here, but I soon came to admire him even more for his knowledge and his involvement in foreign affairs. He is now completing his 22nd year on the Committee on International Relations where he chairs the Subcommittee on Europe. He is in his 10th year of service on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence where he chairs the Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy and National Security and serves as vice-chair of the full committee.

For most of his congressional career, DOUG has made it his business to understand the foreign policy challenges facing our country, and he has made enormous contribution to the House's capacity for and exertion of international leadership. He has earned the respect of Members on both sides of the aisle and among his counterparts in other parliaments. He has been a delegate to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly since 1986. He has led the U.S. delegation since 1995, and he was elevated to the presidency of the assembly 2 years ago.

DOUG represents our country's interests forthrightly and effectively in international forums, and he is equally skilled in informal diplomacy, listening well and engaging in candid dialogue, forming ties of mutual respect with leaders abroad. He has taken a particular interest in the challenges facing the NATO alliance after the Cold War, the role of the alliance in conflicts in the Balkans and beyond Europe, and the collective response to terrorism.

Under his leadership, the Assembly has played an important role in the eastward expansion of NATO, both in debating the terms of that expansion and in establishing ties with parliamentarians in the new member States.

Like others in this body, I have greatly enjoyed and benefited from my travels with DOUG, often with his wife Louise and my wife Lisa, on parliamentary exchanges, Aspen Institute seminars and NATO Assembly meetings.

Most recently, we have collaborated in drafting a resolution, H. Res. 642, establishing a commission in the House of Representatives to assist parliaments in emerging democracies. It is our hope that this commission might continue the work begun in Eastern Europe by the Frost-Solomon Commission in the 1990s, working in the Balkans, the Caucasus and other areas as they develop freely functioning parliaments.

Madam Speaker, as much as we respect DOUG's work, we also admire him as a colleague and value him as a friend. DOUG's a warm and sincere and genuine person, persistent and determined when he needs to be, but also cooperative, collaborative, willing to share the limelight and eager to help others succeed. One measure of DOUG's personal qualities and the loyalty friends feel to him is the longevity of his staff here. DOUG's staff obviously believes in him, and they have served for impressive periods of time.

Carol Lawrence has served for 26 years, plus 3 years when he was a State legislator. Robin Evans, 22 years; Jodi Detwiler, 18 years; Susan Olson, his chief of staff, 17 years, and we know Susan well from her NATO assembly work; Mike Ennis, 16 years; Alan Feyerherm, 15 years. That is remarkable. That is a remarkable display of not just staff longevity but staff loyalty, a kind of personal loyalty that DOUG inspires.

Mr. Speaker, DOUG BEREUTER has made a distinctive contribution to this House and to our country. We will miss him here, but we bid him and Louise farewell in the sure hope that we will have continuing opportunities to see them and to work with them. We know that DOUG's talents will find a worthy outlet in the presidency of the Asia Foundation, and we wish him well in that important work.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman and appreciate him being here this evening. At this time, I yield to the gentleman from

Florida (Mr. GOSS), the chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, who has worked very closely with Mr. BEREUTER.

Mr. GOSS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I want to thank my colleague the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) for his generosity and his leadership this evening. It is nice to be among colleagues talking about such pleasant things. Obviously we are all honored to rise to honor our friend DOUG BEREUTER and say good-bye. I hope it is not good-bye. I think in his new role we will be able to see more of him in a different capacity, but it is clear that I think the House feels we are losing a really nice guy and terrific resource. He has served us well.

I have actually had the pleasure, as most of us have tonight who have been talking, of working with DOUG in a number of capacities. How many times have we all flown back and forth across the Atlantic with DOUG? How many different airports have we stopped at on that airplane that sits out there that we sort of groan when we see, thinking how often we are going to have to stop for gas to get where we are going?

For all those years on the Parliamentary Assembly that he has worked and taken over the leadership, he has been working hard for the United States of America's position of a changing world, a changing times, and it has not been easy as we all know.

He has served as the chief congressional spokesman on NATO issues during the most difficult debates we had, I think, in Bosnia, Kosovo and Serbia, and he did it with eloquence and with clarity and a great amount of patience. Maybe patience should be underscored when we are talking about the NATO parliamentarians.

DOUG certainly diffused a number of disputes that have come up, and I think from everything from things as easy as the European Security Defense Initiative, which was relatively calm, to things like handling Mr. Zhirinovskiy, a presidential candidate for Russia who continuously provokes our delegation with obnoxious effrontery on every occasion, DOUG did an absolutely tireless, fabulous and successful job on behalf of the United States and this institution, and I think everybody needs to know that and applaud it.

DOUG was rewarded for his efforts by being elected President of NATO Parliamentary Assembly. I am not sure that is a reward, but he took the job on and was celebrated for doing it so well, and it is an honor to have that position. It is also a lot of hard work, and he held that position at a very hard time, when NATO was admitting more members. Enlargement was not a subject that came across without controversy, and I think that now even controversies we hardly even dare breach out-of-area operations for NATO or things that are actually happening given what is going on in Afghanistan.

DOUG has been there during these critical times, providing leadership for the delegation, and it is very true to say he has helped direct NATO's support on the global war on terrorism, something of great interest to us all.

I am particularly appreciative, of course, in my position, for his service as the vice-chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and particularly the chairman of that subcommittee that tries to link up policy with our national security capabilities. That is not an easy job. It is unique. It is the only place I know where that happens, where that work is done, and I single out two issues in particular where DOUG has made a positive impact in the community.

First, he led the community's push to eliminate what we call the Deutsch Guidelines, the hindrance to the agent requirement that crippled our ability to recruit productive assets, and DOUG was a tiger on that. When things were passed into law under his leadership and were not properly effected and executed, he went back and made it happen, and I take my hat off to him for his persistence and his vision on that.

Secondly, he has recently been responsible for crafting a comprehensive legislative package addressing the linguistic needs of the intelligence community. He and many others on both sides of the aisle have contributed, but he led the charge and he did it efficiently and he did it in a short period of time. We just passed an authorization bill that now provides for language capabilities that are critical to this country we did not have before.

I am very well aware that language capability is not a front page story for the New York Times, but it is essential for our collection of information that our Nation needs to pursue its foreign policy objectives. DOUG took on the task. His recommendations on language received enthusiastic bipartisan support, and now it is a major component of a passed authorization bill in the House, and I believe the Senate will see it the same way.

I guess I would sum up and say, as he ends his tenure on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I will say without equivocation that DOUG BEREUTER has left the intelligence community better than he found it through his extensive, conscientious, creative initiatives, and those are words I would not say casually because those are things that matter a great deal to me. He has left a positive mark and left a great improvement for us.

He has also been a great friend and colleague, as everybody is here to say. I first met DOUG and talked about town planning. We had that in common together. He exposed me to the Niobrara River debate which was a very vigorous debate, important in his district, and he carried the day against big odds on that, and he did it with grace and helped out a lot of us who did not know much about that river to know a lot more quickly.

It is not a permanent good-bye. We wish DOUG and Louise the best, of course, and I think it is sort of strange. The ultimate irony is that the man we are celebrating so much tonight for all of his leadership on the transatlantic and the across Atlantic area interests is also a man who has huge experience on the Pacific side. So, DOUG, as you and Louise go from the Atlantic to the Pacific, we all wish you well and Godspeed. We now have another reason to visit San Francisco, which is a good thing. I would say that you are truly a global man for the global century ahead. God bless you and good luck.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for his kind kinds. At this time I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) for providing this forum tonight.

We are here tonight to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for his distinguished service to our country. Congressman DOUG BEREUTER is a gentleman whose congressional service is characterized by civility, integrity and gentlemanly conduct. I have never heard any Member of Congress, Republican or Democrat, say an unkind word about DOUG BEREUTER. That may be a rarity around here.

DOUG has honored this institution of Congress with his service. He has provided leadership as the President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which I have had the honor to serve with DOUG and work. He has worked to further the objectives of NATO and strengthen the ties between each of the Nations who are parties to NATO.

Most importantly, perhaps DOUG BEREUTER is a good, decent man, and I am grateful he is my friend. DOUG, may you have great success in your new career. My wife Stephanie and I wish you and Louise the very best.

I again thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) for providing this forum this evening.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman and appreciate his kindness in coming down here and waiting. At this time, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR).

Mr. GILLMOR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I am going to be brief because there are a number of speakers tonight. I will enter my full statement in the RECORD, but I am very pleased to have the opportunity to pay tribute to a very special Member of this body who is leaving after 25 years of service.

All of us who serve here know the respect with which DOUG is held by his colleagues here, but what many Members of this body do not know is how widely known, how respected he is by parliamentarians all across this globe.

Throughout his 25 years in the House, DOUG BEREUTER has served on an exceptionally large number of important committees. He has also held the gavel as chairman of three different subcommittees. He has played a lead role

in the House of Representatives for years, but throughout his 18 years of service on the U.S. delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and his membership on numerous other congressional exchanges and international task forces, Congressman DOUG BEREUTER has become one of the most experienced voices in congressional debate on international affairs.

I have had the pleasure of serving with DOUG for 10 years on the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, and my wife Karen and I have had the opportunity to know both he and his wife Louise very well as a result of that experience. I think it is an example of the high regard in which he is held, the fact that he is now serving as the President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. He was unanimously elected to that position by the parliamentarians of the all the NATO countries. NATO has now grown to 26 countries with the recent expansion.

His important achievements, both in Congress and abroad, will continue to pay tribute to his esteemed career as an effective legislator and accomplished diplomat.

His presence in this House will be sorely missed as he has been one of those Members who has always worked on behalf, not only of the American people, but also his Nebraska constituency.

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It is a responsibility that he assumes going to the Asia Foundation, a very large and important institution; but it fits perfectly with his background, his experiences, his talent, where he will no doubt make a major contribution. He will be helping not only the United States but the many Asian countries where the foundation is active.

I wish Congressman DOUG BEREUTER and his wife, Louise, and his family the very best of luck in the years to come.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I would like to say a few words about Mr. BEREUTER, and then I will yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) for the remaining 30 minutes or 25 minutes, whatever we have left, to manage the last part of the hour.

I would just like to comment on the fact that DOUG BEREUTER has served an extraordinarily long period of time here in the House of Representatives, actually longer than any other Nebraskan has served in the House. As a matter of fact, it is rumored that he served under Roosevelt, Teddy Roosevelt, that is, and so his 26-odd years of service have been greatly appreciated.

DOUG represents a very diverse constituency, and he has represented that constituency very well. This was exemplified by the fact that when we redistricted in 2000, three of the counties in DOUG's district were going to be allocated to my district, and there was almost a complete revolt from those three counties. They did not want to leave DOUG and come with me, and so I think one of them managed to stay in DOUG's district.

DOUG is a small-town guy, Utica, Nebraska. He is proud of the fact that he has held over 1,000 town hall meetings. So he has really maintained close touch with his constituency. DOUG carried an extremely heavy work load here in Congress. He served on the Committee on Financial Services, Committee on International Relations, chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, was vice chairman of the full committee, chairman of the Subcommittee on Intelligence, Policy and National Security, vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security. So very, very few, if any, people in Congress served in that large number of committees.

Also he is the president of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. He has been prominent in world trade issues and world hunger programs. DOUG attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he was a Phi Beta Kappa. He went to Harvard graduate school and was a faculty member and guest lecturer at Harvard, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Kansas State University, also in private business, United States Army, Nebraska State legislature. So there are very few people in Congress who have had the varied experience and the excellent background that DOUG BEREUTER has had.

His past committee memberships, honorary positions are really too numerous to mention; but the most important thing about DOUG, and this is what I would like to emphasize, it is really not so much what he has done as how he has done them. DOUG has been exceptionally self-sacrificing, not noisy, abrasive, and certainly not self-serving; and this has been appreciated by all of his colleagues. And I think this is an example of why so many people have shown up tonight to speak on his behalf.

His focus has been on serving the best interest of the country and his district and not on self-promotion. He has worked very well with Members of both parties, and I think that probably the finest compliment that was paid to DOUG was paid by EARL BLUMENAUER, a Member of the other party, who was not, unfortunately, able to be here because of an emergency, but EARL said that DOUG was one of those people who were the glue that held this place together. And I guess when you leave Congress, if somebody can say that about you from the other side of the aisle, that is an extreme compliment.

So DOUG certainly is somebody who has been a healer, somebody who has pulled people together; and I guess the last thing I would mention to you that, again, displays DOUG's character is the fact that I arrived here as a 64-year-old freshman who knew a little bit about football and almost nothing about politics. And DOUG and his wife, Louise, had Nancy, my wife, and myself out to dinner. And he tried to give us the ba-

sics, kind of Congress 101. And so he tried to steer me in the right direction and was always available, and I guess it is always the mark of a person's character as to how he treats somebody that can do nothing for him. Obviously, I had no seniority, was not anyone of any influence in Congress; and yet his kindness will long be appreciated and remembered. So DOUG was a great influence on me and on this body and will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, I yield the remaining time that we have to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY), who is also a great friend of DOUG's; and I am honored that he would come down here tonight and manage the last part of this hour.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Nebraska will control the remaining time.

There was no objection.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding the time, and I do think it honors DOUG by us doing this as a team approach. Certainly, though, you have taken much of the responsibility for tonight, and thank you for doing that.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) for as much time as he may consume.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska for yielding me this time. I will not repeat many of the comments of my colleagues talking about specific aspects of DOUG's really quite incredible Congressional career. We all in this body have good days and bad days, and one of the really bad days for me was awakening to learn that, I think I was in California then, that Congressman BEREUTER of Nebraska had decided to retire at the end of this term, that somebody as essential to the work that I was interested in, particularly in international relations, who conducted himself in such a professional and thoughtful way, whose approach to every issue, sort of he had his philosophy and he had his values, but essentially it was a very meticulous, merit-based analysis of issues and what made the most sense, and he constantly stood firm and steadfast for the conclusions he had reached through that kind of an analysis. He did not pigeon-hole issues. He looked at each one fresh and came to terms with the merits after a great deal of thought and analysis.

One of the good days in this institution was the day when I learned he was going to seek and then get the presidency of the Asia Foundation, a very important organization doing very important work on the rule of law, human rights, and democracy in Asia and that part of the world, from Afghanistan to Indonesia, critical countries, large, important countries, and that DOUG would be devoting his professional career now to this. And I certainly wish him and Louise, whom I am also very fond of, great success. They will do an organization that has already made an

excellent name for itself a great service by giving their efforts to that organization.

For me, what some of us over here view as the national tragedy of the 1994 elections, which shifted the majority control to the other party and all of the drama that surrounded that for those of us who had enjoyed being in the majority and all that went with that status, I got a consolation prize that I think a lot of my Democratic colleagues did not get, because I went from being a chairman of a subcommittee on the Committee on International Relations to being a ranking member of a subcommittee, the Asia subcommittee, which DOUG BEREUTER was the chairman of. And in the 4 years that I was ranking and that he was chair of that committee, I cannot remember a single issue where I left any meeting, any markup, any hearing without the greatest respect for his intellect, for his commitment, for his willingness to work on a bipartisan way, for the approach which I think is an important one that has been not always observed as well as it should be, but a tradition that in this body politics ends at the water's edge. And this is a gentleman who would never hesitate to work with the minority party or with minority Members that were willing to work with him in pursuit of what he saw as the national interest.

He had a number of different accomplishments; many of them have been touched on. The one that I did not hear mentioned, he played a very key role in drafting the Hong Kong Policy Act, which placed the issue of Hong Kong's continuing autonomy after the handover front and center in terms of our relationship with China. He did incredible work in terms of trying to deal with the human rights issue in the context of MFN status for China.

Over and over again, I could take more than enough time as allotted talking about specific issues and specific accomplishments. I am only sorry that I did not get to serve on the Committee on International Relations with him as chairman or, even better, with him as ranking member of that particular committee. I know he would have done a wonderful job, but I look forward to continuing to see him and Louise and to work with him at the time when it is appropriate on issues that the Asia Foundation will be engaged in, which will be issues that are very much in our national interest.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for conducting this Special Order.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his words of high praise.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO), chairman of the Committee on Small Business.

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. It is a real joy to pay tribute to a person who has been a real role model, a men-

tor, and a teacher for the years that I have had the privilege of representing the people of the 16th Congressional District of Illinois.

For a long period of time, I served with DOUG on the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific on the Committee on International Relations, of which DOUG was the chairman.

In 1999, he invited me to go with him to Hong Kong in December of that year on an oversight mission to take a look at the result of the turnover of Hong Kong to Mainland China in the summer of that year, and I had never been to China before and really did not want to go, but knowing that DOUG BEREUTER would be the chairman of that little group gave me so much of a sense of confidence that, in case we got in trouble, he could get us out of it.

So we went over there and met with various people in China, including the Premier; and I recall when we were flying from Shanghai to Beijing, we encountered a diversion in the weather, and there was a huge dust storm that was blowing the dirt off the Gobi Desert. And so we just could not make it to Beijing. And the pilot came on, and he said, We are going to have to divert to Hohhot Inner Mongolia.

And the only thing I knew about Inner Mongolia was that it is right next to Outer Mongolia; and as the plane landed, we were given these reboarding passes that said, "When in Hohhot, stay at the Inner Mongolia Hotel," which was owned by the Chinese airline. And we looked at each other, and our small delegation got in this bus. I know it was very quiet. I had two coats, and they were both stored in the belly of the airplane, and we rode late at night to this mysterious hotel and were greeted there in the lobby by so much confusion going on. It was just absolutely chaos broke loose in the lobby, and a man who was a complete stranger to our U.S. delegation, probably about eight people including Members and staff, came over and he said, "If you give me your passports, I will get you your room."

We did not even know who this guy was, except he looked official. And I looked at DOUG, we all looked at each other, took out our passports and gave them to this complete stranger, who then proceeded to get us our rooms and took care of that.

□ 1945

The next 2 days we were trying to find out ways we could get to Beijing. We thought about planes, trains, and automobiles. There were several people on that airplane from Israel, and we heard that they got in a van and drove across the Gobi Desert at night to get to Beijing. We called the U.S. Consul, and they said no, we do not want a bunch of Congressmen and their staff riding in a van across the Gobi Desert. It is a pretty dangerous place.

Eventually the weather cleared up, and we got on the airplane, landed in Beijing, and what a great opportunity

to spend several days with a person who has such a deep sense of history, a real love of his country, and who took hours of his time to instruct me on his thoughts on the changing face of China.

Now, I am the chairman of the American-Chinese Interparliamentary Exchange and have been there several times subsequent to the 1999 trip with the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER). And a year ago in January, I had an opportunity to lead the largest delegation of Members of Congress to China. Were it not for the gentleman's insistence that I go with him to China in 1999, knowing that I had such a desire and interest in that country, I probably would not be the chairman of this Interparliamentary Exchange, probably would never have had an opportunity to open up markets over there and work on areas of human rights. I can only attribute this to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

He is one of the most decent people and kind individuals that I have met in my entire life. He has never raised his voice, always with a smile, and a sense of knowing that not only have the people of his congressional district been well served, brilliantly served by a truly dedicated public servant, but the people of America as a whole have been served by this outstanding individual.

It is retirement from Congress but not from life, and that is the good news. We look forward to working with the gentleman. I am excited about the possibilities of being the chairman of the American-Chinese Interparliamentary Exchange and to have the opportunity in the future to work with the gentleman and to continue to be his student.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO), and I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON).

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to rise to salute my colleague, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), on a quarter century of service to this body and particularly to thank him for the opportunity to bring an issue that was so close to me, international parental abduction, to the attention of our NATO counterparts.

I remember meeting the gentleman for the first time on one of our bipartisan retreats just a couple of months after I came into the House of Representatives. We were on that train that we have taken a number of times; and DOUG and his wife, Louise, came up to me and my wife, Susan, and carried on a conversation. He suggested that I look into his involvement with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. I was aware of it, but it was at his invitation that I requested to become a member. I have been honored to attend many of the meetings in the last 6 years and speak at the Assembly's European meetings and to serve as a committee vice-chair.

My participation would not have been possible without DOUG's support. He reached over the magic aisle that runs through the middle of the room and reached out to me with the same kind of encouragement that he gave to every one of the delegates, regardless of party. Like one of my district predecessors, Jack Brooks, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) as chairman of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly displayed a strong belief in the collaborative values that the assembly stands for. He generates that belief among fellow Members of Congress.

In 2001, I was very proud to cosponsor legislation that he introduced to enlarge NATO as articulated by our current and past Presidents. Beyond his leadership in our delegation, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) served as both vice president and president of the Parliamentary Assembly representing the United States of America admirably in both rolls.

Madam Speaker, I will certainly miss the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and Louise when we had an opportunity of being with them, and the gentleman particularly as a Member of Congress. His efforts here will inspire future Members to reach across the aisle and across national boundaries to fix problems that demand collaborative solutions. I wish him a fond farewell from this Chamber, and I know that our appreciation of his service will continue long after he leaves this body.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), my very professorial friend, for his comments.

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I have been in Congress almost 10½ years, and I have enjoyed the friendship of the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) almost that entire time. I have always been extremely impressed with him. He is a very fine person.

Approximately a decade ago, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) pulled me aside in his role as leader of the congressional delegation to NATO. He explained to me what the NATO Parliamentary Assembly was, explained to me that Europeans all had scientists serving on the Science Committee, but no one from the U.S. did. He asked me to serve since I am a physicist by training. I acquiesced rather reluctantly because it seemed like a huge assignment as a brand-new Member of Congress, but it has given me an opportunity to come to know DOUG and Louise much better.

I would like to talk about the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) as a diplomat. He is a consummate diplomat. He is patient, with a calm demeanor. He is always polite, no matter what point of view he is being forced to listen to. He is a careful listener. He is a good negotiator, and a decent person, a man of integrity. All of these are hallmarks of a good diplomat. DOUG has served not only Congress but our Nation well as a diplomat in his posi-

tion of serving and leading the NATO Parliamentary Assembly delegation from the United States. It has been a pleasure to serve with him and to learn from him in that role.

His wife, Louise, is also a good diplomat in the many contacts she has had to make over the years with Members and their spouses, but also with members and spouses from other countries, and she has handled this role with grace, tact, and great care.

Also, I have been impressed with the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) as a legislator. He has done such good work in so many different areas but above all in international relations. Frankly, my heart is broken that he is leaving us, because I was looking forward to the day he would become chairman of the Committee on International Relations, and I knew he would be a superb chairman.

I would also like to mention DOUG as a friend. He has been a good friend to me, a confidante and an adviser. I could not have had a better friend and confidante to discuss issues with. He always had wise advice and helpful comments to make when I discussed with him the problems I was having on the Science Committee, particularly in dealing with recalcitrant members from other countries who seemed to enjoy making trouble more than making progress.

With his help, I was able to serve 4 years as a rappateur on the Science Committee. The rappateur controls all reports which come before the committee, in fact has to write most of them, and I am currently vice chairman of the Science Committee of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and was asked to serve as president and declined with some regret simply because of my heavy workload in the Congress.

I am very pleased that DOUG has finally achieved the job of his dreams, to serve in this new position. He is a perfect fit for the job, and the job is a perfect fit for him. I certainly want to wish him and Louise well as they leave this area and move to San Francisco to take up this new position. We hate to see you go, DOUG and Louise; but we certainly wish you well and we know you will do well as well.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I yield at this time to my classmate and good friend, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, many of us here in the House of Representatives woke up one day and said, say it is not so, DOUG. We did not want to see him go. For many Members here, it was hard to understand how someone who did the job so well would want to leave voluntarily, but he has so much to give and will continue to give. I have worked with him on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, others on the Committee on International Relations. We all think he would be an outstanding committee chairman, and one of the things we lament is he is leaving before he gets to serve in that way.

Most recently, I worked with the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) on efforts to improve the proficiency of Americans in foreign languages. I must say, it was a delightful and very productive experience working with him on that issue.

The House will be diminished by his departure. There are very, very few people like the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) here. He is industrious, he is astute, he is judicious, he is well informed. He has a very broad perspective, and I mean that geographically, historically, and ideologically. By that I mean he is not ideologically entrenched. Sure, he has solid values and is a person with integrity, but he can work with others. A word that comes to mind is collegial. He is not self-serving. He is about serving others, his constituents, and, yes, other Members of the House, junior and senior Members. He is considerate. In every respect, in every circumstance, in every forum, I have seen nothing but the utmost consideration from the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER). In fact, I would say he is truly wise because he understands that kindness is the greatest wisdom.

We all wish the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and his wife, Louise, well. It is the gain of the Asia Foundation. I am sure he will contribute a great deal there, and I am here to join my colleagues to say thank you, DOUG, for your service to us, to the House, to your constituents, and to America at large.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman coming down here to speak.

Frankly, this is my 6th year, and we have seen classmates come and go; but I do not know if I have seen a Member so balanced between Republicans and Democrats. Members have used words like collegial, diplomatic, intellectual, considerate, and friend when talking about the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER). And the fact is that we have already used up one full hour, and I too will miss the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER). What I will miss about DOUG leaving this body is not only his friendship and his steady leadership and his counsel, but his quiet sense of humor, too.

I remember the only time in 6 years of serving with the gentleman I heard him, and it struck me as odd because he almost spoke ill of someone, there is a gentleman who has a particular reputation for harshness when he speaks, and DOUG was speaking to me and then said, Wait, I want to listen to this person because he sometimes is a little too partisan when he speaks. I want to hear what he says.

□ 2000

That is as bad as he has ever said about anyone in this body, which is really rare.

Let me talk about the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) as just a person, because he was elected in 1978

at the age of 39. He and Louise had two elementary schoolchildren, boys, Kirk and Eric.

Madam Speaker, I will submit the rest of my statement in the RECORD.

Doug Bereuter has two sons, Kirk and Eric, one daughter-in-law, and a grandson, Ethan.

Elected to Congress in November of 1978 at the age of 39, Doug has served in the U.S. House of Representatives longer than any citizen of the Cornhusker State.

He's won every election with at least 60 percent of the vote. Last election he pulled in 85 percent of the vote.

During my first term here in the House of Representatives, I was lucky enough to have two of the most respected members of this body as my seniors in the Nebraska House Delegation. Bill Barrett, who has since retired, and the man we're here to honor today, DOUG BEREUTER.

I know everything that goes into moving a young family from Nebraska to Washington, DC. I did it myself after my first election. Granted, even though we made our move almost two decades later, it was still not easy. Eventually, my family and I left Virginia to go back to our home state of Nebraska, and I travel back and forth every week.

But this was not always an option. When DOUG, Louise and his elementary school-aged boys got in the car and drove to Washington, the world was a different place. The options were limited to (a) move your entire family to D.C. or (b) go for weeks without seeing your loved ones.

One thing I've always liked about DOUG and Louise is that, even though they chose option (a), they never left Nebraska behind. In 26 years, DOUG has always been a true Nebraskan.

Those first years, there wasn't the direct flight from D.C. to Nebraska like there is now. Depending on the time of day, it's possible to be in our state in just a few hours. DOUG, during his first years in Congress, spent many nights on the floor of O'Hare, thanks to the weather, to make the trip to Nebraska and back.

But he always did it, because that was what was required of him.

Sometimes, those sleepless nights in Chicago were trips back for one of his many, many town hall meetings. These are meetings that we all do. DOUG would do between 30 and 45 town hall meetings a year. For over a quarter of a century. Just the thought of how many people he talked with, argued with, laughed with at these meetings is amazing.

Through the years, he was also able to get to know the towns and cities in his district very well. Not surprisingly, he always knows where to get good ice cream after a town hall meeting.

Speaking of snacks, I'm not sure if everyone knows that Congressman BEREUTER loves popcorn, exactly as a good Cornhusker should. While my friend and colleague may never be known as a chef, he knows how to make popcorn.

Nebraskans have watched DOUG's family grow up in their annual Christmas card, which always included a recipe and a drawing or picture by a family member.

They are a part of Nebraska, just as much as they would be had they grown up in Lincoln, Utica, or Oakland, Nebraska. His sons looked for and found jobs in Nebraska. In this quarter of a century, DOUG's office has always

been a little bit of home-away-from-home here in D.C.

I would also like to take a moment to compliment his staff. They are proud of the fact that even when a non-Nebraskan takes a job in their office, within a week they have them saying "You bet" and referring to "pop" instead of soda. It's little things like that which keeps the office in touch with Nebraska.

And they are loyal. Carol Lawrence, his press secretary, who is a wonderful person and has helped my office out on numerous occasions, has been with Doug since 1974, the same year my press secretary was born!

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute today to a colleague and good friend who will be leaving the House when the 108th Congress adjourns, Representative DOUG BEREUTER.

DOUG brings to a close an impressive career working for Nebraska. For 26 years DOUG has been a strong advocate for the First Congressional District as well as a respected advocate on foreign affairs and intelligence issues, especially his efforts on the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. On these crucial issues he has consistently set partisanship aside, rolled up his sleeves and gotten the work done.

Not only does he retire as Nebraska's longest-serving member of the House, he has the third-longest service in Congress. He has a bipartisan record and close relationship with his constituents—nurtured at more than 900 town hall meetings. His constituents kept sending him back to Washington because he could be counted on to do what was right.

DOUG will next head The Asia Foundation as its new president. His leadership on the House International Relations Committee has well-prepared him for this challenging assignment. He brings precisely the right mix of qualifications: seasoned judgment, policy expertise, management acumen and well-developed rapport with key Asian leaders.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to join my colleagues in wishing only the best for DOUG and Louise as they move on to the next chapter in their lives.

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the finest members of this institution, DOUG BEREUTER of Nebraska. After 26 years of service DOUG is retiring from the House to be President of the Asia Foundation, and this body will not be the same without him.

In his time in the House of Representatives, Madam Speaker, DOUG BEREUTER has embodied the best of public service. His commitment to his constituents and his Nation has never wavered. While staying true to his values, he has worked across party lines to achieve compromise and advance sound public policy. He is known on Capitol Hill as a man with strong convictions but an even stronger commitment to working in a bipartisan, collegial manner and a dedication to doing good.

DOUG BEREUTER is a committed internationalist who understands that in this world of ever increasing globalization it is essential that our Nation maintain strong relationships around the world. DOUG has dedicated a significant part of his career to improving international cooperation and he is know and respected around the world.

I have had the opportunity to travel with DOUG as a member of the NATO Parliamen-

tary Assembly. I have been impressed by his knowledge of our European allies and his grasp of the issues the alliance faces. I have seen the ease with which he related to foreign leaders. And I have seen the grace with which he conducts diplomacy.

On a personal note, Madam Speaker, I am pleased that DOUG and his wife Louise will be relocating to the San Francisco Bay Area and that they will live in my district. I hope to see them regularly and continue to benefit from their kindness and wisdom.

I am grateful that DOUG BEREUTER has given so much of his life to the people of Nebraska and to this Nation. I wish him the best of luck as he leaves Congress and begins the next chapter of his life.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in honoring DOUG BEREUTER and commending the 13 terms he has served in the House of Representatives. I have had the privilege of working with Congressman BEREUTER on the Financial Services Committee and the International Relations Committee for a number of years now. As we have heard today, he is a highly esteemed and respected member of these committees.

Congressman BEREUTER has been one of the House's resident experts on foreign policy matters—especially in Asia. I had the privilege of serving on the Asia Subcommittee when Congressman BEREUTER served as its Chairman and worked with him to strengthen U.S. ties with our allies in Asia. Congressman BEREUTER and I also had a chance to travel to Asia together during this time.

As this House knows, Congressman BEREUTER's interest in foreign affairs has not been confined to Asian nations. He plays an active role in European parliamentary exchanges and serves as Chairman of the European Subcommittee with distinction. As President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, Congressman BEREUTER has highlighted the importance of establishing strong transatlantic relationships and the role of sustained and meaningful dialogue between the United States and Europe in achieving those goals. He worked diligently to include nations like Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Congressman BEREUTER and I have been encouraging greater involvement by NATO partners in promoting security in Afghanistan.

Congressman BEREUTER has also proved himself to be an expert on intelligence matters. As Chairman of the Intelligence Policy and National Security Subcommittee and Vice Chairman of the Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee, he has led careful oversight of the transformation of U.S. intelligence agencies after September 11th. He has worked hard to improve the organization and operation of the intelligence community, enhance their language education and training, and improve the coordination of the Federal Government in identifying and responding to weak or failing countries that endanger international security or stability.

I have long respected DOUG's thoughtful and attentive manner and his focus on substance rather than rhetoric. When he spoke, people listened. This House will undoubtedly miss his presence and work.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Representative DOUG BEREUTER. The people of Nebraska's First District wisely voted

Mr. BEREUTER into the House of Representatives in November of 1978, the same year I was first elected to this chamber. As a member of the same freshman class I got to know Representative BEREUTER during those weeks preceding our first terms. Over that period, and in the years since, I have found Congressman BEREUTER to be a consummate professional and a remarkable representative for the people of Nebraska.

He is the quintessential public servant, having served as an officer in the United States Army, as well as various capacities within Nebraska's State government, including service as a State Senator, prior to his election to Congress.

Mr. BEREUTER has announced his retirement effective at the end of the 108th Congress. During his distinguished career, Mr. BEREUTER has left his mark in the halls of Congress. I know that Congressman BEREUTER will be missed in this body for the integrity with which he dealt with each person he came across during his tenure.

Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in congratulating Congressman BEREUTER on a job well done. The people of Nebraska have been well served for the past twenty-six years. He has served with distinction, and will retire with the respect of his peers. Congratulations and best wishes for a long and prosperous retirement, Congressman BEREUTER.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend and outstanding public servant, Congressman DOUG BEREUTER.

I have become familiar with DOUG and his work having served as a member of the U.S. House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which he chairs. I have participated in numerous congressional delegations abroad which he has led and was always impressed with his knowledge of world affairs and his determination to increase understanding among NATO partners.

DOUG also has been a tireless advocate for his Cornhusker State constituents during his twenty-six year House tenure. He has served longer than any other Nebraskan, during which time he has penned many laws to help his diverse constituency, including ones to promote his state's agricultural exports, improve health care and child welfare, end international hunger, and protect Native Americans.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call DOUG BEREUTER a friend and colleague. His constituents and our country are losing an honorable and dedicated public servant, the likes of which bring credit to this hallowed institution in which we are so fortunate to serve. I wish him and his wife, Louise, health and happiness in their future endeavors.

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I am honored to participate in this special order recognizing the many years of dedicated service to the 1st District of Nebraska and to our country by our good friend and colleague, DOUG BEREUTER.

DOUG is one of the hardest working, dedicated and principled Members to serve in this House. In his quiet way, he has successfully worked to bring about significant reforms and accomplishments in many areas. Through it all, he has done so with the highest moral character, unquestioned integrity, and has been true to his convictions. DOUG has been an example to us all by working in an effective and bipartisan manner, more interested in pol-

icy and legislation than scoring political points. He considers each issue on the merits and isn't afraid to follow his own convictions and do what he believes is right. If DOUG proposes a legislative initiative, you can count on it being well-considered and carefully thought out.

Perhaps his strength of character and principled behavior comes from his Midwestern Nebraska roots that go back five generations. He has served Nebraska and his constituents well, never losing sight of the special needs and concerns of his district. DOUG has been a leader in many varied initiatives that have benefited his constituents and the country. He has been active in promoting a national trail program that improves the quality of life for all Americans. As a colleague on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I know he has been diligent in tending to the various transportation needs of his district. While not a Member of the Agriculture Committee, he nonetheless has been active in promoting proposals to aid farmers.

Just this year, the Financial Services Committee and the House have acted on other initiatives he has spearheaded for many years, including flood insurance reform and home loan guarantee programs.

Perhaps the area for which DOUG has become most recognized here in the House and, literally, around the world is that of foreign affairs. He is recognized as one of the hardest working members of the International Relations Committee and has served admirably as Chairman of the Asian Subcommittee and the Europe Subcommittee.

For many years he was the Chairman of the House delegation to the British American Parliamentary Group and remains an active member today. He is currently Chairman of the U.S. House Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly as well as President of the NATO PA itself, positions that require countless hours of work and effort on a continuing basis. He is a co-founder of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China that was essential in winning permanent normal trade relations with China while ensuring that we continue to monitor human rights, guard against prison labor exports and put in place other related safeguards. The many other boards, commissions and task forces he has served on over the years are too numerous a to mention.

While I regret DOUG leaving the House, he is undoubtedly well suited for his next position as president of The Asia Foundation. He is keenly aware of the increasingly important role of Asia and in the benefit to Asia and to the U.S. in helping to encourage growth and prosperity from within the region. The goal of the Asian Foundation is the "development of a peaceful, prosperous, and open Asia-Pacific region." It accomplishes this through supporting programs that help improve governance, economic reform and development, increased participation of women, and other internal reforms. I know all of these are principles that DOUG shares, and he will provide strong and steady guidance to the organization.

I would be remiss if I didn't note another important ingredient to DOUG's—success—lovely wife Louise. An accomplished artist and musician, Louise has been a loyal and steadfast partner as DOUG has faced his many responsibilities. I will long remember one night on a

recent BAPG trip to Ditchley Park outside Oxford. Louise played one song after another on the piano as the rest of us struggled to sing along. I'm afraid our vocal abilities were no match for her musical skills. But it was a lot of fun, and that is how I will always think of DOUG and Louise—good and decent people who know how to enjoy life.

So I wish them well as they move to San Francisco and begin this new phase of their life together. DOUG can be proud of his service here in the House, and I am proud to have served with him and to consider him a friend.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 2:00 p.m. on account of official business in the district.

Mr. QUINN (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today after noon and the balance of the week on account of family medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCDERMOTT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PAUL) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PEARCE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MICA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, July 9, 2004, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8957. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting