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# Ronald H. Brown

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

IN THE CONGRESS OF
THE UNITED STATES

SECRETARY RONALD H. BROWN 1941–1996

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# Memorial Tributes Delivered in Congress

# Ronald H. Brown

1941–1996

*Secretary of Commerce*

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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# BIOGRAPHY

RONALD HARMON BROWN was born in Washington, DC on August 1, 1941. His father, William Harmon Brown, graduated from Howard University where he met and married Ron's mother Gloria Osborne. The family moved to New York City, where William Harmon Brown managed the Hotel Theresa in Harlem. RON BROWN attended Middlebury College where he integrated the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He graduated in 1962 with an ROTC commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. He married Alma Arrington in August 1962. They welcomed into their lives a son, Michael, in 1965, and a daughter, Tracey, in 1967. BROWN's Army career began in Germany and concluded in Korea, where he rose to the rank of Captain. Returning to New York after the Army, he worked as a welfare caseworker by day and attended law school at night. He earned his Juris Doctor degree in 1970 from St. John's University School of Law.

In the 1970s, BROWN's career quickly advanced at the National Urban League to the positions of Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel in the New York office, and Vice President of the organization's national office in Washington. Emblematic of his service to the civic life of Washington, he also joined the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC).

In 1979, BROWN joined Senator Edward M. Kennedy's campaign for President as Deputy Campaign Manager. BROWN was then appointed Chief Counsel of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Following the Democrat's loss of the Presidency and the Senate in the 1980 elections, BROWN became the first African-American partner in the prestigious Washington law firm of Patton, Boggs, and Blow in 1981. In 1988, BROWN served as Convention Manager for Reverend Jesse L. Jackson's Presidential campaign.

Beginning in 1989, BROWN acted to revive and unite a dispirited and divided Democratic Party when he was elected Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, the first African-American to head a major American political party.

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As Chairman, he required State political parties to sign coordinated campaign agreements before receiving national party funds, he championed the effort to deliver a unified Democratic message, and he broke records for raising party resources. Facing a popular incumbent President, BROWN was probably the first Democrat to believe that a Democratic challenger with a clear message and an inclusionary program of support for working families could prevail in the 1992 election. For 4 years, he managed his Party's quest with optimism, abundant energy and total commitment to victory. He presided over a united 1992 Democratic National Convention in his hometown of New York which paved the way for the election of President Bill Clinton.

Following the election of the President, BROWN was sworn into office as Secretary of Commerce, again the first African-American to serve in this capacity.

Significantly, he was also the first occupant of this office to fully recognize the central role his Department could play in creating jobs at home and building prosperity as a bulwark of American security overseas. Expanding the rights of individuals to participate fully in the economic life of their country was a driving force for RON BROWN.

BROWN was a hands-on practitioner of economic advancement and has been credited with overseas sales of American products totalling $42 billion. He understood the power of private enterprise to open societies and strengthen democratic governments in such disparate places as South Central Los Angeles, South Africa, Northern Ireland, the Middle East and around the world. As Commerce Secretary BROWN used exports to create American jobs, and trade to reinforce peace in areas beset by war and struggle.

In advocacy of these ideas, he left for the Balkans on what became his last mission of public service.

BROWN was a success in his own right and on his own terms. Supported by his wife and two children, with whom he shared an unparalleled bond of love and pride, he was able to consistently accomplish the near impossible. He elected a President. He rebuilt the Democratic Party. He reinvented the Department of Commerce. He was a proud African-American and a role model for all Americans. He was a peer of the most successful Americans in business, yet appealed to the everyday person. He loved politics and believed in the dignity and power of public service. In every position he held, he recruited the most talented allies who stood with him and against whatever challenges lay ahead. He was sur-

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rounded with some of the best when he and his colleagues died on a hillside near Dubrovnik, Croatia serving our country.

He is survived by his wife Alma, his daughter Tracey, his son Michael, mother Gloria Carter, daughter-in-law Tami, twin grandsons Morgan and Ryan, mother-in-law Dorothy Arrington and a host of family and friends.

RONALD HARMON BROWN returns to Washington for his final rest. With broken hearts and eternal love, we welcome him home.

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# MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

TO

# RONALD H. BROWN

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# Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *April 15, 1996.*

IN TRIBUTE TO SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RONALD H. BROWN AND OTHER AMERICANS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, today, the Senate returns to session for the first time since the tragic accident on April 3 that took the lives of Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN and 32 other Americans.

The majority leader, with agreement of the Democratic leader, has requested that the first action of the Senate be the reading of a resolution honoring Secretary BROWN and those lost in the accident.

At this time, Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk and ask that it be read for the information of the Senate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

S. RES. 241

In tribute to Secretary of Commerce RONALD H. BROWN and other Americans who lost their lives on April 3, 1996, while in service to their country on a mission to Bosnia.

Whereas, RONALD H. BROWN served the United States of America with patriotism and skill as a soldier, a civil rights leader, and an attorney;

Whereas, RONALD H. BROWN served since January 22, 1993, as the United States Secretary of Commerce;

Whereas, RONALD H. BROWN devoted his life to opening doors, building bridges, and helping those in need;

Whereas, RONALD H. BROWN lost his life in a tragic airplane accident on April 3, 1996, while in service to his country on a mission in Bosnia; and

Whereas, thirty-two other Americans from government and industry who served the Nation with great courage, achievement, and dedication also lost their lives in the accident; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That the Senate of the United States pays tribute to the remarkable life and career of RONALD H. BROWN, and it extends condolences to his family.

SEC. 2. The Senate also pays tribute to the contributions of all those who perished, and extends condolences to the families of: Staff Sergeant Gerald Aldrich, Duane Christian, Barry Conrad, Paul Cushman III, Adam Darling, Captain Ashley James Davis, Gail Dobert, Robert Donovan, Claudio Elia,

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Staff Sergeant Robert Farrington, Jr., David Ford, Carol Hamilton, Kathryn Hoffman, Lee Jackson, Steven Kaminski, Kathryn Kellogg, Technical Sergeant Shelley Kelly, James Lewek, Frank Maier, Charles Meissner, William Morton, Walter Murphy, Lawrence Payne, Nathaniel Nash, Leonard Pieroni, Captain Timothy Schafer, John Scoville, I. Donald Terner, P. Stuart Tholan, Technical Sergeant Cheryl Ann Turnage, Naomi Warbasse, and Robert Whittaker.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of the resolution to each of the families.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, it is the intention of the majority leader to bring the resolution up for final passage sometime after tomorrow's policy luncheons. That will allow those Members who desire to come to the floor and pay tribute to Secretary BROWN and other public servants and industry leaders who lost their lives.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I will not say much here today except that I knew RON BROWN very well. I thought he was one of the finest people in this town. I knew him when he was a leader on the Judiciary Committee under Senator Kennedy, and we were friends ever since.

Many times I have lamented that we did not have as competent and tremendous a leader in our party as then Chairman BROWN was. We had good people. We can be proud of them. But Chairman BROWN did one of the best jobs I have ever seen done in a national election.

I also have traveled around the world and have seen some of the work that he has done with regard to the Commerce Department's work and opportunities, and he did a terrific job. He was well recognized all over the world as somebody who advanced America's business.

I personally want to send a message to his family and to those who loved RON BROWN that I did, too, and I had cared for him. Had I not been in the Balkans during that time—we left the day after the accident—with the minority leader and Senator Reid, I would have been at his funeral to pay my respects to him and his family. Of course, I am very grieved and hurt by this tragic accident.

I also want to extend my sympathy to all of the families of those who died in that tragic accident. Having traveled over there, I can see how that could occur. I can see how difficult that must have been for all of those families who lost loved ones as a result of that tragic crash.

I could not speak more highly of a person than I am presently speaking of RON BROWN.

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I knew some of the others on the plane. I actually met with some of the people who were friends of the crew who flew the plane. We had a crew that flew us into Sarajevo and into Tuzla who basically had worked day in and day out with all of the members of that crew.

I know that I speak for everybody in the Senate and across this country in extending our sympathy to all those folks who lost their lives. I hope RON's wife, Alma, will be comforted, and I hope that the family will be comforted as well. He has my respect, and I am very happy to have had this time to pay my respects this morning.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I would like to read into the Record a tribute to RON BROWN which I gave last Tuesday evening at the Metropolitan Baptist Church here in Washington. There were a number of speakers who reflected on Secretary BROWN's very considerable life, from early beginnings to really an outstanding distinguished career, and spoke with great tenderness and sensitivity and thoughtfulness, not only about RON but also about his family.

I would like to take just a few moments of the Senate's time today to read those remarks into the Record:

Alma, Tracey, Michael and Tami, Gloria Brown, friends and fellow mourners:

I speak this evening in tribute to RON BROWN, because I knew him well and loved him dearly. But I join as well in tribute to the 34 others we have lost, who have now given the last full measure of devotion. Our hearts are breaking now. Our minds can hardly conceive the loss, or compose the words to express the depth of what we feel.

The poet could have been thinking of RON BROWN when he wrote of another who died too young, in words used about my brothers too: "What made us dream that he could comb gray hair?"

RON and I were supposed to have lunch this Friday. It had been too long. We wanted to catch up. The Senate would be in recess, and RON would be back from Bosnia.

He said he wanted to show me the large fish tank in his office. When he and Alma were at our home one evening, I had shown them the modest tank we have. He winked at me and told Vicki and our two children: "Come on over to my office—and bring Curran and Caroline too. I'll show you a real fish tank. I'll even tell Ted where you can get one." That was RON—always the best in everything he did, and wanting it for everyone else too.

We also had a few items of business to discuss. RON was chairman of the Senior Advisory Committee of the Institute of Politics at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. For him, it was a long and lasting labor of love. As he had been inspired in his youth, so he always found time for the next generation. While he was busy electing a President in 1992, he was never too busy for those whose election would come in 2012. He was there, year in and year out, for every meeting at the Institute of Politics. He would stay overnight in President Kennedy's room at Winthrop House and eat and talk with the undergraduates. He inspired students as he inspired CEOs.

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He was equally at home in the classroom and the boardroom, in Harlem and at Harvard.

So at lunch on Friday, we were to discuss the meeting in Cambridge that was coming up later this month. The committee had a couple of vacancies to fill. And now there is an unfillable new vacancy.

RON was first in so many things—his career was so brilliant and conspicuous—that he was almost certainly bound to be a target for some as surely as he was a role model for others. He was prepared to pay that price to advance his country and his beliefs. And something now demands to be said. This, my friends, was a man of great honor who proved anew my brother's ideal that public service is a great and honorable profession.

I first came to know RON almost half a lifetime ago during his years at the Urban League. He was in the vanguard of the new generation of civil rights leaders.

He already had then what he would later bring to the highest places of power—a rare quality of double vision in public life, which enabled him to see the issues clearly and see the politics just as clearly too. He knew how to steer by the stars, not just by the fading signals of each passing ship.

He honored me by becoming part of my campaign for President in 1980. He came on board as deputy campaign manager for civil rights, and soon became deputy for everything else as well. He was Will Rogers in reverse. I never met a person who didn't like RON BROWN.

In 1980, I lost the nomination. But in RON, I gained another brother.

He was irrepressible and undefeatable. For him, "no you can't" always became "yes you can." You can integrate that college fraternity. You can win the California primary. You can rebuild the Democratic Party and elect a President in a year when almost no one else thought it could happen. Then you can reinvent government and invent a new commercial diplomacy for a new post-Cold War world. You can make the Commerce Department work—and if you'll pardon a partisan note today, don't let anyone on Capitol Hill tell you you can't.

RON believed in government and all of you and in public service. He detested cynicism and the shameful politics of running for office by trashing the institutions you seek to lead. He helped to write history, and not a single word he wrote was petty or mean.

I have been through other moments like this, and I know how tightly we grasp the memories in order to keep the man. We recall what was only yesterday, and smile through our tears.

I still see RON, coming to play tennis on early mornings before work. He'd arrive with three rackets, dressed to the nines, looking like he was ready to play at Wimbledon. He always won, and that's why I always made sure he was my partner in doubles.

He had a style and a soaring spirit. He had a host of friends who were honored to serve with him—many of us assembled here today—those who were with him on his last journey—and one other I must mention who was with him on that remarkable journey to victory at the DNC—his sidekick, Paul Tully. RON, of course, never had his tie out of place, while Paul never had his shirt tucked in. What a marvelous combination they were for their party and their country. RON saw and called on the best in Paul, and in all of us.

The great physicist Lord Rutherford was once asked how he always happened to be riding the crest of the wave, and he replied, "Well, I made the wave, didn't I?" That's how I felt about RON BROWN. He was one of those few who make the waves that carry us to a better distant shore.

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For his nation, RON was more than an ambassador of commerce. His missions were pilgrimages of peace, of economic hope and democracy's ideals.

For his party and his President, he was close to the indispensable man.

For his friends, he was a Cape Cod day and a cloudless sky.

For his family, he was everything—as they were for him. Sometimes, I'd call during the day to see if he and Alma could drop by that evening. He'd call back and ask for a rain check. Michael and Tami were going out, and RON and Alma were babysitting for their twins. How he loved those two young boys, Morgan and Ryan. His whole face would light up when he talked about them.

And how proud he was and how much he loved his children, Michael and Tracey. Everyone who knew RON knew how special they were to him, how much pride he took in their accomplishments, how close he was to them.

And Alma, dear Alma, how he loved you. I remember vividly one time when Vicki and I were talking to RON and we saw Alma across the room. I mentioned how beautiful she looked, how extraordinary she was. RON's face lit up with that sparkling trademark smile, and he said, "She's pretty spectacular, isn't she?" That said it all, and the word "spectacular" was made for RON BROWN too.

Now RON's journey of grace has come to an incomprehensible end. But for this generation and generations to come, he is spectacular proof that America can be the land of opportunity it was meant to be.

We love you and we miss you RON—and we always will.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, now that the initial shock of the horrific jet crash in Croatia has passed, we are forced to accept the fact that my friend Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and 34 other talented professionals have perished. Today, almost 2 weeks later, it's still hard to describe the echoing sense of loss and deep sinking sorrow that still remains in all of us—man, woman, black, white, Republican, Democrat.

There has been much written and said about RON BROWN over the last few days, and that is fitting, because there is so much to say. He was many things: key strategist, mesmerizing speaker, wily politician, savvy businessman, superb lawyer. Most of all, he was an exemplary public servant for this country. On his last day, he was on the road in a faraway place aggressively promoting U.S. business interests abroad. And, in this case, he was trying to bring peace and economic recovery to the war-weary Bosnian people. He took very seriously his responsibility to preserve the American dream for the next generation of Americans, so that they will have economic opportunity rather than a declining standard of living. To him, championing the economic interests of the United States was tantamount to championing the people of the United States, and so, in a very literal way, he died serving his country.

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RON BROWN was the most effective Secretary of Commerce I have known in my years in the Senate. It is fair to say that he was the most energetic and outstanding individual to ever serve in that post. Throughout his distinguished career in private industry, politics and the executive branch, RON BROWN served as a role model for all Americans. With the fall of the Berlin Wall, international business has become the new realm for competition. RON BROWN understood that and worked tirelessly to promote U.S. exports and business overseas. It was quite typical for Secretary BROWN and me to meet after he had returned from a long trip abroad. Lack of sleep and shifting time zones never set him back. Jet lag wasn't in his vocabulary. It just was not in RON's nature to take time to rest up.

RON BROWN was an especially strong role model for African-Americans. He never forgot his roots, and he took special pride in his efforts to make Commerce Department programs more inclusive and to provide equal opportunity in the work force. He took pride in his efforts to revitalize the Minority Business Development Agency and the Economic Development Administration. Most of all, he set an example for those who would follow in his footsteps with his determination, his intelligence and his optimism.

Secretary BROWN came into the Commerce Department with a tremendous task: to shake one of the Government's largest and most diverse departments out of its dormancy, and turn it into a forceful, focused, and effective agency. At his confirmation, he expressed the following among his priorities for the Department of Commerce: "Expanding exports, promoting new technologies, supporting business development—these all require integrated action, crossing old lines between business, labor and government." RON BROWN was an expert in crossing old lines, whether racial or bureaucratic, whether he was rejuvenating the Democratic Party or reinvigorating the Department of Commerce. He could see potential where others couldn't, and he had that unbeatable combination of vision and determination that was contagious. He inspired those around him.

In addition to his political acumen and leadership abilities, RON BROWN was extremely likable. I remember walking down the corridors in the Hoover Building seeing signs on employees' office doors that read "RON BROWN Fan Club." Even those misguided few in Congress who spent the last year trying to abolish the Commerce Department found their efforts thwarted by the simple fact that so many business-

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men and Members of Congress not only believed in the importance of Commerce—but also that everyone simply liked RON BROWN.

This is a tragedy that hits home for me, Peatsy, and my staff. RON BROWN was a good friend. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Alma, his children, and all the families of the passengers and crew of the aircraft.

Mr. President, let's all remember RON BROWN for his firebrand style of engaged public service. We'll all miss him. I wish we had more like him.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, as we return to session today, it is spring in Washington. The blossoms are out. It is a beautiful time, and yet I am sure the experience I had in returning with my family yesterday was comparable with others coming back to Washington; it brought home the terrible tragedy that occurred while we were away, that of the plane going down in Croatia carrying Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN and so many others, including two corporate executives from Connecticut, Claudio Elia and Bob Donovan. And coming back here to this city, where many of us came to know Secretary BROWN, filled me with a sadness and a sense of loss yesterday and today.

I wanted to come to the floor and share with my colleagues just a few thoughts about RON BROWN. I hope someday in the not too distant future to be able to offer to my colleagues some comments, if they did not have the opportunity to know them, about Bob Donovan and Claudio Elia, whose service to our country was extraordinary.

Today, however, I wanted to speak about RON BROWN. I am proud that I had the chance to work with RON BROWN during his all too short tenure at the Commerce Department. I tremendously enjoyed working with RON BROWN in his various capacities as a private attorney, as a leading Democratic activist, as chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and most closely and I think most creatively in this last period of years as Secretary of Commerce. I am honored that I can call him a friend. We are all going to miss him—it's painful to think that my staff and I won't have the sheer fun of working with him again—and the country will miss him even more. I have the greatest respect for him, as have so many others, as a wonderful, warm human being and as a leader who had a clear-eyed vision of how to make our people and our country better.

This is a case which is so often true where you interconnect with a person in a professional capacity, but you

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never think of a man in the prime of life not being here. In a way, I suppose it is death that makes you appreciate even more the great skills and the enormous service that this individual, RON BROWN, displayed for our benefit.

RON BROWN, it seemed to me, truly loved the job he had at Commerce. He always managed to fit well, wherever he was, and this job really did fit him like a glove, from the moment he took it. He had an early understanding that the mission of the Department of Commerce was to promote economic growth, that is job creation. He understood from his own experience the wide-open nature of our market system and that it was the unique way America had for creating opportunity for its citizens—the market, upward mobility.

RON BROWN never saw the business community as an enemy, he saw it as an ally in expanding opportunity, and he threw himself into this job with a single-mindedness and joyous commitment to forcing the system, the economic system, to deliver for all Americans.

Against this background, I want to talk about two areas of his time at Commerce that I think was so critically important. I believe that they were truly extraordinary, and set a new performance standard for our government's relationship with the private sector.

EXPORTS

The first has been written about extensively in the last days since his death, and even some over the preceding 3 years: The incredible export promotion operation he put together at Commerce. But I do not think that enough has been said about why that was so important.

Until the mid-1970's, the U.S. economy was on top of the world, dominating it. While our economic rivals, led particularly by Japan, were figuring out that selling advanced manufactured goods for export was the key to economic growth and raising the living standards of people back home, our Government in a way was coasting on our success. We were not paying attention to that message.

Other countries built export promotion machines—and they were machines—through the most intimate and comprehensive alliances between business and government, the private sector and the public sector. But the truth is that our Government paid too little attention to that need to build those alliances. American businesses—and I would hear this repeatedly from business executives in Connecticut—would go abroad to compete, and they would see what the business-

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government alliances of our competitors were doing for export promotion.

I remember being told a story by the executive of one of the companies in Connecticut, telling me that they were competing against two other companies, one from Asia and one from Europe, for a very large job in a foreign country. They went over there to participate in simultaneous bidding among the three business competitors. This company from Connecticut, a big company, had its executives and lawyers in one room. But in the other two rooms, the executives and representatives of the Asian company and of the European company were teamed up with a representative of the Asian government and of the European government, respectively. In that case, the Connecticut company did not get the contract. We lost some opportunity and jobs.

The State Department, I am afraid, continued to treat American business as if it had to be held at arm's length. Too many administrations went along with that distant attitude. Preoccupied with the end of the cold war and retaining the political alliances required for it, the State Department embraced a traditional and outmoded notion of what foreign policy was all about, what mattered to people here at home. Too often they missed what was happening in the world economy and the American economy which has been a grave error. They made export promotion a low priority, while our rivals made it the top priority. The State Department treated U.S. business like pariahs, it was "Upstairs-Downstairs"—trade was beneath our diplomatic priorities.

This hasn't ended. A Business Week editorial this week notes that, "The U.S. foreign policy and security elite believe security should be divorced from economic issues. Some go so far as to suggest that providing security is a perk of global power." It concludes, "We don't. American workers can't be expected to suffer economically to protect [other nations] from one another." RON BROWN shared this view, and he was the new momentum for bringing our economy into foreign relations. The President was his staunch ally on this effort, and helped him force change in this area.

RON BROWN, working together with President Clinton, understood that they had to create a central position in our foreign policy for our economic policy. Export promotion had to be at the core of our international outreach; that it was not a bad thing, but in fact it was a very good thing, that if a President visited a foreign country with the Secretary of

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Commerce and one of the items they discussed with the leadership of that foreign country was buying American goods.

I come from a very export-oriented State. In fact, it has the highest level of exports per capita of any State in the country. We know that exports create jobs, high-paying manufacturing jobs, and that each manufacturing job has an economic multiplier effect, creating a chain of goods and services behind it, longer by far than most other types of jobs.

The sad fact is that we have been disinvesting in manufacturing since the mid-1970's, even though we need those kinds of jobs more than ever to develop a strong economy and a better standard of living for our people which will continue America as the land of opportunity. RON BROWN, as Secretary of Commerce, understood this from the beginning of his service.

When he began his export promotion effort, within days of arriving at the Commerce Department, the leaders of the American business community that I spoke to—and I particularly heard this from heads of firms in Connecticut—were in disbelief. Someone was finally paying attention to their priorities. Somebody was finally trying to help them pull together an American governmental countermovement to the vast efforts rival countries and their businesses had been mounting for decades, to take jobs and exports away from us. Finally, someone with real power, the Secretary of Commerce, understood the problem. The fact is, at the beginning a lot of folks in the business community were skeptical that RON BROWN could make this all happen.

But he proved them wrong, to their delight. He was great at this. Trained as a lawyer and always a superb advocate, he used those skills on behalf of American businesses throughout the world. He knew how to run campaigns, and he ran this export operation like a campaign, which is exactly how it was. Nobody had ever done this before in the way that Secretary BROWN did, and our country has never benefited as much before as we did from his service.

He even set up, in the Commerce Department, something like a campaign "war room," where he would get reports on economic opportunities opening up to sell American products and create American jobs—an early warning system. Then the letters and the phone calls would start flying—RON BROWN was a phone wizard, it was a technology invented for him, he was forever reaching out to touch some business leader or a head of state abroad. Then following those calls with visits, such as the one he was on when his life on Earth

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ended. He was so enormously skilled, he was so hard working, he was absolutely and irresistibly likable, he had such a great smiling charm, such sharp intelligence, he was such fun, he had such energy.

The customers loved his performance. They all knew he spoke directly for and to the President of the United States, and that he would relay their messages back to the White House. Even our friends in Japan, who have systematically been denying entry for too many U.S. products for too long, liked him, as RON BROWN worked very hard at breaking down the barriers.

U.S. business strongly appreciated his commitment to them, an enormous accomplishment. He was a terrific political operator in the very best sense of this phrase—he was mobilizing the political system to serve the public's needs. The business community understood this and respected it deeply—I've heard this again and again from U.S. companies. RON BROWN was a new kind of life force to them and they had great affection for him.

RON BROWN and his team's export success was only beginning when he left us, because the historical changes he was starting are a long-term project. But this new direction was a very important accomplishment for America. A major job for Secretaries of Commerce from now on will be to promote U.S. goods, not just on the offhanded, random way of the past, but with all the force of RON BROWN's campaigns, or they will be judged failures. From now on, the Federal Government is going to have to get down and get to work with business selling our economy. It's about time, but it took RON BROWN to show us how to do it. RON BROWN has set an entirely new standard for the country by which all that come after him will be judged.

INNOVATION

A second remarkable thing he did as Commerce Secretary was to fight for innovation. This has been almost nowhere mentioned in the press, and it is not well understood by the public or the fourth estate or Congress. But RON BROWN understood that for the American dream of opportunity to be sustained for a new generation, a higher level of economic growth was crucial. In addition to exports, he concentrated on another ingredient of that strategy: innovation. Even before he was sworn in as Commerce Secretary, his friend George Fisher, then president of Motorola and now of Kodak, invited him to speak to a leading group of business thinkers,

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the Council on Competitiveness. RON BROWN set out in that speech an aggressive agenda of technology development and promotion. He recognized that innovation has been the great American competitive advantage for generations, that it is now under attack as our competitors expand, and that it has to be renewed if we are going to keep expanding our economy. Economists estimate that technology development—coupled with a technologically trained work force—has accounted for 80 percent of the increase in U.S. productivity and wealth for most of this century.

Innovation is our bread and butter.

BROWN understood that since the Second World War, the Federal Government has backed most of the long-term research and development and applied R&D that has gone on in the United States, while business focused on shorter term product development. That is an economic reality—the risk and cost of R&D means that the private sector must focus on what it can raise capital for—shorter term products. It is a classic market failure problem, and until recently Congress on a bipartisan basis has supported the need for governmental support of innovation. BROWN picked up a series of small technology and technology extension programs that had been quietly started at Commerce in previous administrations, and made them a central focus. With an able team around him, he made the Commerce Department the administration's leader in civilian technology development, and supported a new system of cooperative R&D development with business, requiring business to match Federal funding to ensure sounder Government R&D investments and leveraging Federal research dollars. He also helped expand a new system of manufacturing extension centers around the country, now in over 30 States, to bring advanced manufacturing techniques and technology to smaller and mid-sized manufacturers desperately in need of it to be able to compete with global competitors. In a time of budget cutting, he successfully found the resources to build these programs. He was also head of the administration's information infrastructure task force, formulating policies on the new information highway and how to expand our population's access to it.

He was a true innovation supporter, and was moving quickly toward making the Commerce Department what it long should have been: a department for trade and technology, where each of these two sides of the department provides synergy for the other. It was becoming an agency which provided governmental leadership in these two areas

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in support of the private sector, not trying to dominate it, and much stronger because of this.

RON BROWN's clear success, of course, led to the usual Washington political reaction against signs of creativity. Unfortunately, for too much of this past year he had to spend time deftly deflecting attacks on the existence of the Commerce Department. But he had helped make it into an instrument for growth and job creation, and his efforts had strong support among business and work force constituencies. He had begun the process to put the Commerce Department on the map as a unique American engine to support opportunity and growth in America. He had a great dream for his agency, and I respect that dream very much. I, for one, pledge to him that I am not going to sit here in this body and let it get dismantled.

All around this city of Washington are statues of Union Army generals. This is a good thing—they remind us of the crisis the Civil War represented to our country's future, of the great wave of sacrifice required thirteen decades ago to keep this country intact and to advance the freedoms it stands for. Now we are engaged in a different kind of conflict, a global economic conflict. There are no particular enemies in this conflict, at most we have rivals, not enemies, although in some ways the real enemy is ourselves because we have not yet been able to mobilize to confront our problems. This new conflict will test whether the great American dream of opportunity, of economic growth that will allow all our citizens to grow, will endure for future generations. Someday, if we are successful in keeping our opportunity dream alive, we should think about putting up some statues of the men and women in the private and public sectors who are the new generals, new kinds of heroes, of that conflict. RON BROWN's statue should be one of the first we erect.

BARRIERS

I have discussed his innovative role at Commerce, but I want to say something about barriers, too. Occasionally, I think about how Chuck Yeager felt piloting his X–1 rocket plane when he was the first to break the sound barrier. RON BROWN was a great barrier-breaker, too, our first African-American to achieve many things. While Chuck Yeager's courage enabled him to break his barrier, the sound barrier remained and had to be broken again by countless additional pilots. RON BROWN's barrier breaking style was a little different. It also required courage, but he had a way of break-

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ing barriers that began to erase them. He would get through a barrier in his wonderful, excited, buoyant way, and he would make everyone who watched him think, there goes another one, and why didn't we do that long ago? When RON BROWN became Commerce Secretary, many were expecting the President to name an experienced business leader, and were appalled when he named a friend and politician. Big business has long been a barrier for African-Americans, but RON BROWN's outstanding performance as Commerce Secretary, and the depth of support he built in the business community, was unlike anything any Commerce Secretary has been able to do before. We watched and thought, there he goes through another barrier, the biggest he had ever faced.

In so doing, RON BROWN broke an even bigger barrier. America has been blessed with a long line of outstanding African-American leaders. In the past, those leaders typically have been leaders of the African-American community, and that has been very important for the country, too, and we need many more. RON BROWN well-remembered and was intensely loyal to his African-American roots, but, like Colin Powell, he was also a national leader, who was clearly understood, in his great energetic way, to be battling for the well-being of every American. That is a new, promising thing in America, it is a strong new step down our country's freedom road.

Mr. President, he led this effort to take some small, relatively unknown program in the Commerce Department—the Advanced Technology Program is one—to build it into an engine for technology growth and job creation.

Much was said in the aftermath of RON BROWN's tragic death about him being a bridge builder. I say he was also a barrier breaker. I think sometimes about Chuck Yeager, how he felt piloting that X–1 rocket plane when he first broke the sound barrier.

RON BROWN was a breaker, too, but the thing about Yeager's accomplishment is that barrier has to be broken every time someone chooses to do it. RON BROWN broke barriers that erased them. When he became Commerce Secretary, many were expecting the Secretary to name an experienced business leader. They were disappointed when he named a friend and politician.

But RON BROWN, by his outstanding performance at Commerce and the depth of support he built in the business com-

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munity, broke another barrier and brought with him the business community and a lot of Americans.

RON BROWN was true to and proud of his African-American roots and the community from which he came, but he became in his lifetime like Colin Powell: Not just an African-American leader, but a great American leader.

Mr. President, finally, I say this. All around our city of Washington are statues of our great military heroes. Now we are engaged in a different kind of global conflict: an economic global conflict. If we ever start building statues for those generals who served as courageously and with great success in the economic battles that affect the quality of life and job opportunity for people in our country, we ought to erect a statue to RON BROWN as one of the greatest of those leaders.

I yield the floor.

TUESDAY, *April 16, 1996.*

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I would like to comment briefly on the tragic death of Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN, which occurred last week in Croatia.

I have know RON BROWN and his family for 12 years. RON was a friend of mine, and a friend of the State of California. One of his first duties as Commerce Secretary was to find ways to resuscitate California's economy, and he helped to do just that. RON BROWN made the Department of Commerce a positive force for helping the largest State in the Union recover from the devastating recession of the early 1990's.

RON had a vision of a prosperous America, where the cliche that "a rising tide lifts all boats" could actually come true. He focused his Department and this administration on looking for opportunities to help the American economy make the transition from the era of heavy industry to an era of high technology, scientific innovation, and the advancement of the current revolution in communications.

RON helped formulate this vision, made sure that his Department gave grants and other forms of assistance to firms pursuing it, and at the time of his death was advocating that vision to other parts of the world.

But even more important than his career was the man himself. Always upbeat, with ceaseless energy, RON could persuade the most vehement skeptic of the value of his vision and efforts for our country. He served in a variety of

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roles, and in each he excelled. His days as an effective leader with the National Urban League demonstrates this, where he became deputy executive director, general counsel and vice president of the Urban League's Washington, DC office.

RON BROWN's boundless energy and commitment to excellence did not stop at the National Urban League. It continued to help him break racial boundaries and become the first African-American to head a major political party, helping to elect the country's first Democratic President in 12 years; the first African-American to become a partner in his powerful Washington, DC law firm; and the first African-American to take the helm at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

I know of no chairman of the Democratic National Committee who was better regarded, whose fundraising calls were more frequently returned, or whose hardships and public statements were more well regarded—RON BROWN was tops.

In my view, RON BROWN's stewardship as Secretary of Commerce was unparalleled. He truly cared about his work and those the Department serves, and the record reflects accurately billions of dollars in trade and new business that will, in the future, benefit this country's businesses and industrial base.

I find the circumstances of his untimely death to be particularly poignant. Here he was, leading a group of business people and his staff, on a mission of peace to the war torn land of the former Yugoslavia.

He did not wait for peace to be restored. He went when risks of hostile action were still present. He did not wait for pleasant weather before springing into action. And, he did not just work on economic issues. He also spent time with our troops over there, to let them know we support their efforts.

Mr. President, we have lost a great American in RON BROWN. Whether it was politics, or crafting legislation for the Senate, or civil rights, or military service, or being a husband and a father, RON BROWN was a great patriot, and a great human being. I shall always treasure the relationship he and I had, and I shall miss him terribly.

To Alma Brown and Tracy, who have traveled with me in the campaign, I send my heart and prayers. With all his family, I share an unrelenting emptiness and sadness. I will miss the phone calls, the smile, the exploits from progress, and, most of all, his abiding and consummate belief in all of us.

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Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to RON BROWN.

RON BROWN had a remarkable career, marked by his exceptional ability to unify people from diverse backgrounds. As chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he used this talent to bring the party's factions together. Democrats and Republicans alike spoke with admiration of his aptitude as a party leader. RON BROWN's work to bridge differences helped revitalize the Democratic party and played an essential role in building the support that led to President Clinton's election.

As Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN also unified individuals from different walks of life to work for American business. His aggressive efforts traveling the world promoting American goods won him uncommon praise from business leaders. It was his enthusiastic devotion to this mission of championing trade and economic development that took him to Bosnia earlier this month not only to try to build American business, but also to aid in the reconstruction of Bosnia. He made the ultimate sacrifice for these goals, giving his life in service to his country.

RON BROWN's career also leaves us with an example of racial leadership, having been the first African-American to chair the Democratic Party and the first African-American Secretary of Commerce. His guidance was apparent in the way he closed divisions within the Democratic Party and in the way he brought together diverse individuals at the Commerce Department. RON BROWN provided a real life role model for aspiring young Americans as someone who rose to the highest levels of government, and who was admired and respected by those who knew him and knew of his contributions to the well-being of his nation.

The loss of RON BROWN is tragic to America. His leadership will be sorely missed. My deepest condolences go to the Brown family and the families of all the other Americans who lost their lives in this terrible tragedy.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, as I understand it, the resolution which honors the memory of RON BROWN is still pending, and I want to make a couple of remarks in regard to that resolution and Secretary BROWN before we close tonight.

Mr. President, it is with sadness—and tremendous gratitude for the work their lives exemplified—that I add my voice to those honoring Commerce Secretary RON BROWN

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and the extraordinary men and women who died with him on that plane.

I am sure each of us will long remember just where we were and what we were doing when we heard that Secretary BROWN's plane was missing over Croatia, and then, moments later, when we learned the plane had crashed.

In my case, I was at home—packing to leave for Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia myself.

So many thoughts raced through my mind. . . .

I thought of the meeting I was supposed to have had the following evening in Zagreb with Secretary BROWN.

I thought of how, just a few weeks earlier, Secretary BROWN had helped an electronics company in Rapid City work out the final details of a contract with a group in South Africa, and of all the people in my state who will be able to work because he went the extra mile for us.

But mostly I thought, what a loss. What a terrible loss our Nation had just suffered.

RON BROWN and the 32 brave Americans who accompanied him on that noble mission to Bosnia represented what is best about our Nation:

A "can do" sense of optimism and determination.

A generosity of spirit.

And an unshakable belief in democracy.

The men and women on that plane did not go to Bosnia simply to bring contracts to America—as important as that is.

They went to bring hope and prosperity to Bosnia so that the fragile peace there might take root and grow, and democracy might replace tyranny.

Hours after Secretary BROWN's plane crashed into that mountain, I was on another plane with Senators Hatch and Reid. We spent 9 days in Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia and four neighboring states, assessing progress in the implementation of the Dayton peace plan.

Every world leader with whom I met stressed the importance of both promoting economic growth and building democratic institutions to achieving a sustainable peace in the Balkans. Those were the very goals to which RON BROWN's trip to Bosnia was dedicated.

In an article I read, a woman who had worked with Secretary BROWN said it wasn't just that he saw a glass half-full when others saw it half-empty. His optimism was bigger than that. Where others saw a half-empty glass, she said, he saw a glass overflowing with possibilities.

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It would take that kind of vision to see the path to a lasting peace in Bosnia.

RON BROWN was able to see that path. And, he was able to make others see it.

He was a good salesman. What he sold was America—not just American goods and services, but American ideals.

The reason he could sell America with such confidence is that he believed in America, and in the goal of making America—and the world—better.

RON BROWN spent his life transcending boundaries.

Boundaries of race.

Boundaries of party.

Boundaries drawn on maps.

And in transcending those boundaries, he made them less formidable for all of us. That is part of the great legacy he has left us.

I have been reminded these last few days of a scene in the Shakespearian play, Julius Caesar. It is the scene at Caesar's burial. Caesar has just been falsely maligned by Brutus as a traitor.

Then Mark Antony rises to recall the Caesar he knew.

He was, Mark Antony said, a man who loved his country so much he gave his life for it.

Then he stunned the crowd by reading them Caesar's will. He had left all of his possessions to the people of Rome.

Even more precious, he had left his fellow citizens a legacy of greatness and the ability, to quote Shakespeare, "to walk abroad and recreate yourselves."

RON BROWN and the men and women on that plane died trying to recreate the American spirit of democracy and opportunity in a land torn apart by war.

It is right that we offer these tributes to them. But, in the end, the best tribute we can pay them is to keep alive their determination to recreate what is best about America wherever people long for freedom and justice and opportunity.

Let us today rededicate ourselves to that noble cause.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I, too, like the distinguished minority leader, remember where I was when this tragic message came. I first thought to myself that not too many months prior thereto I was with our distinguished colleague on a similar mission in that region. Senator Bob Kerrey and I were over there, and we actually landed at the same airport. This was my fifth trip. I was the very first Senator to make a trip to Sarajevo some more than 3½ years ago. The thought came to my mind where the Secretary had given his

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life, together with the aircrews—aircrews that all of us have traveled with. I traveled with those crews and their predecessors for 20-plus years formerly as Secretary of the Navy and now in the U.S. Senate.

They are a very dedicated and well trained group of officers and enlisted men. The finest the Air Force has, really, are dedicated to those missions. Those aircraft are somewhat old, but they are well kept. They are not palatial.

Of course, with the Secretary were a very distinguished group of Americans from the private sector, and journalists also, who were going to examine that war-torn region, to help provide for those less fortunate than ourselves, who have suffered the tragedies of that conflict, a conflict of which to this day, although I have studied it, I cannot understand the root causes.

But, nevertheless, I had known the Secretary. While we are of opposite political persuasions, I always remember him as a man of great humor. I never saw him without a twinkle in his eye. Always he put forward his hand. There were several stressful periods in his life and I always stretched out my hand, because those of us in public office know from time to time there are periods that put us to the test. But he met the tests and he served his Nation.

I join the distinguished minority leader and my colleagues in paying our tribute to him as a fine American, to the aircrews, to all passengers who were on that plane. We give our heartfelt compassion to the families that must survive this tragedy and go on to lead constructive and meaningful lives.

Mr. President, I thank the Chair and distinguished minority leader.

WEDNESDAY, *April 17, 1996.*

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, while in Paris, and at the Embassy on the evening of April 2, I visited with Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN for whom a reception was held in his honor along with the Secretary of Labor Robert Reich.

As we all know, on the very next day Secretary BROWN and his company met their untimely deaths with the crash of their plane making a landing approach into Sarajevo.

When Secretary BROWN and I spoke on the evening of April 2 at about 6:45 he was robust, enthusiastic, and very anxious to carry out his responsibilities as Secretary of Com-

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merce. He had brought with him a group of United States businessmen who could be instrumental in the rebuilding and the revitalization of Bosnia.

It is well accepted that, if the peace in Bosnia is to stay and is to hold, there will have to be a buildup of the infrastructure there, and Secretary BROWN was there in connection with those duties. He and I talked about meeting in Sarajevo or Zagreb. But that meeting unfortunately did not take place. The next morning I departed for Serbia, was in Belgrade, and had a plane on April 3 to travel to Sarajevo. That plane was canceled because of weather. We did not go to Sarajevo, and the same weather conditions resulted in the fatal crash of Secretary BROWN and his company.

I traveled the next day to Tuzla, arrived there early in the morning, was met by General Cherry, and we immediately talked about Secretary BROWN's visit the preceding day. Secretary BROWN had arrived at 6:40 a.m. on April 3 and visited the United States military establishment in Tuzla, and departed at 1:58 p.m. And then, as we know, shortly thereafter the fatal crash occurred on the approach to the landing in Dubrovnik.

Secretary BROWN was certainly a stalwart advocate of U.S. interests, and his loss will be deeply felt by the U.S. Government. On behalf of my wife Joan, I want to convey our deepest sympathies and condolences to RON's wife, Alma, and their two children, Michael and Tracey, and the rest of their family.

EXHIBIT 1

DISINVESTING IN DIPLOMACY

Large projected cuts in the 150 account will hamper our ability to attain U.S. economic, security and political objectives worldwide for many years to come.

Among the hardest-hit will be our large embassies in Western Europe. These embassies protect and promote vital U.S. interests. Western Europe is home to most of our biggest and most powerful trading and investment partners. NATO is our most important military alliance.

Our European allies share our democratic ideals and are willing to join us in coalitions to promote global stability. A few, such as France, have global military, economic, technological and commercial interests which parallel our own. In France, our diplomacy reaches well beyond bilateral relations to include cooperation and burdensharing on a broad range of global issues.

Embassy Paris, like most other major embassies, is cutting back sharply its operations while trying to economize. The consulate in Lyon was closed in 1992. In 1996, the Bordeaux consulate also had to be closed. The latter had been in operation since George Washington's Presidency.

In 1996, the Embassy was required to close its travel and tourism office. Its ten person staff, which was handling 100,000 requests for information

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annually from potential foreign visitors to the U.S., was eliminated. The calls will have to be absorbed or redirected with no increase in staff.

In the past 2 years, Embassy Paris has cut the operating hours of its communication center by 65 percent. A hiring freeze has been in place for 4 years, and the Embassy's French work force has not received a pay increase in 3 years. Twenty-five French employee positions have been marked for elimination. The list of other reductions is long.

In view of these reduced resources, Embassy Paris is making a concerted effort to "work smarter" with fewer resources. It has formed "teams" to pool interagency assets more effectively. It has negotiated savings of $3,000,000 over 5 years in local service contracts. It instituted a new interactive automated telephone service for visa applicants which generates $8,000 to $10,000/month in revenues. A consolidation of warehouses is saving $400,000 per year. A new computerized pass and ID system allowed the Embassy to cut 10 Marine guards.

This kind of innovation has allowed cuts to be distributed and absorbed within the Embassy without drastic cutbacks in services thus far. However, this is now likely to change.

The State Department is calling for another round of deep personnel cuts. For Paris, this would entail a 43 percent drop in core diplomatic personnel in the 1995 to 1998 period. Reductions this large will impact heavily on core diplomatic strengths and the Embassy's effectiveness. Some of the effects will be:

Advocacy for U.S. trade and business interests will be reduced in frequency and effectiveness (recent investment problems handled by the Embassy included U.S. firms in the food processing, pharmaceutical and information industries).

The loss of the Embassy's ability to monitor the Paris Club, the organization which negotiates debt rescheduling affecting billions owed the USG by developing countries.

A 50 percent reduction in contacts with the key French officials we must reach if we are to influence French policy and advocate U.S. positions on questions of vital interest to us.

Closure of the Science office at a time when our cooperative exchanges with France on nuclear, space and health technology matters (to mention only three) should be growing rapidly.

Significant cutbacks and slowdowns in passport and welfare services to U.S. citizens. Passport issuance will take 3 to 5 days instead of 1. Prison visits will be cut to one per year. Consuls will no longer attend trials of U.S. citizens. The consulate will be open to the public for only 2 hours per day.

A 60 percent reduction in State Department reporting from Paris, including the political and economic analysis we need on France's activities in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, and Asia.

These trends are disturbing and merit closer attention. The Administration and Congress must work together to assess carefully how budgetary and personnel cutbacks affect our core diplomatic capabilities in Western Europe and elsewhere. This is especially true at a moment when business and information is globalizing and our national interests dictate that we be even more intensively engaged with our key allies than in the past.

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THURSDAY, *April 18, 1996.*

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I offer my heartfelt condolences and prayers to the family of Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and to all of the other families who have lost a loved one in this terrible tragedy.

It is never easy to lose someone close to you. Yet I believe those that Commerce Secretary BROWN left behind—his wife Alma, his daughter Tracey, and his son Michael—can be comforted and given strength by the knowledge that RON BROWN died doing what he loved: Representing the President as Commerce Secretary and serving America by promoting American economic interests abroad.

Secretary BROWN will be remembered for his commitment to our democracy, his charisma, and the enthusiasm with which he embraced new ideas and challenges. I will keep Alma, Tracey, Michael, and all others who are mourning this great loss, in my thoughts and prayers during their time of grief.

I would also like to offer my condolences at this time to the family of Barry L. Conrad who was accompanying Secretary BROWN on his trip to the Balkans. Mr. Conrad was the founder of the Barrington Group, a dynamic hotel company in Miami, and had previously headed Burger King's U.S. franchise operation.

In addition to being a successful businessman, Mr. Conrad was a very prominent and well-respected member of the south Florida community. This is a great loss not only for the family and friends of Mr. Conrad but for the entire State of Florida.

I am praying for the Conrad family, and all others who are mourning as a result of this tragedy.

FRIDAY, *April 19, 1996.*

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. At this time, Mr. President, I also call upon my colleagues and the American people to offer a prayer in behalf of the late Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN, and the 34 others who died with him that tragic day in Bosnia. They were serving our Nation. They were pursuing the goals of peace, and their deaths all came too soon. Because of those losses, as a country we have lost so much.

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I appreciate the majority leader giving us this opportunity to express our great sympathy and condolences to their families and again to give us a chance to reaffirm the mission; that they have all given their lives in pursuit of the higher goals of our Nation.

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

Mr. DOLE. I now ask, in response to the statement by my colleague from Illinois, that we now observe a moment of silence in honor of the memory of RON BROWN and others who died in that tragic accident.

[A period of silence.]

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, just 2 weeks ago, this Nation was saddened and anguished by the tragic death of Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and 32 other Government and business leaders in Croatia. As a very close personal friend of RON BROWN's, I regret deeply, Mr. President, that I could not be here to console his widow, Alma, and his children, Michael and Tracy, in their time of grief. My thoughts and prayers today, as they have been over the last several weeks, are with the Brown family and with the families of all of the victims of this terrible tragedy.

Although we have many pressing issues before us in this body, Mr. President, I want to take just a few minutes, if I can, to reflect and remember the extraordinary and distinguished legacy of RON BROWN. As I stand before the Senate here today, many thoughts come to mind, Mr. President, about RON BROWN—civil rights activist, Democratic Party chairman, Commerce Secretary, bridge builder, and certainly a very close and dear personal friend.

Beyond my great sense of personal loss, Mr. President, when I think of RON BROWN I also think of public service and public servant. From all the time that I knew RON BROWN, from when he was a trusted aide to our colleague, Senator Kennedy, to when he was chairman of the Democratic Party and his last role as Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN epitomized, in my view, what public service is all about. RON BROWN labored tirelessly for what he believed in. It seemed that no obstacle could prevent him from attaining his goals.

At a time when respect for public service and public servants has diminished, when pundits too often cynically demean those who serve America, RON BROWN presented the quiet dignity that comes with superb public servants. RON believed that one person committed to a task with conviction

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in their heart could make a difference, and he certainly did. His labors were the embodiment of George Bernard Shaw's timeless words, "You see things, and you say why; but I dream things that never were and say why not."

On April 3, when Secretary BROWN's plane crashed in Croatia, Mr. President, I was in Ireland to fulfill a long-standing commitment. Together with Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith and Prime Minister Bruton, we attended and participated in a wonderful memorial service dedicate to RON BROWN's memory at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

I say as an aside, Mr. President, we anticipated 30 or 40 people would show up, maybe from the Embassy staff, to come by and pay their respects. In fact, over 500 people unannounced showed up at the cathedral that morning to participate in that service. I want to thank Dean Stewart, who was in charge of St. Patrick's Cathedral, along with other members of the clergy from throughout Ireland who participated that morning, as well as some very distinguished people who sang and purchased musical pieces in memory of RON BROWN, not to mention the 500 people that came from across the island of Ireland to express their sense of loss.

For all of us there that morning, Mr. President, our remembrances of RON BROWN hearken back to the visit he had made to Ireland 2 years ago, to which I was a member, a trip not unlike the one to Croatia, involving some 15 chief executive officers of businesses in this country, as well as others from the House and the Senate that were part of an economic mission to Northern Ireland.

A visit, Ambassador Smith reminded us, which led to President Clinton to dub RON BROWN an "honorary Irishman," and it was mentioned again by her that morning at St. Patrick's Cathedral. RON BROWN, Mr. President, had come to Ireland with an ambitious but challenging goal: To make the dream of peace during the formal cease-fire in Northern Ireland a reality. Certainly, it was no easy task, as we know, even today.

For anyone who knew RON BROWN, there were not too many challenges that phased him. While I had known him for many years, it was on that trip to Ireland that I had the opportunity to see firsthand the enthusiasm and optimism that infused him.

Remarkably, Mr. President, I watched an African-American man, born and raised in Harlem, with no ethnic or religious connection to Ireland, come to that island and champion the peace process and the opportunities for economic de-

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velopment. While on that trip, RON BROWN became the first U.S. Cabinet secretary to make an official visit to Belfast.

The success of RON's trip to Ireland prompted President Clinton to send RON on many other missions across the globe, including the one to the former Yugoslavia, a mission which ended so tragically on that rainy and wind-swept mountain in Croatia. This final mission, Mr. President, was one of many that RON tirelessly made to the world's troubled spots promoting American companies and American workers.

As Secretary of Commerce, on one level, RON's job, of course, was to promote U.S. business interests, which he did very, very well. But for all who knew RON BROWN well, his interests ran much deeper than that. RON BROWN used the legitimate goal of increasing U.S. economic opportunities as a means of advancing other interests as well.

RON traveled to many places that are beginning the difficult journey toward reconciliation and economic revitalization because, as a public man, a public servant, he believed that the dynamism of private enterprise could help bring lasting peace to regions that, for years, had known only violence and hatred.

But RON BROWN understood that these trips were about more than just helping business or free enterprise. As Ambassador Smith noted in her eulogy in Dublin a week ago, these trips were truly—to use her words—"peace and democracy missions, too, missions of hope and idealism."

Mr. President, these trips were about promoting the importance of work, and the notion that through economic opportunity, the process of political reconciliation could begin and, more importantly, could last.

In the absence of it, of course, no permanent healing will ever occur.

From RON BROWN's earliest days, at his first job carrying records and reading public service announcements at WLIB–AM, a radio station in Harlem, he understood the critical importance of work. He understood that there is nothing as rewarding, for individuals or a nation, as waking up in the morning, going to work, and coming home in the evening knowing that you have earned a true wage.

That is why RON BROWN went to Ireland and so many other places, and it is why he was in the Balkans on that tragic evening.

RON BROWN knew that after the peace treaties were signed and when the guns were finally laid to rest, the possibility of a truly lasting peace anyplace around the globe

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would depend on every person having the same opportunity to realize today the dream of a far better tomorrow for themselves and their families.

When RON BROWN journeyed to the Balkans, he took with him the unquenchable spirit of American optimism. He sought to use American enterprise and the American can-do spirit to promote economic development as a means of bringing a truly lasting peace. And he sought to heal the lingering anguish of ethnic violence with a promise of a brighter future for all the peoples of the region.

RON BROWN leaves this world, Mr. President, with an amazing legacy. He was the first African-American to head a major political party in our country. He was the first African-American to be Secretary of Commerce. He rebuilt the Democratic Party, and he certainly helped to elect President Clinton in 1992. He used the Commerce Department to create millions of jobs for American workers and spread the doctrine of economic development and cooperation across the globe.

RON BROWN enjoyed a full and all-too-brief life on this Earth and must be a source of inspiration to all of us, in not just Government, but in our Nation as a whole.

In Ireland, Prime Minister Bruton described RON BROWN in these words, which I think bear repeating—as a role model "for those looking for inspiration as to how a life can be led for the good of others."

RON BROWN understood, Mr. President, that our lives must have purpose and direction. And we can best remember him by emulating the way he lived his life. Mr. President, I think the poet Ralph Waldo Emerson said it well when he said, "I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show for any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

RON BROWN's life symbolized these solemn words. While he passed through our world, Mr. President, he did good. He showed kindness and, regrettably—so regrettably—he will not pass this way again.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the comments of our Ambassador, Jean Kennedy Smith, along with an article that appeared in the Irish Times, which captured, as well, the remarks of Prime Minister Bruton, who spoke at the memorial service in Dublin, be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

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REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR JEAN KENNEDY SMITH AT MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RON BROWN AND HIS DELEGATION

Taoiseach, distinguished guests, and friends of RON BROWN, of Chuck Meissner, and of the other brave pioneers for peace whose lives of courage and service were so tragically cut short last week.

This has, indeed, been a sad week for America, a sad week for Ireland. We have lost friends. But today, we gather not only to mourn them, but to celebrate their lives.

Last night, I spoke with Alma Brown and told her of the memorial service we were holding today. She was so pleased that RON was to be remembered in this way by the people of Ireland, because this country was so important to him.

I first met RON BROWN in the fall of 1979. My brother, Ted, was about to begin a campaign for President of the United States in 1980. My husband, Steve, was to manage the campaign, as he had done for my brothers, Jack and Bob. Steve needed a deputy campaign manager for civil rights, and everyone said that RON BROWN was the perfect choice—a new young leader in the civil rights movement, and a worthy heir of the Reverend Martin Luther King.

We all loved RON from the start. He served far above and beyond the call of duty in the campaign. He gave his heart to Ted and Steve and all of us in the Kennedy family gave our hearts to RON.

In the years since, I saw him often, most recently during his frequent visits to Ireland. He once told me that he felt a special welcome and sense of humanity in Ireland, even for those who are not of Irish descent. In fact, he enjoyed his time here so much that President Clinton dubbed him an honorary Irishman.

RON BROWN was an original. I never met a person who had greater ability to go into a hornet's nest, come out with the honey, and leave all the bees laughing. No tunnel was too long or too dark for RON to not see the light at the end. His warmth, and wit, and optimism were inspiring and infectious.

He was a charismatic leader, who was good at every job he ever took on—as a leader in the civil rights movement, chairperson of the Democratic National Committee, and as the Secretary of Commerce. A son of Harlem, he was a remarkable American success story, and he dedicated his life to helping others achieve their potential and their dreams, as he had one.

He brought that same spirit of optimism to Ireland. As he said during President Clinton's historic visit, he found a "belief in self that wasn't here before."

"We are on a path," he said, "and we won't be denied."

RON was deeply committed to public service, and he instilled that commitment in all who worked for him; in Chuck Meissner, his tireless assistant secretary of commerce, who felt very strongly the pulse for peace in Northern Ireland, and in all those from the Department of Commerce who are here today. The mission RON BROWN led to South Africa and China, to the Middle East and Northern Ireland, and, finally, to Bosnia, were more than trade missions. They were peace and democracy missions too, missions to hope and idealism. He understood that peace, prosperity, and economic justice go hand in hand.

As President Clinton has said, "RON BROWN walked and ran and flew through life. He was a magnificent life force."

In the wake of that force, in the wake of that remarkable life, all of us who knew RON BROWN, Chuck Meissner, and the members of the delega-

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tion, all of us who were fortunate to be touched by their warmth and share their vision must try to carry on their work for peace, for that is their legacy to us.

[From the Irish Times, April 11, 1996]

BRUTON SAYS BROWN WAS A MODEL FOR ALL WHO WANT TO HELP OTHERS

(By Mark Brennock)

Politicians, business people and many others who knew RON BROWN gathered in Dublin's St. Patrick's Cathedral yesterday to honor an African-American whom President Clinton had dubbed "an honorary Irishman."

As one who had not known him the Dean of St. Patrick's the Very Reverend Maurice Stewart, said he had two images of the late U.S. Commerce Secretary in his mind.

The first was of a man who had been praised after his death by Northern Irish politicians of both persuasions.

The second was that when Mr. BROWN was seen on television, "he always seemed to be smiling. He was a happy man, and these days, that is as good an image as any politician could project."

Mr. BROWN was among 33 people killed last week when their plane crashed in Croatia. He had been on a trade and aid mission to Bosnia and Croatia. He was also a key figure in the U.S. Administration's involvement in the Northern Ireland peace process.

The U.S. Ambassador, Ms. Jean Kennedy Smith, told the congregation Mr. BROWN had once said he felt "a special welcome and sense of humanity in Ireland, even for those who are not of Irish descent. In fact, he enjoyed his time here so much that President Clinton dubbed him an honorary Irishman.

"The missions RON BROWN led to South Africa and China, to the Middle East and Northern Ireland and, finally, to Bosnia, were more than trade missions. They were peace and democracy missions too, missions of hope and idealism. He understood that peace, prosperity and justice go hand in hand."

She said everyone who had known Mr. BROWN, Mr. Chuck Meissner and the others who died in the plane crash "must try to carry on their work for peace, for that is their legacy to us."

U.S. Senator Chris Dodd, who had traveled to Ireland with Mr. BROWN in recent years, said on one level he had been in Ireland to promote U.S. business, but "RON BROWN understood that these trips were about far more than promoting business.

"He knew that after the peace treaties were signed and the guns laid to rest, the possibility of a truly lasting peace depended on each person having the same opportunity to realize their dreams of a better tomorrow. He sought to heal the lingering anguish and ethnic violence with the promise of brighter opportunities.

"On the trip to Ireland, I . . . watched an African-American born and raised in Harlem with no ties here come and champion the cause of peace and economic opportunity in Ireland."

The Taoiseach, Mr. Bruton hailed Mr. BROWN as a role model "for those looking for inspiration as to how a life can be led for the good of others". He said Mr. BROWN had brought his experience of a Harlem upbringing and

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his involvement in the civil rights movement to work towards the creation of "a structure of peace" in the world.

"As head of the Irish Government I want to thank him for the enormous interest he took in peace and prosperity on this small island."

Ireland was not a major strategic interest for the U.S., he said. The U.S. could have confined itself to expressing pious words and the occasional reference to Ireland at election time. But the Clinton Administration had gone far beyond that.

The President, who is in the west of Ireland, was represented at the service by her aide-decamp, Col. Bernard Howard. The attendance included the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Mr. Seán D. Dublin Bay Loftus.

The Government was also represented by the Minister for Finance, Mr. Quinn; the Minister for Enterprise and Employment, Mr. Bruton; and the Minister for Tourism and Trade, Mr. Kenny. Ministers of State present included Mr. Pat Rabbitte and Mr. Austin Currie.

There was a large representation from the U.S. Embassy. Among the other diplomatic missions represented were those of Norway, Thailand, Nigeria and Israel.

A large contingent from the Department of Foreign Affairs included the second secretary, Mr. Seán O hUiginn, the Chief of Protocol, Mr. John O. Burke and Mr. Brendan Scannell of the Anglo-Irish division. The Taoiseach's programme manager. Mr. Seán Donlon, and representatives of a number of other departments were also present.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I appreciate the unanimous consent to speak for 20 minutes. Let me associate myself strongly with both sets of remarks by the Senator from Connecticut—first, as to our good friend and great loss with regard to Secretary BROWN, who we will miss greatly. And, second, nothing could be more on our minds today than the horror of last year in Oklahoma City. The moments of silence here and across the country were a fitting reminder of that tragedy, but also a time to feel some real gratitude toward the employees of our Federal Government, who do not always get treated with all the respect and admiration they deserve. They had a very rough year in 1995. I, for one, want to thank them for their services and the sacrifices of their families throughout the country, particularly with regard to those who suffered the loss in Oklahoma City.

I thank the Senator from Connecticut for his remarks.

MONDAY, *April 22, 1996.*

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I want to touch on a couple of matters this morning. The first relates to the opportunity that I had during the recent recess to travel to the former Yugoslavia. I was fortunate enough to travel with two colleagues who, in the past, have indicated a great deal of inter-

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est in Bosnia and other countries of the former Yugoslavia, the distinguished Senator from Nevada, Senator Reid, and the senior Senator from Utah, Senator Hatch.

Our purpose was really threefold: First, to assess the progress of the Dayton accords; second, to examine, as carefully as we could, the role of the United States military and our Foreign Service personnel in the implementation of those accords; and third, to assess the longer term issues of democratization and privatization as they are developing in the former republics of Yugoslavia.

It was with a great deal of sadness that we left on the very day that the Secretary of Commerce lost his life in a plane crash near Dubrovnik. He and I were supposed to have attended a reception the following evening in Zagreb, Croatia.

I was extraordinarily saddened and disturbed by the early reports that we were given regarding his accident. There has been no one more dedicated to the causes of economic development in troubled countries than the Secretary of Commerce. There has been no one who has carried the message of new opportunities for U.S. business all over the world more diligently than Secretary BROWN.

Last week, I addressed my thoughts with regard to the many extraordinary accomplishments of Secretary BROWN. I will not do so again this morning except to say that his loss will be mourned and his effort will, again, be realized for what it was: a major achievement in peace, a major achievement in creating new-found opportunities for U.S. businesses abroad, and a major opportunity for countries to continue to find new ways to work and to conduct business with the United States.

His peace effort, on behalf of this country and the people of the former Yugoslavia, was deeply appreciated. And I must say, every place we went, it was the first issue to be raised with me by governmental leaders and others who mourned his loss and recognized his contribution. They expressed the hope that his effort would continue, that through other people and in other ways, the extraordinary accomplishments of the Secretary of Commerce would be continued.

So, while our trip began on a very sad and somber note, our entire delegation chose to continue with it, in part, to show the people of Bosnia and the entire region that the United States remains committed to the peace and development effort for which RON BROWN gave his life.

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Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise to note the passing of our Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN, in a plane crash outside Dubrovnik, Bosnia. This tragic accident took with it a vast amount of talent and expertise in the persons of numerous American business people, and specifically in the person of Secretary BROWN. A dedicated member of his party and this administration, Secretary BROWN fought hard for the ideals and programs in which he believed. His commitment to the Commerce Department he led was shown by his willingness to brave the dangers of Bosnia, business leaders in tow, in pursuit of opportunities to help rebuild that war-torn country.

Secretary BROWN also was a committed family man, and I know that his death is a great loss to his wife, his family, his friends, and his neighbors. I extend my condolences to his family in particular and hope that they can find solace in the knowledge of God's grace and in memories of the life they had with RON BROWN.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, it is always painful when death comes too soon. It is even more so when the circumstances are so overwhelmingly dramatic and tragic as the airplane crash in Bosnia that took the life of our Nation's Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN, and 34 others.

RON BROWN was a dear and personal friend. His loss was compounded by my personal friendship with four other people who died that day. The shock of it still resonates.

His family, and the families of the others who died with him in the service of their country feel the pain most directly. There is no substitute for the love and the loss of a husband, a father, and relative. I want to offer them my sincere condolences and prayers at this sad time.

His colleagues in the Government and in the private sector will miss him and his leadership. RON BROWN not only energized the Democratic Party, but the Department of Commerce as well. The result of his efforts ranged from the creation of jobs for hundreds of thousands of American workers, to a special job for a singular American, Bill Clinton, now President of the United States.

RON BROWN's legacy of achievement is a beacon of hope to all Americans, precisely because he exemplified the possibilities when the higher angels of the American character prevail. He overcame potential limitations, and turned liabilities into assets by dint of commitment, effort, and talent. His was the essential American success story. But his was also a success story for all humanity. RON BROWN was not a self-

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ish person. His life was dedicated to reaching out to others in pursuit of the common good. That legacy is no more poignantly demonstrated than in the young people to whom he gave opportunity and guidance and a chance. RON BROWN did not pull the ladder of success up behind him.

I count myself among the fortunate proteges of RON BROWN. He helped make my history-making election to the U.S. Senate possible. I was only one of many of his students. Several others died with him that day.

RON BROWN's passing has been publicly mourned by millions, and created an opportunity for a public expression of gratitude for his public service. I hope the families of those who perished with him will take some measure of that expression as gratitude in mourning for the lost ones: RON BROWN, Kathryn Hoffman; Duane Christian; Carol Hamilton; Bill Morton; Chuck Meissner; Gail Dobert; Lawrence Payne; Adam Darling; Steve Kaminski; Naomi Warbasse; Kathy Kellogg; Jim Lewek; Lee Jackson; Dragica Lendic Bebek; Niksa Antonini; Nathaniel Nash; Barry Conrad; Paul Cushman III; Robert Donovan; Claudio Elia; Leonard Pieroni; John Scoville; Donald Terner; P. Stuart Tholan; David Ford; Frank Maier; Walter Murphy; Robert Whittaker; Ashley Davis; Tim Schafer; Gerald Aldrich; Robert Farrington, Jr.; Cheryl Turnage; Shelly Kelly.

We will, as a community, have to close ranks to go forward without them, but with God's grace the mark they made in service to us all will carry on.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, the tragic plane crash in Croatia on April 3 that took the life of Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN also took the lives of 34 other men and women of great talent, promise, and dedication, including 11 other employees of the Department of Commerce.

Since that tragedy, many eloquent words have been spoken and written about all of the victims. In two of the most eloquent articles I have seen. Michael Wilbon wrote extremely movingly in the Washington Post on April 5 about his friend Kathryn Hoffman, and Cindy Loose wrote equally movingly in the Post yesterday about the life of Gail Dobert. Sadly, these two lives of great promise have been suddenly and tragically cut short. I know that many others will be interested to learn more about the lives of these two dedicated employees, and I ask unanimous consent that the articles be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

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[From the Washington Post, April 5, 1996]

THE DEATH OF MY FRIEND IS OUR LOSS

(By Michael Wilbon)

One of my dearest friends, Kathryn Hoffman, was on that plane. I have no idea of her official Commerce Department title, but I do know she was RON BROWN's right hand, his scheduler. When he went to Africa, she went with him. When he went to Asia, she went with him. I have her postcards from South America and Eastern Europe and other corners of the world in a kitchen drawer.

Kathryn was the girl you dreamed about meeting as a little boy: stunningly pretty, smart, quick with a comeback, and a sports enthusiast. Okay, she wasn't perfect; she was a Knicks fan. But Boys Night Out often was amended to Boys & Kathryn. Never Kathy. Kathryn. I called her from the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul and made her give me play-by-play on the fourth quarter of a Bears game, and she was seamless. Another time we drove from Chicago to Capital Centre in 10 hours, just in time to see Tyson knock out Spinks in the first round on closed circuit. She used to say I had the greatest, most glamorous job—traveling the world in search of games, but last week there was this late-night phone call. I was going to the Final Four; she was going to France, then Bosnia. I told her I couldn't believe a basketball fan such as RON BROWN was leaving during the Final Four, and she laughed.

She had taken her dogs, Max and Bo, to Fredericksburg to the breeder where they stay when she's traveling. She had a house now and a four-wheel drive vehicle and a garden, for crying out loud, and I couldn't help but ask if finally, having seen the entire world and then some, if she still thought this life of hopping planes was so glamorous. And she said, no, not anymore, but there are people who love their work and are addicted to excitement in a way no desk job can satisfy. It's the truth. We made the promise we always made about getting more balance in our lives, about traveling less. We planned dinner for Saturday—tomorrow night.

Most of us who live our lives this way don't think about dying on a plane, not when you're single and 35 has yet to come and the career—in Kathryn's case, public service—keeps you on a high. You get on the plane and read, work, go to sleep. It becomes, perversely enough, the place you can relax. I never, not for one split second, thought a U.S. military jet would fail to bring her back alive.

Four of my closest friends have worked for RON BROWN at Commerce, which made the moments immediately following the news of the crash, well, numbing. Through them, I got to know. "The Secretary" (as they'd call him) a little bit and to admire him a lot. His death, and the recent deaths of Arthur Ashe and entrepreneur Reginald Lewis, depress me to the point of despair, not just because inspired and productive men were snatched from earth in the primes of their lives, but because they were the hedge against hopelessness. They were the healers, the men who could negotiate any situation—men who looked at bigots and fools and laughed inside while brushing them aside. It's sick, debating whether Michael Irvin or Mike Tyson is a role model when RON BROWN was on TV every night, dressed up, looking good, sounding even better, jetting hither and yon, networking with world leaders and businessmen to do work that mattered, helping save the Democratic Party from itself, being a patriot. No, you couldn't find him on

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"SportsCenter," and he didn't have stats or a trading card, but he was a role model. He defined it.

I wonder, in the wake of his death, how many Division I scholarship football and basketball players (outside of Washington) can tell you what RON BROWN did for a living, why he needed to go to Dubrovnik and why his death has caused so much anguish among people who never met him. No Ashe, no Lewis, no BROWN. Sports, business and government. Are there people in the ranks like them? Can we be certain the intellect and relentless work they provided will be replenished in the near future? Perhaps the worst thing about the crash is that it deprived us not only of the general, but of his lieutenants such as Carol Hamilton and Bill Morton and Kathryn Hoffman, people who had made public service their lives, their passion. We have to hope there's no shortage of worthy candidates to take up their missions.

This was to be a festive weekend, and not just because of Easter. For the first time since last August, just about all the members of the crew are going to be off the road, off the planes and out of the hotels. Many of us made plans here in Washington. Age 35, which Kathryn would have been in August, is about the time you start to realize life isn't everlasting, when you become more serious and consistent about those silent prayers for your friends in flight, when it first hits you that just because you planned dinner doesn't mean everybody's going to be there.

I joined a couple of my friends from Commerce late last night because sleep wasn't coming, and misery needs company most when nobody's got any answers. I tried to think of all the safe, productive trips abroad that Kathryn made with The Secretary, all the trade and business their missions helped generate, all the goodwill their junkets created for the country. But the head is never any match for the heart, and that didn't change last night. What I wanted was another postcard in the mailbox, one from Singapore or Venezuela that let me know she was safe, one signed, like so many others, "Be home soon, Love, Kathryn."

[From the Washington Post, April 15, 1996]

AFTER FUNERAL, A CELEBRATION OF A RICH LIFE—BIRTHDAY PARTY BECOMES TRIBUTE TO CROATIA VICTIM

(By Cindy Loose)

Gail Dobert was always up to something. She was the one to organize the beach house rental at Rehoboth Beach, DE, every summer, inviting so many people that you never got your own room—and felt lucky if you got a bed.

She could get tickets to anything and persuade her friends to go anywhere, even a business dinner. "I have to go talk to a Bonsai tree woman," she once told her friend Krista Pages. "Come on, you'll have a great time." Believe it or not, it turned out to be fun, Pages said.

If she could have been at her 35th birthday party, which she organized before leaving for Bosnia with Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN, she would have loved it.

The barbecue and keg party took place Saturday, just as she had planned, a few hours after her burial in a Maryland cemetery. Dobert, the acting director of the Commerce Department's Office of Business Liaison, was among the 35 people who died when BROWN's airplane crashed into a Croatian hill-

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side. Like her, several of the victims were young and most were in the middle ranks of government service.

Her friends and family memorialized her in all the traditional ways. On Friday, the anniversary of her birth, a funeral was held in her home town on Long Island. On Saturday morning, hundreds gathered at St. Peter's Church on Capitol Hill to eulogize her, then followed the hearse for a graveside service.

It might seem strange to follow that with a party, conceded her friend Chris Wilson. But if you knew Gail Dobert, he said, it would not seem that extraordinary. She was, he explained, a festive, life-loving person who would have wanted her family and friends—well in excess of 100, it turned out—to hold the party she had planned for them.

Besides, they couldn't just all go home alone. What else, then, could they do? "This party has got to be the beginning of getting better—her death has been so hard, it just has to be," Wilson said.

Despite working grueling hours at the Commerce Department, Dobert was always the life of the party. If anyone could persuade a shy person to sing along at a karaoke bar, belting out, "These boots were made for walking," it would be Dobert.

"There is so much to celebrate about Gail's life and so many fun things to remember," Pages said. "For her to live on, you have to talk about the good times."

So there they were, eating and drinking and sharing pictures in the Alexandria home and back yard of Chip Gardiner, a congressional aide.

"This is such a tribute these young people are paying our Gail," said Dobert's mother, Maureen. "When people think of Washington, they think of a huge bureaucracy. I wish they knew how many idealistic, hard-working young people there are. The politics in the halls of Congress may be the engine, but the train is run by them."

"She made us very proud," said Dobert's father, Ken. "We always said that if parents got paid, we'd have to take half pay because she and her brother made our job so easy." Dobert's brother, Ray, turned 33 the day of his sister's burial. There was a cake for him at her birthday party, just as she had intended.

Small groups at various times surrounded photo albums, laughing. "There's the famous raincoat," someone said, pointing at a photo snapped at a wedding reception as the band played "It's Raining Men." No one was dancing until Dobert decided to enliven things by hopping on the dance floor with a tambourine and the bright pink and iridescent yellow coat.

Eileen Parise had a picture from the time she got Dobert and two other friends tickets to the Baltimore reception Vice President Gore gave in honor of Pope John Paul II. As happened not infrequently, Dobert's battered car broke down, this time on Route 50 near the Baltimore airport.

"The other people in the car were praying and saying Hail Marys," Parise said. "Gail starts schmoozing the state trooper that came by. He not only had the car towed but then drove everyone to the reception."

From inside, someone shouted, "Here's Gail," and about a dozen people, expecting to see a vacation videotape from Rehoboth, ran inside. Instead, it turned out to be the evening news, with a snippet of Dobert's memorial service that day. The clip went by quickly, segueing into another memorial for another crash victim. There was pained silence. Then someone moved to turn off the television, and another guest arrived.

"We brought a semi-good bottle of wine," the new guest told Gardiner.

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"You can drop the semi—it's full isn't it?" Wilson asked. "Hey, it even has a cork."

The celebration and jocularity were real, but so were the moments of pain expressed on every face at some point. Maureen Dobert sang along when a birthday cake was brought out for her son and another guest with an April 13 birthday. But she confided that she was using her public face. The private one, she said, gives into grief sometimes.

"You know, one day they go to kindergarten, and you have to let them go," she said. "Then they want to ride their bike around the corner, and you tell them to be careful and let them go. Before you know it, they're adults and you say, okay, I'm going to let them go.

"But this is the hardest letting go you ever have to do. I wanted her longer, but it's not going to work. It's the hardest letting go, but somehow you have to do it."

TUESDAY, *April 23, 1996.*

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I wanted to take a few moments today to commemorate the life of Robert Donovan, president of ABB Incorporated, who so tragically perished with Commerce Secretary RON BROWN in Croatia.

Over the past few weeks, the Nation has come together in an outpouring of support and remembrance for the life of Commerce Secretary RON BROWN.

And deservedly so. RON BROWN was a great American who faithfully, and with quiet dignity, served his country and his party.

But, we must not forget those in our own community who were taken away from us on that wind-swept mountain in Croatia.

Robert Donovan, as well as all the others who were killed, deserve our special praise and commemoration because they died while on a humanitarian mission of mercy.

Robert Donovan didn't have to travel to the Balkans. He certainly could have stayed in Connecticut. But, Robert Donovan believed, as did everyone else on that plane, that in the global economy of the 21st century, Americans have a need and a responsibility to reach beyond their borders.

And, what's more, he believed the business community had a solemn obligation to do all it could to help those nations that are in the midst of the difficult process of rebuilding and reconciliation.

Some may cynically suggest that Robert Donovan and the other business leaders who traveled to Croatia were interested only in a financial bottom line. But one doesn't journey to Bosnia to make money.

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Robert Donovan went to the Balkans because he believed that the dynamism of American business could help bring lasting peace to regions that for years knew only violence and hatred.

And he believed that his efforts could make a real difference in healing the lingering anguish of ethnic violence.

This spirit of altruism was evident in everything that Robert Donovan did.

At a time when pundits and politicians alike have made corporate CEO's Public Enemy No. 1, Robert Donovan proved the stereotype wrong. He was a man who remained strongly committed and loyal to his workers and his company.

He was as comfortable dealing with ABB employees, either in the workplace or running in the neighborhoods around this plant as he was dealing with international wheelers and dealers.

And his generosity spread beyond the workplace. He took an active, personal interest in helping out at the 1995 Special Olympics World Games in New Haven.

But, Robert Donovan was a man who didn't hesitate from taking on difficult tasks and that was never more obvious than on his last mission to the Balkans.

And, while I know this is a difficult time for Robert Donovan's friends, family and colleagues, it is important to remember that last mission and all the tireless work that he did on behalf of ABB, his family, and his country. It's that enduring legacy that we must all remember in this time of tragedy.

My thoughts and prayers remain with his wife Margaret, and his children Kevin and Kara.

CLAUDIO ELIA

Mr. President, I also wanted to take a few moments to remember another Connecticut resident who tragically perished with Commerce Secretary BROWN in Croatia—Claudio Elia, of Greenwich, CT, who was chairman and CEO of Air & Water Technologies Corp.

Like RON BROWN and all the others who died in Croatia, Claudio Elia was on a solemn mission of mercy and he deserves particular recognition from this body.

Claudio Elia came to this country from Italy and took advantage of the vast economic opportunities available to all Americans. He started his business career in 1968 at the Boston Consulting Group and from there he quickly worked his way up the corporate ladder.

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In fact, Elia's value at Air & Water Technologies was so significant that it took three top executives to replace him.

But, as Claudio Elia reveled in the economic opportunities that he received in his country, he traveled to Bosnia so that others would realize the same opportunities.

Claudio Elia didn't have to travel to the Balkans. There are excellent business opportunities elsewhere. But, Claudio Elia recognized that in the global economy of the 21st century, Americans must often look beyond its borders for new possibilities.

One of Claudio Elia's former classmates said at his funeral that: "His presence on that flight was vintage Claudio. He was constantly pushing the envelope, looking for new opportunities and business relationships."

And those words were most true on the final mission of his life to the former Yugoslavia. He believed that American businessmen have an obligation to play a role in helping nations that are on the difficult journey toward peace.

There are those who have cynically insinuated that Claudio Elia and the other business leaders who traveled to Croatia were interested more in their financial bottom line then the well-being of the Bosnian people. Well, as I said before, one doesn't journey to Bosnia to make money.

I believe that Claudio Elia and everyone else on that flight ventured to the Balkans because they shared the vision of RON BROWN.

They believed that through the machinations of the free market they could make a real difference in the lives of the Bosnian, Serb, and Croatian people. They understood that even though peace had been achieved, the chance for a real and lasting peace would depend on all peoples having the same opportunity for a brighter future.

Claudio Elia took with him to the Balkers the unquenchable spirit of American optimism and idealism that has infused our Nation for 220 years.

That spirit was as evident when he was in the boardroom or on an overseas mission, as it was when he was sailing his yacht in the Long Island Sound or dealing with his employees in the same manner he dealt with everyone else.

Claudio Elia was a man who didn't hesitate from taking on difficult tasks and that was never more obvious than on his last mission to the Balkans.

And, while I know this is a difficult time for Claudio Elia's friends, family and colleagues, it is important to remember

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that last mission and all the tireless work that he did on behalf of his family, and his country.

My thoughts and prayers remain with his wife Susan and his children Christine and Marc.

THURSDAY, *April 25, 1996.*

PRINTING OF SENATE DOCUMENT

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the statement submitted with reference to the death of Secretary BROWN and other officials at the Commerce Department and from the business community be compiled and printed as a Senate document.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WEDNESDAY, *May 8, 1996.*

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I wish to reflect briefly on the loss of life and tremendous talent our Nation suffered when, only days before Easter Sunday, 33 Americans—leaders in business and Government—perished in a storm off the coast of Croatia.

Each of these individuals was strongly committed to the idea that economic renewal is critical to achieving peace in that desperately war-torn land. Compassion for others in need drew all of them on their mission to the Balkans in an effort to help heal that desperate corner of the globe.

I particularly want to remember U.S. Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN. Charismatic and energetic, he inevitably devoted himself to the task at hand with all his heart and mind. His enthusiasm for public service was only equaled by an amazing ability to attain his goals. He lived the American success story by proving that everyone, through hard work and determination can achieve their heart's desire.

RON BROWN's immense personal popularity made his untimely death all the more sorrowful.

Born in Washington, DC, but raised in New York's Harlem, Secretary BROWN attended Middlebury College in Vermont where he was the only black student in his class. After

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graduation he joined the U.S. Army and, serving as an officer, proudly represented his country abroad.

Following his military career he worked as a welfare caseworker in New York City while attending law school at night. An individual of enormous charm and wit, RON BROWN became the first African-American leader of a major political party in the United States. Regarding this historical achievement he stated, "I did not run on the basis of race, but I will not run away from it. I am proud of who I am."

President Clinton named RON BROWN to serve as U.S. Secretary of Commerce, the first African-American to occupy that post. He performed its duties with wisdom, dedication, and conscientious attention to detail. Secretary BROWN more than anyone else in Government, gave business a seat at the diplomatic table. Because of his friendship with and access to the President, the State Department was on constant notice that if our economic efforts overseas were not represented, RON BROWN stood ready to serve as their advocate.

Representing the United States around the world, he was America's premier salesman for what we have to offer—equality, opportunity, and abundance.

This April, bravely undertaking a mission into what had recently been a war zone and still was a potentially hostile region, RON BROWN proved to the world what those who knew him always took for granted: that he cared less for his personal safety than for the good of the people who live there.

In his own wonderful way, RON BROWN served as a peacekeeper. Working to establish international trade and business in the region, he offered its people the opportunity to rebuild a civil society.

Yes, the United States lost 33 lives, 33 talented individuals, each with an unlimited potential to achieve.

But we as a nation have also gained 33 luminous examples of ultimate dedication and compassion. These bright stars of self-sacrifice form an American constellation which can, if we let it, guide us forward with generosity and courage toward a better tomorrow for ourselves and all of our neighbors.

THURSDAY, *May 23, 1996.*

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, the tragic plane crash in Croatia last month that took the life of Secretary of Com-

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merce RON BROWN also took the lives of other outstanding officials in the Department of Commerce, including Charles F. Meissner, who was Assistant Secretary for International Economic Policy and who was also the husband of Doris Meissner, the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. During the 1970's, he had served with great distinction for several years on the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Our hearts go out to the Meissner family in this time of their great loss. In the days following that tragedy, a number of eloquent tributes to Charles Meissner described his extraordinary career, his dedication to public service, and his contributions to our country and to people throughout the world. I believe these tributes will be of interest to all of us in Congress and to many others, and I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the tributes were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MEISSNER

(By Stuart E. Eizenstat)

Doris, Christine, Andrew, family and friends of Chuck Meissner. I feel doubly blessed by my association with the Meissner family. In the Carter administration it was my good fortune to work closely with Doris on immigration issues—to see directly her intelligence, her calm amidst the pressures of policymaking, her quiet dignity, her dedication to public service. It was then that I first came in contact with Chuck.

But it was during the past 2½ years, with me in Brussels and Chuck in Washington, that we formed an intense professional and personal bond which profoundly influenced me. We worked together on every important trade and commercial issue involving the European Union and its member states.

During Chuck's frequent travels to Brussels, he stayed with Fran and me, and had many meals with us. Chuck and I attended innumerable meetings together. When my appointment to my current position at Commerce became known, I spent a great deal of time talking and meeting with Chuck, seeking his advice and counsel and telling him of my plans to beef-up the International Economic Policy unit he so ably led. Our last conversation came only a few days before his trip to Bosnia and Croatia.

During Chuck's all-too-brief tenure as Assistant Secretary, there was hardly a continent that did not benefit from Chuck's sterling efforts. Chuck used his extensive financial experience at Chemical Bank and the World Bank to encourage private sector investment in the border regions in Mexico, as chair of the U.S.-Mexico Border Economic Development task force. He helped to expand economic contacts between the West and Central Europe and the states of the former Soviet Union by his work to invigorate the Economic Forum of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and by the drive and leadership he gave to the West-East Economic Conferences.

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Chuck was inspiring in his work with large and small American companies. He had a flair for dealing with CEOs. They empathized with him and understood his global vision. Nowhere was this better exemplified than in the Transatlantic Business Dialogue. Secretary BROWN initiated the idea that U.S. and European business should take the lead in helping government design future transatlantic commercial policy. But it was Chuck that made this idea work. The success of the historic conference in Seville, Spain, last November that brought a 100 leading American and European CEOs together was due in large part to Chuck.

Following on his deep conviction that trade was the best force for peace, Chuck used his boundless energy to bring American companies together with companies in emerging democracies and in reforming countries. He was the leading force behind President Clinton's White House Conference on trade and investment in Eastern Europe, held in Cleveland last year. That conference exposed America's top companies to the genuine opportunities to build commercial bridges to Central Europe.

He poured his heart into using commercial policy to support the peace process in Northern Ireland. He was particularly proud, and justly so, of bringing scores of companies there to support our efforts and those of the British government to bring peace to that troubled land. When peace finally comes to Northern Ireland, as it surely will, Chuck Meissner will have played a major role in being a midwife. He was just beginning to do the same in Haiti.

It was on another such venture to undergird a fragile peace, that took Chuck and RON BROWN to Croatia and Bosnia. He died doing what he loved, using the resources of the American private sector to strengthen the forces of peace and democracy abroad. The terrible conflict in Bosnia has now claimed several friends, earlier Bob Frasure, and now Chuck, RON and our other colleagues at the Commerce Department.

Chuck maintained a punishing travel schedule, as he was driven to extend our commercial diplomacy round the world. He joked to me that he only saw Doris, with her own demanding schedule, as their planes crisscrossed in the sky! And Doris, his love for you and the children was evident in the fond ways in which he talked about you.

But all of this was a continuation of a life devoted to public service, with a particular emphasis on expanding America's economic relationships abroad, relationships which are the very essence of our efforts to expand democracy and prosperity around the globe. He served in senior positions in the Treasury Department, on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where he was staff director of the Subcommittee on Foreign Relations, and in the State Department where he was Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Finance and Development and Ambassador and U.S. Special Negotiator for Economic Matters. Chuck's service to the United States was not limited to civilian positions. He was a Vietnam veteran, decorated on several occasions for his bravery in combat as a Captain in the United States Army.

But with all of these accomplishments, I will most remember Chuck with genuine love and affection for something more personal. Few people have touched me the way Chuck did. He had a wonderful joy of life and sense of humor. He made me laugh—not always easy to do! When I told Doris at her home Friday about this, she said, "You know, one of the reasons I married Chuck was that he made me laugh too!"

When Chuck came into a room his radiance lit it up. That beautiful smile and almost cherubic face—like a grown-up version of one of Raphael's en-

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dearing child angels—never failed to touch me deeply and to the core. I was drawn to Chuck, as I know all of you were, by not only his obvious competence but by his basic decency, his goodness, his wonderful humanity. Chuck believed in causes but he never forgot the people who were to benefit from them.

Just as we all feel blessed by Chuck's friendship, and by his caring, all of us also feel, in our own way, cheated by his tragic death—for myself, deprived of an opportunity to work even closer together on the causes he so believed in, deprived of more time to nurture our friendship, deprived of the chance to simply feel so good in his presence.

But all of this pales in comparison to the loss for Doris and the children of a husband, a father, a companion. There is an old saying, that "men and women plan, but God laughs at our plans and has his own for us." None of us can possibly explain this tragedy. All one can say is that God on High must have been particularly lonely and needed Chuck's companionship and laughter; as those who knew him on this imperfect earth so reveled in it.

Chuck, we loved you as you loved us. Our memories are sweet as the fragrances of Spring will surely come. They did not die with you. All of your friends will always be the better for you having come into our lives with your wonderful countenance.

Doris, we hope that our prayers and the heartfelt feelings of your colleagues in the Justice Department, the Commerce Department and throughout the Administration will strengthen you in these dark and difficult days, and will sustain you as you continue to service the country so well for which Chuck gave his life.

## Reflections on Charles Meissner

(By Michael Ely)

Today it is my honor briefly to talk to you about Charles Meissner and the central theme of his working life, service to his government and, more broadly, service to his nation and to the world. Chuck might have been embarrassed by this discussion. His sense of personal responsibility and commitment was so deep and integrated into his life that it became part of his personality. It went right down to his toenails. He felt that devotion to the public good was normal and natural behavior, even if not widely shared in a world full of people in futile pursuit of private gain and satisfaction outside of and divorced from the public good.

Indeed, his concept of the good was universal, comparable to what we might think of as the inner vision of a saint, but tempered by years of experience in addressing complex issues of public policy where the path to the good is unmarked and has to be discovered or even created. Here was an area that must have drawn Doris and Chuck together: their willingness, even eagerness, to grapple with policy issues with difficult tradeoffs, no easy solutions and multiple painful outcomes. Chuck sought to reconcile commercial affairs with broader national interests; Doris deals with the terrible tensions between social decency and justice and conflicting economic and social problems.

Our paths first came together in the State Department almost two decades ago. From a senior staff position with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee he had been parachuted in, as it were, as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Economic Affairs, then a powerful and aggressive organization with entirely State personnel. Chuck used to joke, with some

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reason, that I was brought in as his principal deputy to keep an eye on him. We ended up mentoring each other, he with his broad Treasury and Senate background, I a decade older with depth in overseas diplomatic service and State bureaucratic background. Our relations, warmed by Chuck's openness, honesty and obvious ability, deepened into mutual trust and ripened into friendship.

It was in retrospect an exciting and creative period. In the wake of the first oil shock and the world economic slowdown many countries in Latin America, Africa and eastern Europe could not repay to the U.S. hundreds of millions in official debts contracted in better times. It was Chuck's labor of Hercules to sort out the economic implications and the sticky foreign and domestic politics to come up with a set of U.S. Government responses. A thankless business—he specialized, like Doris, in thankless tasks—with infinite opportunity for offending the Congress, the Treasury, the debtor countries and the other creditors.

It was in this thicket of problems that he encountered Michel Camdessus, then a very senior officer of the French Treasury, and like him an official of extraordinary breadth and ability. Their initial adversarial relations were transformed by mutual appreciation into a partnership that defined the rules for handling sovereign debt, and lived on through the years that followed.

The dozen years Chuck spent sorting out the debt problems of the Chemical Bank and experiencing the institutional culture of the World Bank were stepping stones to his policy position in Commerce; all of us confidently expected his star to mount in the coming years, the years that have been taken from him.

As a negotiator he was matchless. He won, of all things, by being straight! To begin with, Chuck was deeply uninterested in the social luxuries of diplomatic life (I finally got him to recognize the difference between red and white wines) and skipped the cocktail parties unless he had a diplomatic chore to do there. For another, he neither bluffed nor threatened, nor did he respond to such tactics; while he could sense the hidden agenda of his adversary, he had none of his own; and his attention never wavered nor temper flared. His physical vitality and a Churchillian ability to snatch catnaps equipped him to outlast the most tenacious adversary. And his patience had no end.

This perhaps gives one insight into the secret of Chuck's consistent success as a public servant: a unmatched combination of selflessness, honesty, self control, and hunger for the public good that set him apart and armored him against any accusations of personal advantage. All this was matched by easy good humor, modesty, natural courtesy and a radiant smile that made this man, in some respects really most formidable, one of the least threatening I have ever known. The biggest occupational hazard of diplomacy is vanity and it increases with rank. Chuck's ambassadorial title, conferred to increase his negotiating prestige, never impressed him; he laughingly liked to suggest he be called Ambassador Chuck.

Yet he was a true intellectual—he would not have liked the term—with an original, searching mind that looked so broadly and deeply as to go quite beyond the reach of most of us. Because of this he was, I think, sometimes quite alone—very few could stay with him at the vertiginous level of conceptualization that he felt was—is—urgently needed to think out tough problems. It was to help in this endeavor that he asked me to join him as an adviser.

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In particular, Chuck was convinced that the age calls for new and creative ways to use the dynamism and power of the American private sector as an instrument for peace, stability and democracy. In his 2 years at Commerce he wrestled with the challenge of integrating foreign commercial policy with its materially-driven bottom-line goals with broader foreign policy to find how they could be used to energize and reinforce each other. The breakthroughs for reconciliation in Ireland, which Chuck created almost single handedly, were propelled by his vision of economic growth and development based on cooperative measures to induce private investment by American enterprises.

Underlying all of his endeavors—his efforts in Ireland, his attempts to strengthen the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, his approach to the problems of the big emerging markets—was a great long-term vision. He believed that the essential task of the post-Cold War era was to structure incentives and institutions for bringing all the Russias, Chinas and Bosnias—all the reforming and emerging countries—into the world economic order. Chuck dreamed of a world of peace, stability and democracy built upon irreversible global interdependence: all nations would have more to gain by cooperating, by participating in an open world system based on the rule of law, than by resort to traditional unilateral attempts to seek advantage. He saw the vast American commercial structure as a central instrument in this great scheme.

He was working on how to articulate this broad concept into a series of strategies when he was taken from us.

A week ago Stuart Eizenstat led a gathering of Commerce employees in reflection on the loss of Chuck and his colleagues. In that moving ceremony one of the respondents from the audience declared that the finest memorial for the perished would be to continue to work toward the goals they believed in. So be it with Charles Meissner, visionary, public servant, man of honor—and husband, father and friend. His memory will strengthen and sustain us as we continue his gallant search.

THE HONORABLE CHARLES F. MEISSNER

Charles Meissner was sworn in as the Assistant Secretary for International Economic Policy at the Department of Commerce on April 4, 1994 following confirmation by the United States Senate. As Assistant Secretary, Mr. Meissner was responsible for international commercial policy development, including country and regional market access strategies, multilateral and bilateral trade issues, and policy support of Secretary of Commerce RONALD BROWN on international issues.

Since 1992, Mr. Meissner had served at the World Bank as manager of the Office of Official Co-financing and Trust Fund Management. Mr. Meissner was responsible for maintaining the Bank's financial relationships with official co-financiers who co-finance approximately $10 billion in projects annually with the World Bank.

Previously, Mr. Meissner served as vice president at Chemical Bank where he coordinated sovereign debt restructuring policy within the bank and represented Chemical in negotiations with debtor countries.

In 1980, Mr. Meissner was appointed Ambassador and U.S. Special Negotiator for Economic Matters. Mr. Meissner has also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Finance and Development in the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

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In 1973, he accepted a professional staff appointment to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the U.S. Senate where he served as an economist. In his final year with the committee, he also served as staff director to the Subcommittee on Foreign Assistance. He began his career in 1971 at the U.S. Department of Treasury in the Office of International Affairs where he worked as the Japan desk officer and as special assistant to the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs.

A native of Wisconsin, Mr. Meissner is a three-time graduate of the University of Wisconsin, including a BS in 1964, an MS in Economics in 1967, and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics with a minor in Latin American Studies in 1969. He served in the Vietnam War as a Captain in the United States Army during 1969 and 1970 and received for his service the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Bronze Star.

Doris and Chuck met during their freshman year at the University of Wisconsin and were married in 1963. They have two children, Christine, 31, and Andrew, 27.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I rise with my colleague from Massachusetts to mourn the loss of Charles F. Meissner, the Assistant Secretary for International Economic Policy at the Commerce Department. He was a man who devoted his life to furthering America's economic strength; our Nation is the better for his service.

His close friends—leaders from the public and private sector—have eulogized Chuck Meissner more ably than I could ever hope to do. I want to share their moving statements with my colleagues and with others of our Nation, so all Americans may know and understand how deeply America misses his service and his leadership. I ask unanimous consent that these tributes to the life and accomplishments of Chuck Meissner be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the tributes were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MEISSNER

(By Michel Camdessus)

Having had the privilege for 18 years to be one of the innumerable colleagues and friends of Chuck Meissner in the international community, let me try to tell you what sort of man he was for all of us.

Let me tell you first how we became friends, something, I must say, which changed my life.

When I first met Chuck in 1978, he was the highly respected and seasoned head of the U.S. delegation to the Paris Club—this group of industrialized countries dealing with the payment difficulties of the debtor countries—and I its newly appointed and totally unprepared Chairman. It was there, as Chuck tactfully guided me through the intricacies of developing country debt, that I first came to know the fine qualities that we all admired so much in him.

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I must say, from the first he impressed me very much. He was one of those people whose mere presence transformed a group's life, focusing its purposes, adding to its creativity, making it congenial and enthusiastic. What was the secret of this? Was it his charm, his persuasiveness, his distinction and natural nobleness, sense of humor, the fun he found in working, his selfishness, his own sense of purpose and dedication? All of these things, and more! The fact that behind the opposite member at the negotiating table he saw a person, and behind the problems, people; men, women, children, whose opinion had to be sought given their responsibility for their own destinies, people whose suffering had to be alleviated, people who had to be given a new chance . . . And more again, but you had to know him well to perceive this and to be prepared to read it in his eyes, his smile, his jokes, or in his silences, the extraordinary way in which love was the unifying factor of his life. He loved his family, he loved his friends, he loved his country, the values of his country and to work for them, knowing pretty well since his experience in Vietnam that this could imply the ultimate sacrifice. Let me mention a few of these values: the sense of responsibility for leading the way toward a better world, confidence that it is always worthwhile to help people stand again on their feet, to work with them to build peace through solidarity. I said solidarity; perhaps the proper word should be brotherhood throughout the world "from sea to shining seas." This was, I think the professional secret of Chuck, the fact that in one way or another, even in the most adverse situations, he was always giving something of himself, putting his mind and heart into achieving a better agreement, in finding a more constructive solution.

I witnessed this many, many times, as the debt crises multiplied the clients of the Paris Club, making Chuck a regular customer on the transatlantic flights between Washington and Paris. Let me tell you that I particularly admired him on the occasion of an UNCTAD meeting in Manila where, leading the American delegation, his role was decisive in transforming an occasion which could have been confrontational and rhetorical into an opportunity for solidly laying down the basic principles (the so-called "features") which since then have governed public debt rescheduling operations. This could seem somewhat esoteric to you, but if I tell you that since then, on the basis of these principles, more than 250 billion dollars of public debt has been generously rescheduled . . . and 65 countries have been given a new chance, you will have some idea of the contribution Chuck made in making the world a better place. No more of this.

In the days since that terrible tragedy on the hillside outside Dubrovnik, Chuck's many friends, colleagues and admirers around the world have recounted the many other instances in which Chuck tried to make a difference—and succeeded. In Belfast, where he had traveled many times to assist in building economic bridges across the political divide, and where, as I read in a message from the West Belfast Economic Forum director: The community activists working towards economic and social regeneration in West Belfast came to know Charles Meissner. It was, however, to Chuck Meissner's own credit as an individual, that we came to also regard him as a friend. Over the past 2 years, Charles Meissner returned to West Belfast on several occasions. Always, he ensured that grassroots activists from the disadvantaged communities were consulted and kept informed. He understood that if there was to be a "Peace Dividend" then any economic intervention from the USA must be targeted specifically at those communities which have suffered most from exclusion and marginalization. Chuck recognized that more than straightforward economic investment is required to bring

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about economic regeneration. He valued the work of the community organizations and the opinions of those with firsthand experience of dealing with the problems in our community. Chuck gave freely of his own time and expertise and encouraged others, both within his department and among the American business community to support locally based economic initiatives.

Chuck's action was similar at the U.S.-Mexican border, where he worked to improve the economic and environmental conditions. And most recently, in Bosnia where Chuck was seeking to secure a fragile peace with the promise of a better future through economic development and trade. Suffice it here for me to quote his last declaration in Bosnia. I quote the wire agencies:

"'We want to build confidence in investing and reestablish the internal confidence' between the Serbs, Croats and Muslims, said Charles Meissner, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for international economic policy.

"Development 'gives a common ground that you re-establish economically, developing the basis for interdependency,' he said."

This was Chuck, my friends, this is Chuck: a great man, a great friend, a great American, a great builder of peace, one of those "God will call his children" (Mat. 5-9), one of those who can tell the Lord with a joyful assurance "your house will be my home." (Ps. 23).

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CHARLES F. MEISSNER

(By Ted Crabb)

I came to know Chuck Meissner in the early '60's when I was working, as I still do, at the Wisconsin Union, the student-led community center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Like his brother David, Chuck came to the Union not only to take part in the social, cultural and recreational activities the Union provided, but to help plan, develop and promote those activities.

It tells you something about Chuck Meissner that in choosing to become active at the Union as a student, he was not deterred by the fact that his older brother had already made his mark there, first as a committee chair and then as president of the Union's student-faculty-alumni governing board. Another person, less comfortable with himself, might have chosen a different activity, or even a different college in the first place. Not Chuck. If the Union was the place to mix with students of diverse backgrounds, to meet informally with professors, to debate the issues of the day, to encounter new and provocative ideas, to get involved, then that's where Chuck wanted to be.

It may have been at the Union that Chuck learned the patience that would enable him to cope with the vagaries and uncertainties of government service. Two years in a row, Chuck was responsible for a lecture to be given by Werner von Braun. Two years in a row, he made posters, distributed notices to university classes, made arrangements for a special dinner for the honored guest, even produced little table tents resplendent with glittering rocket ships. Two years in a row, von Braun canceled his appearance at the last minute.

Certainly, Chuck learned at the Union how to deal with dashed hopes. In his senior year, he was a candidate for president of the Union but lost out to his good friend, Carol Skornicka. It tells you something about Chuck that this defeat was no permanent setback to their lifelong friendship.

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Chuck left the university after he finished his graduate work in Agricultural Economics, but he retained his interest in the university and in the Wisconsin Union. For the last 11 years, he served in an advisory role to the Union, most recently as a member of the board of trustees of the building association. In that role, he was the kind of board member that a president or director both loves and fears.

Chuck didn't just attend meetings. He engaged himself in them totally, asking tough questions, goading everyone to more effort. And when he left the annual meeting after an intense day and a half session, I knew that within a few days, I'd get a letter from him. It wouldn't be one of those innocuous, "Thank you very much, you're doing a great job and enclosed are my expenses" letter. No. It would be two or three single-spaced, tightly packed pages of ideas for the future and suggestions for implementation. "What is the Union doing to prepare for a decline in funding when undergraduate enrollment is cut back? What can you learn and put into practice from the recent Carnegie Foundation report on higher education? What is the Union doing to serve the community in continuing education and to broaden the life experiences of students?"

In one letter in 1990, Chuck focused on the role and image of Union South, a second Union building, located on the Engineering Campus and long seen by some as a sort of afterthought, or as Chuck called it, "the second child who has to share his parents' love and always perform up to the older sibling's standards." Chuck had a dozen different ideas for upgrading its image, including the possible rededication of the building to honor those who have promoted civil and human rights in Wisconsin as a means of promoting greater campus community feeling in the cause of a shared heritage among blacks, whites, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans on campus.

At the 1991 meeting of the trustees, Chuck proposed the establishment of a permanent endowment for the Union trustees, to provide a stable source of funding for the programming efforts of the Union and the upkeep and renovation of the physical structures. He followed up his suggestion with a three-page draft of a funding statement that the board of trustees adopted at its next meeting, with almost no changes, and which it has since implemented.

All directors of organizations should have members like Chuck to prod and nudge.

The Wisconsin Union is a tiny entity in the world that Chuck occupied. It tells you a lot about Chuck Meissner that he gave it the same kind of focused attention he gave to the global issues that made up his work day. Just last fall, he was calling to ask me to send him information about the Wisconsin Union that he could take to a person he'd met on a trade mission, who was trying to build a campus community center at his own college in Ireland.

The goals and the purpose of the Wisconsin Union as a unifying force in a diverse community were not just words to Chuck. He believed in the worth of student volunteer activities. He never wavered from the view that the Union's primary mission was to provide opportunities for volunteering and to help students develop the skills that would make them effective volunteers and contributors to their communities—to become persons who were concerned not just with getting something out of life but with putting something into life. Chuck had great faith in students. He believed there was little they could not accomplish if given the opportunity. His constant question was, "What is the student role in this program or this function?"

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To those of us who worked with Chuck at the Union, it was no surprise that his last effort would be leading a group of volunteer business leaders to Bosnia. Again, he had persuaded others to apply their skills and talents to doing a job that needed to be done. The scope of the job was mammoth: beginning the healing of the unimaginable wounds of a civil war and the rebuilding and revitalizing of an entire society. But Chuck had seen that there was a role to be played by volunteers who were willing to put their unique talents and resources to work to help their larger community. As he had done throughout his life, he was putting into practice the Union ideal that the foundation of democracy is the individual efforts of citizens, working together to solve their common problems.

Many people say that heroism has vanished from America. We in this audience know better. We know that Chuck Meissner was a hero. Not only because he gave his life for his country or because he took great risks in the service of his country or flew dozens of hazardous and uncomfortable flights to remote places, all of which he did, but also because he lived the values to which many people give lip service. He honored his commitments. He gave generously of himself, not for self-aggrandizement or private fortune but for the worth of the undertaking. He did what he did because it was the right thing to do. And in the end he left the world a better place for his having been here.

We think of Chuck and we remember that broad smile, that gentle spirit, the way he could walk into a room of strangers and put everyone at ease, his enjoyment of the rich and varied experiences his jobs offered him, and that sense of irony that helped him maintain his perspective in the heady and unreal world of Washington politics. We think of the love and pride that were so evident whenever Chuck talked about Chris and Andrew. We think of his marriage to Doris: a marriage in which each partner provided the ballast that allowed the other to soar. And when we think of all these things we can only be grateful that we knew Chuck and that he was our friend.

[From the National Journal, April 13, 1996]

HERE WAS A PUBLIC SERVANT

(By Ben Wildavsky)

The way a friend of Charles F. Meissner's tells the story, Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN was once leading an American delegation to Bonn when high-profile diplomat Richard C. Holbrooke joined him in the head car of the U.S. motorcade. Not long after the vehicles got under way, the motorcade stopped. Holbrooke walked back to find Meissner in another car and told him that BROWN had requested that the two of them trade places. "I understand you're the guy who tells him what to say before the meeting," Holbrooke told Meissner.

Meissner, the Assistant Commerce Secretary for international economic policy, was one of the best of that unsung yet indispensable Washington class: the people who tell other people what to say before the meeting. While he was a distinguished international negotiator in his own right, Meissner was fulfilling a key behind-the-scenes role for BROWN when he was killed in the April 3 plane crash that took the lives of the Commerce Secretary and more than 30 other Americans.

Those who knew Meissner say the 55-year-old international economics expert showed by example what it means to live a life of public service. "He

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was a civil servant in the best tradition of the European civil service, where it carries much more prestige," said Jeffrey E. Garten, former Commerce undersecretary for international trade and now dean of the Yale School of Management. "When I was nominated to go to the Commerce Department, he was about the first person I went to, to see if he would come with me."

With the new Clinton Administration eager to give the Commerce Department an active role in combining commercial and foreign policy, Meissner's extensive background in government and in international banking was tailor-made for the department's mission. "Chuck had the ideal profile in that he had worked in the State Department but he had all this private-sector experience," Garten said. "Most importantly, he knew how to deal with the bureaucracy—and in the State Department, he was known for being very, very tough in pursuing his goals. It was kind of a joke that when he headed toward Treasury, they all left their offices because they didn't want to spend the next 3 days arguing with him. He was extremely tenacious."

Charles William Maynes, editor of Foreign Policy magazine, said Meissner deserves a share of the credit for the changed role of the Commerce Department under BROWN. In the Administration's first 3 years, "there was more foreign policy coming out of the Commerce Department than any other division," Maynes said. "You can quarrel with it, but they had a specific strategy and certain countries they targeted. That is Chuck and Garten and BROWN who did that—that's where that came from."

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin, where he earned a doctorate in economics, Meissner received the Bronze Star for his Army service during the Vietnam war. He began his Washington career at the Treasury Department in 1971. Following a 5-year stint as a Senate Foreign Relations Committee economist, he joined the State Department as a Deputy Assistant Secretary and later gained ambassadorial rank as the lead U.S. negotiator on international debt rescheduling. Meissner spent 9 years as a Chemical Bank vice president, then moved to a senior World Bank post in 1992 before joining the Administration in April 1994. His wife, Doris, became commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in 1993.

Meissner was known among colleagues and friends for an engaging sense of humor and for his basic decency. In the days after Meissner's death, a colleague spoke of the strong interest he took in advancing the careers of the people who worked for him. Another recalled the "extraordinary"—and successful—efforts Meissner made to help a Vietnamese woman escape her country just before the fall of Saigon. Many remembered his personal warmth.

"He was splendid in every aspect of his personal and professional life," said Richard M. Moose, undersecretary of State for management, who first met Meissner around 1970 at the U.S. military headquarters in Vietnam. Moose was then a staff member of the Foreign Relations Committee, and Meissner was an Army Intelligence officer. Meissner helped brief the visiting Capitol Hill aides and impressed Moose right away. "He found a way not to go along with the convention of misleading congressional delegations," Moose said. Later, when Meissner went to the Foreign Relations Committee, the two became partners, taking numerous trips together to Vietnam and Cambodia. "It was like a traveling seminar in macroeconomics," Moose said. "He was terribly good at taking his knowledge of economic theory and applying it to very practical kinds of situations."

Maynes said Meissner had a rare understanding of the real-world intersection of politics and economics. "He was an out-standing economist and a devoted public servant," Maynes said. "But the most notable thing about

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him was that he was an excellent negotiator." He observed that Meissner's negotiating skills were "so extraordinary" he was asked to stay at State in the Reagan administration even though he was a Democrat.

Other testimonials to Meissner's qualities abound. W. Bowman Cutter, former Deputy Director of the National Economic Council, said Meissner's high-level experience in government and business made his judgment "something you could really rely on." Meissner "obviously loved his work, and he was good at it," said former Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell (D–ME), who worked side by side with Meissner in the U.S. effort to promote economic development in Northern Ireland and called him "a good friend."

In the end, another friend said, Meissner stood out for his love of substance. "The higher you go in government, the more you come in touch with sharks or political animals who really aren't interested in policy but who want to do favors for people on the Hill, or do what looks good in tomorrow's press stories," said Ellen L. Frost, a former trade official now with the Institute for International Economics in Washington. "And Chuck was never one of those. He cared about sound policy."

WEDNESDAY, *June 12, 1996.*

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, on Friday, May 3, I had the honor of joining with Secretary of State Christopher and the American Foreign Service Association [AFSA] in paying tribute to Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and 32 other Americans who were tragically killed in Croatia while in service to our country. A plaque was also dedicated to three diplomats who died seeking peace in Bosnia less than a year ago. On the occasion we were reminded not just of the individuals who lost their lives in these terrible tragedies, but of the risks and sacrifices that members of our Foreign Service undertake on a daily basis in an effort to support peace, democracy and freedom around the globe.

During the ceremony, held on the 31st annual Foreign Service Day, very moving speeches were delivered by Harold Ickes on behalf of President Clinton, by Secretary of State Christopher, and by F. Allen "Tex" Harris, president of AFSA. I believe their remarks bear repeating to a broader audience and thus ask that they be printed in the Record.

The remarks follow:

REMARKS BY F. ALLEN HARRIS, PRESIDENT OF AFSA

Dear family members, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen and colleagues:

The American Foreign Service Association has the sorrow-filled responsibility of honoring those members of the Foreign Service and our colleagues

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serving abroad who lost their lives under heroic or other inspirational circumstances.

Today, we have the very sad duty of adding six names to the traditional Memorial Plaque:

Samuel Nelson Drew, Robert C. Frasure, Joseph J. Kruzel, RONALD H. BROWN, Lee F. Jackson and Stephen C. Kaminski.

We have the deep sorrow of honoring all those who died with Secretary RONALD H. BROWN:

Gerald V. Aldrich, Niksa Antonini, Dragica Lendic Bedek, Duane R. Christian, Barry L. Conrad, Paul Cushman, III, Adam N. Darling, Ashley J. Davis, Gail E. Dobert, Robert E. Donovan, Claudio Elia, Robert Farrington, Jr., David Ford, Carol L. Hamilton, Kathryn E. Hoffman, Lee F. Jackson, Stephen C. Kaminski, Kathryn E. Kellogg, Shelly A. Kelly, James M. Lewek, Frank Maier, Charles F. Meissner, William E. Morton, Walter J. Murphy, Lawrence M. Payne, Nathaniel C. Nash, Leonard J. Pieroni, Timothy W. Shafer, John A. Scoville, Jr., I. Donald Terner, P. Stuart Tholan, Cheryl A. Turnage, Naomi P. Warbasse and Robert A. Whittaker.

I now have the honor of introducing the personal representative of the President of the United States of America, Mr. Harold Ickes, Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff.

REMARKS OF HAROLD ICKES, ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

Secretary Christopher, Secretary Perry, Secretary Kantor, members of Congress, men and women of the Foreign Service, ladies and gentlemen.

President Clinton asked me to be with you today as we honor an extraordinary group of Americans who gave their lives in service of their country and in the service of humanity.

Before reading the President's dedication, let me say to the families and loved ones of Bob Frasure, Joe Kruzel, Nelson Drew, and to those of RON BROWN and his entire delegation, I know that this is a day of very, very mixed emotions.

You've lost a father, a mother, a husband or a wife, a son or a daughter, a friend. The American people have lost some of their finest.

On a very personal note, with the death of Secretary RON BROWN, I lost one of my closest friends and wisest advisers. RON BROWN was in his service and in his life a spring day. He let himself and all of us to believe that making a difference was a joy as well as a duty. He was an achiever of potential. His grace, his intelligence, his self-confidence without a trace of arrogance, and his abilities to motivate, to lead and to bridge were a rare combination of qualities.

I am very proud and very fortunate to have had him as my friend. To Alma, Michael, Tracy, we will all miss him greatly. Let me now read the President's dedication.

Each year on Foreign Service Day, hundreds of active and retired Foreign Service employees come together to discuss foreign policy initiatives. It is also a day of remembrance when the foreign affairs community honors its many colleagues who have given their lives in service of our country.

"As we pay tribute to the memory of those who we have lost, let us rededicate ourselves to the goal for which they lived: maintaining America's leadership in the fight for peace and freedom throughout the world.

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"In today's increasingly interdependent world, our Nation's future is linked more than ever to events that take place beyond our borders, to strengthen our security, promote our prosperity and advance our interests. As we move towards the 21st century, America must stay engaged.

"Whether supporting peace, freedom and democracy and other transnations threats, combating environmental degradation, opening markets and expanding of trade, the American Foreign Services has a critical role to play.

"Our Foreign Affairs men and women serve on the front lines, often in demanding and sometimes dangerous surroundings. I'm committed to do all I can to insure that Congress provides the funding we need to support your essential work.

"This year, our Nation has lost some of its best and brightest public servants, and I have lost a very dear friend. The American people will not forget the contributions made by Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN and the 34 members of his delegation who died in a plane crash on a fog-shrouded mountainside in Croatia.

"They were on an important mission to bring development and economic stability to a war-torn region far from home. Unfortunately, theirs is not the only recent tragedy in that part of the world. We finally and respectfully remember our colleagues, Robert Frasure, Joseph Kruzel and Samuel Nelson Drew who lost their lives in Bosnia.

"These men, who represented the Department of State, the Department of Defense and the National Security Council and the United States Air Force, embodied the spirit of service that sets our Nation apart. Their heroic efforts helped bring an end to 4 years of bloodshed and gave the children of Bosnia a chance to grow up in peace.

"To all Foreign Service professionals, active and retired, and their family members in the United States and abroad who support America's values worldwide, I send my deepest thanks and appreciation." Bill Clinton.

Mr. Harris. Thank you very much. We appreciate that. I now have the great honor of introducing a distinguished American with a long, long successful record of service to this Nation and to his community. Family members, distinguished guests, ladies, gentlemen, colleagues, the Secretary of State, Warren Christopher.

REMARKS BY SECRETARY OF STATE WARREN CHRISTOPHER

Thank you, Tex, Harold, Senator Kassenbaum, Senator Sarbanes, Secretary Perry, Secretary Kanter, and other distinguished guests here today.

Let me extend a special welcome to the families of the men and women we are honoring today. You will always be a close part of the State Department family.

As the President has said, we come together every year on this day to celebrate the dedication and the accomplishments of the Foreign Service. But this is often a sad day as well because it is the day we add names to the memorial plaques in remembrance of our colleagues who gave their lives in service to their country.

Thirty years ago there were 72 names on this wall, covering all of American history since 1780. Now the list has grown to 188. And in the last year, two terrible tragedies have reminded us again that in this dangerous world, duty and sacrifice often go hand in hand.

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We often say that we must take risks for peace. Today we see that the risks are all too real. To our sorrow, we learn that peace cannot be made through telephone or fax. It usually can't be made in Washington or in Geneva. It can only be made by people who are willing to fly where the bullets fly, to go where roads are treacherous and where safety and security are often missing in action.

Sadly, we can't take the danger out of diplomacy. But we can and must honor the peacemakers and their deeds. And we can make sure the American people know of the sacrifices the peacemakers make for our sake.

Last August in Bosnia three American diplomats were on their way to the besieged city of Sarajevo when they lost their lives on a muddy mountain road. Bob Frasure, Joe Kruzel, and Nelson Drew believed that peace was possible in Bosnia. And they were certainly right. Indeed, they were the path-finders who made peace possible.

Just a month ago, RON BROWN and a team of government officials and business leaders were on a journey to Croatia. They lost their lives trying to make sure that the peace our diplomats had forged would endure. They were convinced that American capital and American know-how could help rebuild that shattered land, that it could give the people of that country a reason to resist the temptations of war. And they, too, were right.

As I have travelled the world in the weeks since these two tragic events, I have received a chorus of condolences from leaders all around the world who understand the sacrifices made by the families of the men and women who died in those tragic events.

A short time ago, when I was in Sarajevo and in the compound of our Embassy, I planted two dogwood trees in honor of Bob Frasure. But by far the most eloquent tribute to his work, and to Joe's and to Nelson's and to RON's and all those we honor today, has been the return of normal life that I could see all around me in Sarajevo. Every school reopened, every family reunited, every road and factory rebuilt is a monument to the service of these brave Americans.

That monument, of course, is a work in progress. It is being shaped by countless hands—by our diplomats, our soldiers, by our civil servants, and by the people of the region. The memory of our fallen colleagues impels us not to rest—not to rest at all—until this work is completed.

The men and women we honor today, as the President said, will always represent what is best about America. They were generous enough to share their talent and spirits with others. They were dedicated enough to make sacrifices in the cause of public service. They were realistic enough to know that America's fate is inseparable from the fate of the world. And they were optimistic enough to believe that the difficult problems can be solved but only solved when America is determined to overcome them.

Thinking of them, I was reminded of something that one of our visitors this week, Shimon Peres, once said: "Nobody will ever really understand the United States . . . You have so much power, and [yet] you didn't dominate another people; you have problems of your own, and [yet] you have never turned your back on the problems of others."

Anyone who knew these wonderful friends and colleagues understands something very important about America. Anybody who passes through this hall and who pauses to think about the lives behind the names of the people on these plaques will understand something about the American ideal. Here, in the presence of these names, there is not an ounce of cynicism about the country or about the people who represent it.

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So even as we mourn, let us keep alive the spirit that gave these lives such meaning. And let these names be a reminder to us all—a reminder of the risks and hardships that dedicated Americans endure for their country, and let it be a reminder of the constant need to carry on their work, our work, until it is finally finished.

Thank you very much.

WEDNESDAY, *July 10, 1996.*

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I introduce a bill to honor and remember a truly exceptional American, RONALD H. BROWN. The bill would designate the Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, NY, as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building".

It is a grand gesture to recognize the passing of this remarkable American and special friend, and I would ask for the support of all Senators of this legislation to place one more marker in history on RON BROWN's behalf.

RON BROWN had a great love for enterprise and industry as reflected in his achievements as the first African-American to hold the office of U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

His was a life of outstanding achievement and service to his country: Army captain; general counsel, deputy executive officer, and vice president of the National Urban League; partner in a prestigious law firm; chief counsel, and chairman of the National Democratic Committee; husband and father. And these are but a few of the achievements that demonstrated RON's spirited pursuit of life.

To have held any one of these posts in the Government, and in the private sector, is extraordinary. To have held all of the positions he did and prevail as he did, is unique. Indeed, RON BROWN was unfairly taken from us; however, while with us, he lived a sweeping and comprehensive life. And we are all diminished by his loss.

Therefore, I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to this uncommon man.

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# Proceedings in the House

TUESDAY, *April 16, 1996.*

## REMEMBERING SECRETARY RON BROWN AND THOSE WHO PERISHED WITH HIM

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember still, as we are all still feeling, those who were on the plane with Secretary RON BROWN. It was a loss that this country feels now and is going to feel for quite a long time.

In West Virginia we feel this deeply, the lose of the Government personnel, the military personnel, the private sector personnel. In addition to Secretary BROWN we lost William Morton of Huntington who was buried Saturday in Huntington, who was long time involved in so many things that made this country great: political campaigns and working with Secretary BROWN in a number of capacities.

He grew up and graduated, went to Huntington High School and went on to make his mark in so many different areas. I give thanks for his life and that of RON BROWN's. With Secretary BROWN he was a man of composure, a man of pragmatism, a man of obvious intelligence, and a compassionate man.

So many stories that each of us has about Secretary RON BROWN. I remember one. He visited Martinsburg, WV, at my request somewhere around 2 years ago. We had a celebration, he was kicking off a compressed natural gas vehicle caravan. We had bands out there, and there were two little children that were making presentations.

I still remember that Secretary BROWN was there surrounded, by Members of Congress and the State leadership and the city leadership and the county leadership, and everybody's in a suit looking very official, and these two little girls. One of the little girls was making a presentation in the microphone, and of course she was dressed in her Sunday best, and she was a little awed by all of this and she had trouble with a couple of her words. Secretary BROWN nodded very patiently, went over and leaned over and said take your

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time. Just take your time. She smiled and finished like a champ.

Secretary BROWN was, we liked to kid him, he was a property owner in West Virginia owning property in the Canaan Valley. But I think what he will be remembered for, so much he will be remembered because more people are working today in this country because of RON BROWN. There are more opportunities for people today in this country because of RON BROWN. There are more jobs that have been created in this country today because of RON BROWN. There are more trade opportunities here and abroad because of RON BROWN.

The Commerce Department, which has been a traditional backwater for many years, is a thriving vibrant department today because of RON BROWN. In so many areas we see his hand and we are going to miss that guiding hand.

The testimony of RON BROWN, well, there are so many testimonies, but I know one. As well as being a member of the Democratic Party, he is the one who put us back on track. He took a demoralized party and turned it, in just a few short years, to one that won the Presidency for the first time in 12 years. A tribute to RON BROWN is how many of us, how many people who came in contact with him called him friend.

I was at a meeting in Missouri this week, Republicans and Democrats alike, as well as foreign parliamentarians, and RON BROWN's name came up. And all of us stopped and every one of us had a story to tell about RON BROWN. Every one of us wanted to tell that story. Every one of us knew him as friends. RON BROWN was our friend. He was a friend of America's and we miss him. We miss him, very, very much.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on a hillside over Bosnia, this Nation lost 33 dedicated and committed Americans.

Among those lost was the man we pay tribute to today, Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN.

We pay tribute to Secretary BROWN because, in the finest tradition of America, he gave his life, in service to his country, while promoting peace in a region torn by war.

This tribute has been organized by those of us who serve on and who have participated with the President's Export Council [PEC].

Secretary BROWN was a public sector member of PEC, and the driving force behind a notable private-public partnership, whose mission is to expand U.S. exports abroad.

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At the very first meeting of PEC, on February 13, 1995, President Clinton attended, and Secretary BROWN welcomed and swore in the appointees.

Secretary BROWN emphasized that he would regard PEC members as the board of directors of America's National Export Strategy, first implemented in September 1993.

And so, Mr. Speaker, we think it only fitting that the PEC "Board of Directors" lead a tribute to the person who, in our minds, was the chairman and chief executive officer of America's effort to achieve free and fair trade and to give a chance to U.S. businesses of all sizes to market their goods and services abroad.

RONALD HARMON BROWN was born in Washington, DC, on August 1, 1941.

He was raised in Harlem by his parents, attended Middlebury College in Vermont, was commissioned an officer in the Army and spent time in West Germany and Korea—surely the seed of foreign trade was planted at this time.

When he left the Army, he joined the National Urban League as a welfare caseworker, evidencing early in his career a dedication to public service. At night, he attended law school.

Shortly after law school came his first foray into politics, when he was elected district leader of the Democratic Party in Mount Vernon. Immediately, he became known as one who could build bridges and close divides.

In 1973, he moved back to Washington, DC and, following a series of public and private-sector positions, on February 10, 1989, he was elected by acclamation as the first African American chair of the Democratic National Committee.

The rest is history, as RON went on to help elect President Clinton and to be asked to serve as Secretary of Commerce.

In a relatively short period of time, he made giant strides, distinguishing himself, making his mark in many places, leaving his permanent imprint on the sands of time.

Neither race, nor color, nor religion, nor background, or any of those false barriers stood in his way. We could always count on him to fight another fight, to write another chapter, to run another race. Secretary RON BROWN will be sorely missed.

He will be especially missed for his work with PEC in behalf of U.S. exports and his efforts as Secretary of Commerce. One of his last appearances in the United States was at the most recent meeting of PEC. At that meeting, he shared his thoughts and plans on the Bosnia/Croatia trip, as

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well as uncommon insights he had gathered about trade around the world.

From that meeting came the proposed PEC "Statement of Principles" concerning export administration. Those principles reflected RON's vision and wisdom—declaring exporting as a right of every American citizen, not a privilege, as early versions of the Export Administration Act had stated.

And, those principles outlined what America's position should be on export restrictions, seeking to make sure, as RON always did, that there is a level playing field throughout the world and that no one nation could assume an unfair competitive advantage in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

While those proposed principles reflected RON's views, they were shaped and will be reshaped by all members of PEC, public and private, and certainly included the view of those business and corporation representatives who served.

Indeed, RON's work and the work of PEC made certain that businesses of all types, politics aside, could benefit from the renewed trade efforts, and they did.

During his tenure, important groundwork was laid, major breakthroughs were experienced, and future prospects for peace and prosperity were cemented. And, while RON was a deeply committed Democrat, on the matter of free and fair trade, he was first an American. Party took a second seat to the goal of expanding exports.

RON knew what many of us have now come to know. For every $1 million we make a available to finance exports, we generate a $7 million return, and, more importantly, we create new jobs.

In the First Congressional District of North Carolina alone, there are more than 450 companies that manufacture goods of foreign markets—and nearly two-thirds are small- and medium-sized businesses, employing less than 100 people.

All in all, eastern North Carolina ships more than $1.3 billion of goods overseas each year. Indeed, in 1994, 270,000 new jobs were attributed to North Carolina, exports, generating some $13.7 billion in revenue, a 21.7 percent increase. In 1994, North Carolina ranked 10th in the Nation in exports.

More and more, the economic well-being of our region and our State depends on our ability to sell our products to other countries.

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Clearly, our ability to generate good jobs in the future is tied to exports and the ability of local companies, small and large, to exploit opportunities in other countries.

As a member of the Subcommittee on Procurement, Exports, and Business Opportunities of the House Small Business Committee and an appointee of PEC, I have learned a great deal about the relationship between exports and better jobs.

I have come to appreciate eastern North Carolina's unique combination of harbors at Wilmington and Morehead City, a strong interstate system, and a state-or-the-art air shipping facility at the proposed Global Transpark in Kingston which makes our area particularly well-suited to be involved in the export boom.

I've been working with community leaders to have the proposed Global Transpark designated a free-trade zone, which would make it a hub for international shipping. If we are successful, the seafood caught off our shores in the morning could be someone's dinner in Japan the next day.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, for every $1 billion in exports, 20,000 jobs are created.

U.S. exports of goods and services can reach $1 trillion by the beginning of the next decade and can produce over 6 million new jobs. This could mean, by the year 2000, more than 13 million Americans who will be earning their living as a direct consequences of exports.

But businesses, large and small, usually face three challenges when they begin to look to other lands, gaining access to the capital needed to open new product lines or modify existing ones for overseas consumers, attaining technical training vital to dealing with other governments, and finding the information about regulations, American and foreign, and trade practices in other countries.

Secretary RON BROWN, through the Department of Commerce and the President's Export Council had undertaken, like never before, to remove those barriers to exporting, to overcome the challenges.

Mr. Speaker, the greatest tribute we can give to RON BROWN and those 32 other Americans who perished in Bosnia, is to keep their work going and make their dreams come true. That is a tribute in which Democrats and Republicans, small, medium, and large businesses, and Americans of all stripes can join.

Growth in real incomes and living standards depends heavily on trade.

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Secretary of Commerce designate Mickey Kantor recently noted that expanding trade is critical to creating good, high-wage jobs.

The 11 million Americans who owe their jobs to exports are earning 13 to 17 percent more than those in nontrade jobs. RON BROWN had the right idea.

I invite my colleagues to join me in keeping that idea burning and in creating a living legacy for a man who lived his life in sacrifice so that millions of his fellow citizens could live their lives in pride.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for her leadership in organizing this special order and much deserved tribute.

RON BROWN was my constituent and my friend, so that last week I had one of the saddest weeks of my tenure as the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia. I was, of course, at Dover where the bodies of 33 Americans came home, and then on another evening at the Metropolitan Baptist Church to speak in tribute to RON BROWN, and finally at the funeral at the National Cathedral, where there was an outpouring of people from all over the world.

May I first read the names of all seven of my constituents who perished on that flight. RONALD H. BROWN, Secretary of Commerce; Adam M. Darling, confidential assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Commerce; Gail E. Dobert, acting director of the Office of Business Liaison; Carol L. Hamilton, whose parents I know very well, press secretary to Secretary BROWN; Catherine E. Hoffman, special assistant to Secretary BROWN; William Morton, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Trade; and Lawrence M. Payne, special assistant, Office of Domestic Operations. For all of my seven constituents there is still great grief and feeling in the District of Columbia.

RON BROWN had been a friend for 30 years. When he and I were both young and his wife Alma and I were in a club in New York called Liaison, and Michael and Tracy were born to them, and Johnny and Catherine were born to my husband and me, Michael now has a wife, Tammy, and one of the saddest things to see is RON with these two babies, these twin sons who were his grandsons. RON was a wonderful family man. His son, as was said at the funeral, was his best friend.

RON was a man of extraordinary determination, energy, and ability. Seldom has one American put together so many of the traits necessary for success in public life. As both pol-

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icy spokesman and politician, RON BROWN excelled, bringing his party back to life again and helping Democrats win; without whom the President said we would not have won the Presidency in 1992.

Yet he was a fund raiser extraordinaire on the one hand, a coalition builder on the other. Any one of those would have been much.

I thank the New Yorker magazine for its comment on RON in an article called "The Fixer as Statesman." Somehow, this article tries to put together the two parts of this man that so often are seen as not going together.

The statesman, of course, is the commercial diplomat that RON BROWN became, and the fixer is the man who fixed the Commerce Department and the man who fixed the Democratic Party.

The comment by Sean Willents calls RON silky, shrewd, and supremely self-confident. I do think, Madam Leader, that they capture this man we knew so well. They say he was not a plaster saint. Would he abhor being remembered in that way?

And they call him wordly and capable. They remember that RON began in the civil rights movement. So many who have achieved in this country today never would have gotten the chance to showcase their talents were it not for the civil rights movement. Having seen what he could do, because of the opportunity the movement afforded him as the vice president of the Urban League, ultimately RON then went on to become a top staffer in the committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and leader of his party, where he was essentially its titular head for between 1988 and 1992, articulating policies, bringing people together, preparing the way.

He took the job at the Commerce Department, which was regarded as nothing so much as a bureaucracy, and reinvented it into the kind of department European and Asian countries have long had, a Department that is aggressive in going out and selling the country and the country's business.

Finally, let me say of RON BROWN what is so important to many. RON simply saw and understood himself to have no limits. I am not sure all of us understand what an achievement that is in this country where so many still feel bound by race, even if in fact if they would fly they are not bound by race. RON said let me try to fly, and then he soared. The great tragedy is that had RON not been killed, there is no limit to where he might have flown.

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He simply refused to have an assigned place as a black man. He looked around him, saw other places, and went wherever his talent and energy could go, and they took him very far. I said at the Metropolitan Baptist Church that to many, race is what they believe holds them back. To RON, race was a contest that you ran and won. With that spirit, so many youngsters caught in ghetto environments today might find the role model for the 1990's.

For my city, the city where RON was born, the city where he lived when he died, I have asked my constituents not to mourn for RON. Remember RON was the happy warrior. I have said to my constituents living in this troubled city, this seriously troubled city because of its financial crisis, to remember RON as the man who looked to impossible missions and made them possible. It is possible for RON's birthplace, for the place where RON lived, to bloom again, as RON always looked to see what was possible and then went forward. I have said to those I represent: Don't mourn for RON, try to be like RON. RON came, RON saw, RON conquered. So can we.

I appreciate the time that has been offered me.

Mrs. CLAYTON. I thank the gentlewoman for her very poignant and personal remarks about RON.

We have been joined also by one who serves on the PEC, this is the President's Export Council, and what we want to do, indeed, is to remember him in a personal way but also remember him as forging new opportunities for trade, and those of us who had the unique pleasure of serving on that feel that certainly there is a particular loss.

I am going to ask if the gentlewoman from Connecticut, Mrs. Nancy Johnson, who is here, if she would make comments. And I understand that on her side—I want to say that this is a bipartisan approach that we were doing, and I am pleased that the gentlewoman from Connecticut wanted to join in this effort, which I think is an appropriate effort.

Our tribute is that RON served American industries which gave American jobs, and we as Americans first rather than you as a Republican and I as a Democrat, we are Americans trying to foster the interests of that. So I am pleased that she has come to join us.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Thank you. I thank my colleague for yielding to me. The President and the members of the Cabinet are the President and the members of the Cabinet for all Americans, and I am privileged to be here to-

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night to help you celebrate the life of RON BROWN and honor him as our former Secretary of Commerce and recognize the leadership he provided and the quality of the job he did.

When I was first elected in 1982, I came here from a district that had been devastated by what we called in those days unfair foreign competition. Some of it was just a very strong dollar combined with an American industry that was not efficient and was not strong. I watched Mac Baldrige try to develop the Commerce Department into a fighting partner with American business in a developing international market. I saw him struggling through, trying to help us see the importance of developing a department of trade.

I saw Mac Baldridge and some of his successors build the capability of the Department of Commerce to help American business get into the export market, sell abroad, be present in other markets in the same way foreign producers were present in our market, provide the same challenge in the world market that foreign producers were providing in our market. And that opening of vision that started with Mac Baldridge culminated in some really remarkable successes under the leadership of Secretary BROWN. He understood and developed that in a way none of his predecessors had. Each of them made unique and remarkable and very valuable contributions to beginning to look forward to how the American economy could be strong in the decades ahead and serve our children in the same way it served us and our grandparents and our great grandparents.

But RON BROWN understood, in a sense, in a more practical vigorous way than any of the rest of us the need for the American Government to back, to partner, to encourage, to lead, to pressure, to force, to incite, to get American business to understand their own power in the international market, the quality of their product, the possibilities for them, and he got right out there with them. He got right out there with them in China at a time when, frankly, the State Department was having a little trouble with China. But he understood if you learn to produce and you learn to trade, if you force ideas, if you award intellectual property, if you reward personal energy, we as a Nation will be OK. We will be economically strong and we will be peaceful.

I remember him talking about that connection between prosperity, peace and trade, and in his own way he was as dynamic and as vigorous and as committed an individual as the world has ever produced in support of business, trade,

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and the economic strength and prosperity that flows from a dynamic business community in an international market.

He got out there with big companies and small. He got out there in countries like China. He got out there all over the world. And it is tragic but, in a sense, not surprising that he lost his life taking business into what was a devastated, war-torn area, because that was his idea of giving hope to a people torn, devastated; their goods, their economy, their hearts, their minds destroyed by years and years of war.

He understood that the only real bond; that healing would only truly take place when there were jobs, when there was an economy, when there was competitiveness, when there was strength, and that America could not only offer goods but we could offer hope through example. We could offer leadership through guidance.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Would the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. I would be happy to yield.

Mrs. CLAYTON. I wanted to respond to her very, I think, appropriate analogy of his going to both big and large companies. He also, conversely, understood that small and big companies here in America could also experience the value of exports and what that meant to the smaller communities as well as what it meant to the big companies.

As you know, on the export council there are big businesses there, but there are also smaller businesses. Maidenform, for example, is small. It is not a big company, it started small. So it means in my district, its small subsidiary also expands as their products are sold abroad, giving jobs to Americans in their communities.

I think RON BROWN knew what the rest of us have come to understand: that for every $1 million of export we already create here $9 million of industry. And some of us do not understand that. I for one, initially, did not have that same appreciation until I was on the Small Business Export Subcommittee and had an opportunity to work with you and others, as well as under the leadership of RON BROWN, who opened, as you say, the hope, the opportunity. And it was about vision and excitement, but also it was about the possibility if people worked together.

And that is why, I think, if we are going to have this expansion and tribute to RON BROWN, it should be about us keeping that going. The greatest legacy to any of us as we leave is for someone to pick up our work and build on it and

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see the value of it and continue. I just wanted to thank the gentlewoman for her pushing that thought in my mind.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. One of the things that I think is wise to remember from the death of a man like RON BROWN is that he was extraordinarily capable in many ways, and one of them was that he was an extraordinary mentor.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Yes.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. I had the privilege to travel recently over the recess, and I ran into some of the young people that had worked with RON. And it was really interesting to me because you do not see this all the time. Cabinet members are not necessarily either warm and fuzzy or mentors. They are important and they do a great job for America. They serve an important need. But RON has inspired many young minds, and they are there and they will serve us. And they are both parties. Some of them are lifelong, quote, "bureaucrats." And so he has passed on and was able to pass on a belief and a faith in America, in us as a free people, and in us as a governing democracy, and felt strongly the need for us to be a part of the international community both as an economic force and as a force for democracy.

I thought it was so interesting to listen to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. Norton] talk about how he never saw himself as a black man. He saw himself as an American, as a man, as a power, as an individual, and as a proud black citizen. But he never felt anything stood in his way. If he wanted to do it, he had the intellect and resources to do it. And it is that legacy that inspired those he traveled with, that made a difference in the countries he went to. And it is that attitude that he leaves to those whose lives he touched.

I thank my colleague for organizing this recognition of former Secretary RON BROWN tonight. It is well deserved, and I appreciate having had the opportunity to join you.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Thank you for your comments. I appreciate that.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman for yielding to me. I want to commend her for having this special order to celebrate the life and the contributions of a great and patriotic American, our now deceased Commerce Secretary RON BROWN, who in a tragic event about 2 weeks ago lost his life with more than 30 others in a tragic air crash in Bosnia.

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In the days that followed it became very clear to our citizens how much RON BROWN had accomplished in a very short time at the helm of the Commerce Department. To those of us who serve in the Federal Government, RON BROWN is a well-known figure, a symbol of what is best in our Nation. When you work hard and strive for excellence, you attain it.

I had the privilege of serving with him in matters of concern when he was at the Commerce Department and when his agency was answerable to the Committee on Commerce of which I was at that time chairman and then more recently ranking member.

He had a distinguished career that included military service, served at the Urban League, served at the Democratic National Committee. He was successful in the practice of law and advising heads of state. And he proved time and time again that skill, adroitness, energy, dedication can be an enormous asset in getting the job done.

I will be inserting into the Record a number of quotes of distinguished Americans and American businesses about his contribution to our Government. I also want to make the observation that he was one who understood what the Department of Commerce should do. It was his function, as he saw it, not only to provide extraordinary leadership to that agency but also to see to it that it functioned to the fullest and that it dealt with the promotion of trade, jobs, market openings and expansion of opportunity for Americans through the business of exports, because that is where economic success for this country lies.

He was a great human being, a dear friend, and his wife Alma and he were dear friends of my wife Deborah and I. We shall miss him. We shall pray for the repose of his soul, and we shall understand that he brought excellence to the Department in the great tradition of others who had preceded him, first the distinguished Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, who was a great friend of mine and also a distinguished public servant, as also was Secretary Mosbacher, who was a leader of great quality in that agency.

We shall miss RON. We can dedicate ourselves to carrying forward the practices and principles in which he believed, that market opening and trade, that opportunity for Americans lies in the success of that Department.

I want to thank the distinguished gentlewoman for yielding to me and for holding this special order.

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Over the past year, many working Americans wrote to me about RON BROWN's work at the Commerce Department to promote exports, combat unfair trade practices by our international trade competitors, speed the dissemination of advanced technologies, and conduct research vital to understanding our climate, our weather, and the environment.

Bissell, Inc. in Grand Rapids, MI wrote that his company frequently used the Commerce Department's export programs, and that, "they have proven to increase export sales and thus help the economy of our country."

Viatec, Inc. in Hastings, MI said that, "This invaluable program is an investment that produces returns to the American taxpayers with more high-paying jobs, taxpaying citizens, and USA-purchased materials."

A research group in Ann Arbor said the Advanced Technology Program is, "important in transferring the results of fundamental research into practical products." Monroe Auto Equipment in Monroe, MI, said that RON BROWN's "aggressive trade promotion policies of our government add value to my company's efforts to compete in worldwide markets." Perhaps Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer said it best: "The Department of Commerce has been a job-creation machine for the State of Michigan and our cities."

The last time that Secretary BROWN appeared before the Commerce Committee, he said the following about his Department: "I am anxious to work very closely with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to make sure we do what is best for the country, to make sure we do what is best to assure long term economic growth and creation of high wage, high quality jobs for our people. I think that no department in government does that more effectively than the Department of Commerce." Mr. Speaker, today RON BROWN is gone. But his life was one which touched many people, both here and abroad, and his work has left a legacy of accomplishment about the strength of a government that serves its people well. We will miss RON BROWN greatly. But his was a life that mattered, and his legacy lives on.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Dingell] also for getting comments from the business community, because I think that is extremely important, because sometimes we think only of politicians or public servants, but RON BROWN also was essential for the ongoing expansion of business opportunity. For business persons to make that tribute I think is appropriate.

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Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as mentioned already with some examples here, RON BROWN was an extraordinarily multitalented man who brought great intensity and scope to his interests and his activities. You heard about his mentoring activities here and how much he stimulated so many Americans, especially young Americans, to take an active role in Government. But I did want to focus my remarks on the tremendous achievements that Secretary BROWN brought during his tenure at the Commerce Department to the expansion of our trade and investment opportunities abroad.

On August 4 of last year, when we held hearings in the committee on International Relations about the future of the Department of Commerce, I said during the course of that debate that I was proud to enthusiastically and sincerely commend our late Secretary for his hard work and promotion of American commercial interests. Secretary BROWN correctly realized that if the United States economy is to remain strong and vibrant in the 21st century, the U.S. Government must maintain and fund a comprehensive national export strategy. And he served as a very competent innovative chairman of the trade promotion coordinating committee. In that capacity he recognized, of course, and made it clear to many Americans that the United States economy is already very dependent on exports. He clearly understood that during this decade exports have to account for a much larger part of our economic growth.

Secretary BROWN fought tirelessly for American commercial interests, both within the cabinet and abroad. Since taking office, Secretary BROWN hit the ground running and immediately received the wrath of the Europeans for an important United States commercial airplane deal with Saudi Arabia, 15 high-level trade and investment missions. And billions of dollars of U.S. export and investment later, we bid the honorable RON BROWN, the former Secretary of Commerce, a fond farewell and thank him for his unmatched advocacy and dedication to American commercial interests. I think he set an important precedent for the Commerce Department and for our Cabinet members generally in his focus on international trade and expanding our export base.

As I said, he was a man of multitalented background, a wonderful man, sincere in his working with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle. I look back with great fondness at the relationship we had in working for expanding the export base.

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I thank the gentlewoman for taking this special order and for allowing me to say a few words about one aspect of Secretary BROWN's life.

Mrs. CLAYTON. I do appreciate that. I think the gentleman has experienced a working relationship and particularly in that area about which he spoke. I want to note again for the Record that is an effort, the President's Export Council, to have a bipartisan effort. Both Republicans and Democrats should be honoring a great man and that is as it appropriately should be.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I first met RON BROWN in the late 1960's, when all of us were all about trying to find a way to get ourselves and those people that we represented into the mainstream of American activity. I grew to admire and respect him, and there was something about RON that compelled him to bring along with him all of the young talent that he could muster in order to demonstrate to our great Nation the talent that was there for those who, given the opportunity, could make significant contribution. That to me is the real legacy of RON BROWN.

One of these young talents was the granddaughter of my doctor when I lived in Charleston, Jerry Irving Hoffman, in the late 1960's and early 1970's. And I want to join today with everybody in paying homage to that great spirit that RON BROWN gave to all with whom he came in contact.

Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday before last, as I sat in the home of Mr. BROWN sharing with his wife Alma, his son Michael and his daughter Tracey, other family members and friends, hoping against hope that something, some good news would come of this event, as we sat there, watching the television, something occurred that stays with me to this day. And it is what I would like to share with all Americans today. There came to the camera a gentleman, I think he was from northern Virginia, who did not make the trip, a CEO who spoke to the world on the fact that for some reason, though he was scheduled to be on the trip, he did not make the trip. And he asked a very cogent question, and I think all of us ought to ask ourselves today, he said that he must now find out why the good Lord saw fit to keep him here. It is his job now to find out exactly what it is that the good Lord would have him do.

I think that is something that all of us who call ourselves public servants ought to be thinking about today. We are left here; we can speak of RON BROWN's legacy. We can pay hom-

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age to all that his life meant. But I think throughout it all we ought to ask ourselves the question now, what it is that the good master would have us do.

I would hope that as we go about trying to fulfill the dreams and aspirations of RON BROWN and others like him that we will keep in mind the hope and the aspirations that he gave to so many and the hope and aspirations that so many are still left looking to us to help fulfill for their futures.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I remember seeing that same executive. He said he was not sure what God had in store for him. So part of our hope is what God has in store for him to help push what RON BROWN started. We are also pleased to have Congressman Shays from the Great State of Connecticut join us, and he wants to be a part of this tribute and we are delighted to have him.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I definitely want to be a part of this tribute and join with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who are here to express their love and admiration for a truly great American, a truly fine, outstanding Secretary of the Cabinet, the Secretary of Commerce.

I would first want to express my love and admiration for his wife Alma and for his very distinguished son Michael and distinguished daughter Tracey. I was not able to be at the funeral for Mr. BROWN because I had two constituents who also died on that plane. And if I could I would like to just express my love and admiration for Claudio Elia, who died on that plane, and for his two magnificent children, Kristin and Marc, who just were real soldiers during their dealing with their grief, and for his magnificent wife Susan, and also for Robert Donovan, who also died, and for his truly outstanding two children, Kara and Kevin, who just seem to deal with this agony and grief in a way that I could not help admire, and for his precious wife Peg, two people from the 4th Congressional District who died on that plane because they wanted to be with RON BROWN on this very important and, in fact, dangerous mission to bring trade and economic growth and some sense of hope to people in Yugoslavia, to give them a sense that maybe their day would be a little brighter.

I have admiration for RON BROWN for leading this. I did not have direct contact with him in my capacity on the Committee on the Budget or the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, but he came to my office twice to talk

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about the importance of the Department or Commerce, and I was just struck by his incredible energy, highly intelligent man, and just an admiration for realizing that I was sitting in the same room with an individual who at the depth, I think, of a party challenge, taking on being the chairman of a great party, the Democrat Party, taking on the role of trying to select a Democrat President, a President, electing a very distinguished Governor and thinking that the immense task that must have been as he was talking with me and the incredible talent it must have taken to bring all the different people he had to bring together to accomplish that task.

I am here to salute him as a very capable Secretary of the Department of Commerce, a very capable individual, someone who I respect as being a joyous warrior, someone who I felt instantly I could tell him very candidly what I thought and that he would respect me as another individual in the same environment he was, a political environment.

I think the real tragedy is that not just one segment of our society, not just the Democrat Party, not just the black community, but all of America has the right to truly grieve that we have lost a young man who in the last 5 to 10 years was a dynamic force in this country, who maybe one day would have been in fact President of this United States, who would have been clearly a force in the next decade or two.

So I thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my admiration for him and for being part of this very important tribute. Again, I would close by expressing my love and affection for the family and say that, while I was not in Washington to listen to the tribute the night before, since I was at a funeral service when his service was taking place, but for hours I watched the tribute and wished that I could have been there in person to actually enjoy it even the more. I thank you for this time.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Indeed it was a celebration of his life that we watched, rather than a tragedy.

Mr. SHAYS. It was a celebration of life, period, and of this great country.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for giving me this time and to join my other colleagues in expressing our sense of loss individually, collectively as a Nation, and even the world, due to the loss of our friend, RON BROWN.

Let me say first that I am mourning his loss because he was my friend. But we as a Nation lost a great American.

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I cannot add to the adjectives that have been mentioned or will be mentioned about RON BROWN, but I only would like to mention a couple or three of my personal remembrance of him.

One was that he was a man that no task was too small, no challenge was too large. He did what he had to do. He did it in a gracious, eloquent manner also, always without fault, and I would like to remember also that the most minute things and the way that he handled items as a person, all we know as Secretary of Commerce, what he did and how he did it, and throughout the world and here, but before the last Democratic Convention, I called over to the Democratic Committee, and this is when he was chairman of that committee, that I wanted to be sure that some mention was made of agriculture in the speeches and at the convention, and I left it at that.

The next afternoon I had a call from RON BROWN, which I never expected. I was just speaking with the people that were organizing the program, and he says, "Mr. Chairman, would you think that I would leave agriculture out of this convention?" I say, "No, I wouldn't have thought so, RON, but I just wanted to be sure to remind whoever it was organizing the program." He says, "Well, agriculture will be addressed, and you will be a speaker." And so it was. And so it was.

How it got from the person I spoke to and much lower levels to RON BROWN I do not know, but the only explanation is that he was looking at everything that was going on. And so I had the great honor of speaking at the national convention because of the request of RON BROWN.

Again, also when we were working so hard on NAFTA, most of you, not all of you, remember how he worked on the Hill, how he worked throughout the United States. But I wanted to have a joint meeting with our friends from Mexico, and I appealed to him, if he could be of assistance. His answer to me was, "When do you want me?" So we set a date. We invited his counterpart from Mexico, and they met in McAllen and Hidalgo, TX, and we had a great meeting, and there I saw him working, the people from Mexico and the people from south Texas.

But one of the most interesting things, and it has been mentioned before, he had a way with young people, children. At the meeting that we had, open meeting with several hundred people, it was a young person that walked up to him and visited with him, and he visited back as if that young man or that young woman was the most important person

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at that event that day. And there we had Secretary of Commerce from Mexico, the Secretary of Commerce from the United States, assistants, needless to say, the local Congressman, but to him at that point was, and I recall this very vividly, that young lady that was asking him questions about the Department of Commerce and, I think in the end, how she could get a job at the Department of Commerce.

He never flinched or missed a beat, and he says come see me, I will be happy to talk to you.

That is the kind of individual we personally will miss.

Certainly the country has lost a tremendous American, the world has lost a tremendous individual, and I think it has been mentioned before, but the legacy of RON BROWN should be what we continue doing that he did not have time to do. And I hope that would be our dedication.

I extend on behalf of my district and myself my condolences to the family, to all his family, and we share because it was our loss and we will mourn him. But more so, we should dedicate ourselves to that which he tried to do. To him there was no black, no brown, no white, no red. Everyone was a creature of God from his beginning to the very end, and that he died on a mission trying to enhance U.S. commerce, but yet trying to help downtrodden people was probably the major culmination, the major thing, of what RON BROWN was.

There was no small, there was no large, there was no one but the individual before him, and I saw him do that, and we will forever remember him in that manner. I thank the gentlewoman.

Mrs. CLAYTON. I thank the gentleman for those very appropriate and sincere remarks, and I want to insert that he was indeed a friend of agriculture because North Carolina understands that very well, in making opportunities in Russia for turkeys and poultry and other places that we could have in that area.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, he was no longer a warrior, but he died in a war torn country.

He died not that others might live, but that others, many others, including Bosnians and Americans as well, might live better.

He was and, in the inspirational sense, remains an authentic American hero. "We shall miss his bright eyes and sweet smile." May God forgive those who were so ready to bear false witness against him.

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Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Secretary RON BROWN and to express my sincere condolences to his wife, Alma, and to their family. My heart goes out to them because I understand full well what they have gone through, having gone through something like this myself.

RON was a great man, and we have heard about his strength, his vision, and his compassion for people. Tributes have come from the broadest possible range of people, including the President of the United States and foreign dignitaries, to the lowest ranking workers of the Commerce Department. I believe that these statements best serve as testimonials. They are the very best testimonials to a man many of us had the honor to know and to admire. But let me add just a few observations.

Secretary RON BROWN might best be remembered as a man who saw opportunity where others saw none. He will be missed as a crucial bridge between the privileged and the underserved in our society. For RON BROWN believed, above all else, that the greatest asset America has is the diversity of its population. Secretary BROWN understood that America's prosperity depends on our ability to become more competitive in emerging economic markets around the world.

American exports equal American jobs, and he knew this, and that is why he was on the mission that he was on. He knew that developing countries needed real economic investments and not handouts, economic investment with which to demonstrate that a market economy works; economic development, in turn, can lead to real democracy.

And that is what he was all about. He was about building America, about creating jobs, about making sure that democracy is all over this world because we all know that it is a system that has worked and works well, better than any other in the world.

It seems to me that those of us who knew him well and have known him for so many years understood that. We understood that when he smiled, it was a smile of friendship, when he extended his hand, it was a hand of welcome from those across the shores to those of the shores of the United States of America.

When we saw him in office all throughout his many achievements throughout his short lifespan, we knew that here was a man of great thought, of great compassion, of great wisdom.

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I stand here because I know that RON BROWN was my friend, and I know in my heart that this country will miss him, a man of his dedication and a man of his strength.

While many in the United States are willing to use this approach in Eastern Europe and Asia, there is a conspicuous absence of American investment in Africa. Secretary BROWN was especially concerned about the willingness of many in the United States to concede the markets of Africa to its former colonizers in Europe. Unbelievably only 7 percent of exports to Africa come from the United States while 40 percent come from Europe. This makes no sense when the return on investment in Africa is 25 percent, outstripping any other region in the world. RON BROWN was helping American companies change this equation.

Secretary BROWN was also a tenacious fighter and advocate. As the ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, I worked with Secretary BROWN in opposing efforts to dismantle the Commerce Department. When many political pundits on Capitol Hill were predicting the imminent demise of the Commerce Department because it had become a favorite target of the new majority, RON BROWN never wavered in his eloquent defense of the Department and its employees.

Secretary BROWN used his considerable skills to clearly and forcefully articulate the folly of eliminating the Commerce Department at a time of economic globalization. When the central governments of countries like France and Japan are promoting their businesses, the U.S. Government cannot afford to abandon its efforts to identify and win export opportunities abroad.

Under RON BROWN's leadership, our Government developed a national export strategy to help small, minority, women-owned, and large companies, win export sales abroad. His efforts paid off in more than $80 billion of foreign sales for American firms that supported thousands of high-paying jobs for American workers.

While Secretary BROWN was always open to exploring new export opportunities abroad, he was also never afraid to stand up for the rights of U.S. business in foreign markets. When foreign steel producers dumped steel in the U.S. at below fair market prices, it was the Commerce Department under Secretary BROWN that took the action which led to the imposition of duties on foreign steel.

Secretary BROWN was also one of the strongest defenders of the United States movie, computer software, and record-

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ing industries rights against intellectual property rights violation in China. Secretary BROWN firmly believed America's economic strength greatly depends on our ability to safely and freely market intellectual property in foreign markets.

Secretary BROWN's efforts were not focused on foreign markets alone. He played an instrumental role in directing funds so that small town throughout our country could gain access to the information superhighway. He insisted that the new telecommunications law, ensure universal service and open access for all communities in our country, including inner city areas. For RON BROWN, the information superhighway represented future social and economic growth. He was determined that all Americans would benefit from these historic changes.

Finally, for African-Americans RON BROWN served as an important role model. His life demonstrated to many young African-Americans that they can thrive in non-traditional roles. As the first African-American chairman of the Democratic National Committee he was the one person most responsible for the election of President Clinton. As the first African-American Secretary of Commerce in our Nation's history, RON BROWN was by any objective standard the most effective Secretary of Commerce I have ever witnessed in my 23 years in the Congress. RON BROWN was a shining example that African-Americans can lead this Nation and the world into the 21st century.

His life was also a caution to African-Americans that your efforts to move beyond traditional roles may be met with resistance. The rules for you will be different than the rules for anyone else. Therefore, if you are to succeed, you must be willing to out perform others. You will need to work harder, and smarter in order to be successful. But if you stay focused and keep your eyes on the prize, and are given the opportunity, RON BROWN's legacy demonstrates that there is nothing that African-Americans cannot accomplish.

Mrs. MORELLA. Thank you. I do want to thank Congresswoman Clayton for doing this. I think it is very important that we pay tribute to a man who has died too young, who served his country so well, and I know others will join by memorializing Secretary RON BROWN by virtue of submitting statements.

I just want to say that there is a vacuum in the world, there is a vacuum in the country, there is a vacuum in the hearts of country men and country women because of the untimely loss of RON BROWN. He is a man who is dedicated to

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his country, to his community, to his profession to a "T", to his family especially, and certainly to his friends.

I became acquainted with RON BROWN because as somebody who is involved with the technology subcommittees, as chair of it, under our jurisdiction is the National Institutes of Standards and Technology and the Technology Administration, and obviously all of this is part of the Department of Commerce. I have never found anybody who would work so perseveringly, indefatigably, and with a tremendous sense of humor and with a tremendous ability for what he believed.

As a matter of fact, today we were originally to have had a groundbreaking of a chemistry building on the campus in Gaithersburg of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and a field hearing at the same time because of the passing of Secretary RON BROWN and the high esteem in which he is held by all of those people who are employed not only in all of the facets of commerce and especially the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This has now been postponed for a later date. People were grieving so, that they really felt that they could not go on with another undertaking of that nature. Certainly there will probably be a dedication in a time when it does indeed take place.

I found him to be a man who did have a sense of humor and a sense of commitment, defended his Department very well and could work on both sides of the aisle. There was no real aisle when it came to performing what he truly believed in, and I had the opportunity a week and a half ago to go to India, and I spoke to Americans who were engaged in enterprises in India as well as the Indian nationals who were involved in industry and business.

They mourned, they mourned greatly the passing of RON BROWN. It occurred at that time, because they had a very successful trade mission just last year which opened all kinds of avenues and markets for America to participate in the great world market.

Mr. Speaker, I simply feel that, as Shakespeare said, the force of his own merit led his way, and indeed it did. He will be missed. He will, however, go on, live on in love, and I hope he will be an inspiration to us. I offer my condolences, obviously, to his beloved wife Alma, and to his two children, Michael and Tracy.

Mr. FRAZER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the distinguished gentlelady from North Carolina for holding this spe-

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cial order for the late Secretary of Commerce RONALD H. BROWN.

Secretary BROWN served our Nation with distinction, service, and honor. He provided the vision, and the leadership to promote American business abroad. He understood that in order for American business to succeed abroad they needed to have the full support of the U.S. Government. He used his office to open doors and provide opportunities for large and small businesses. This support is characteristic of how Secretary BROWN served this Nation and American business with distinction.

Secretary BROWN was accessible and available to the people of the Virgin Islands. He sent his Assistant Secretary for Economic Development to assess the rural economic development needs of the Virgin Islands and to map out a strategy. It was Secretary BROWN who understood how vital the U.S. tourism business was to the Virgin Islands and was working with us to help promote tourism through the international trade administration.

Secretary BROWN elevated the Commerce Department to a new standard of honor—where business and government can work together for the good of the Nation. Today, the Commerce Department is at the international vanguard for American business. This stature is due to Secretary RONALD H. BROWN's vision, leadership, and astute business intellect.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor and tribute to our late Secretary of Commerce, RONALD H. BROWN. No words I can utter on this House floor today can do justice to this great man, patriot, and public servant. I want to personally express my great sense of loss at the passing of this good and decent man and extend my condolences to his family: to his wife Alma, his son Michael, and his daughter Tracy. Their loss, Mr. Speaker, is our loss, our party's loss, and our Nation's loss.

I first met RON BROWN more than 30 years ago while vacationing on Martha's Vineyard. I was immediately struck by his boundless energy, charisma, sophistication, and style. Even back then, one only had to spend a little time with RON to know that he was a rising star. And so I was never surprised as I followed RON's career and watched this man grow and develop, first as a young lawyer, then as a leader in the National Urban League in New York and later here in Washington, as the chief counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee and later as a partner in a prestigious Washington law firm and as the chairman of the Democratic Party.

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RON BROWN was born in Washington, DC, and raised in Harlem, NY, and though he worked his way to the heights of the business and political worlds in our Nation, he never forgot where he came from. He never forgot how to speak with people. He never forgot who it was that needed help and hope and opportunity. RON spent his life and gave his life creating opportunity for those less fortunate, for those who had not yet climbed up the economic ladder.

RON BROWN was a bridge-builder. Through his actions and his words he was working to build what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called the beloved community, a community at peace with itself, where people are not judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. RON believed in creating opportunity for all Americans and he used his position as Secretary of Commerce to promote American business abroad and economic development in communities where it was desperately needed.

Robert Kennedy was fond of quoting George Bernard Shaw: "Some men see things as they are and ask why," Shaw wrote, "I dream of things that never were and ask why not." RON BROWN did dream of things that never were and ask why not. He dedicated his life and gave his life to promote the country that he loved and to better the lives of the people of this country.

RON BROWN will live in the annals of American history, not just as the first African-American Secretary of Commerce, but as perhaps the best, most effective, and most accomplished Secretary of Commerce in the history of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I, like so many others will miss RON BROWN. His energy could light up a room. His enthusiasm could inspire people to reach their greatest God-given potential. His vision and foresight returned the Presidency to his party. His counsel and guidance and wisdom will be sorely missed as we tackle the problems that face our Nation. One of what President John F. Kennedy called our best and our brightest has been taken from our midst.

Those of us who knew RON BROWN were more than lucky, we were blessed.

Again, I want to extend my condolences to the Brown family and thank you, Mrs. Clayton, for arranging for this special order.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the memory of the late Secretary of Commerce RONALD H. BROWN. A true leader. A successful, fearless man who loved

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the big things: his family, his friends, his country, his work, his African-American heritage. And those are the important things. He was passionate and devoted to each. To his wife, Alma and his children, Michael and Tracey, please know that no man could have lived a more blessed and successful life. God be with you.

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late RON BROWN. Secretary BROWN's tragic death on April 3 robbed our Nation of a highly distinguished and talented leader. Throughout his career, RON BROWN made the most of every challenge that confronted him. As Secretary of Commerce and in his other work, he dedicated himself to creating opportunities for others.

I first met RON when he ran Senator Edward Kennedy's 1980 Presidential campaign. But I didn't begin to fully appreciate RON's talents until 1991, when, as chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he asked me to join him as treasurer of the DNC.

In that capacity, I witnessed first hand RON's vision and leadership. He had an uncanny ability to bring disparate factions together and a capacity of persuasion that was literally unparalleled. I believe it was RON's early work on the Presidential campaign of 1992 that enabled then-candidate Bill Clinton to emerge from the Democratic Convention with the momentum and resources that ultimately resulted in his victory.

Another of the many distinguished legacies that RON BROWN leaves is the dramatic results of his tireless advocacy on behalf of American businesses in his 3 years as Secretary of Commerce. RON worked closely with businesses large and small to identify new opportunities and to promote American products. He recognized the tremendous potential that foreign markets held and knew that American firms must seize this opportunity if our Nation was to thrive as it entered the 21st century.

He worked effectively as a peer with the most powerful business leaders in our Nation, yet RON BROWN never lost his ability to identify with and related to average Americans. He was greatly beloved in his boyhood home of Harlem and left strongly positive impressions among the people he came into contact with while traveling throughout the country.

RON's leadership, keen intelligence, and passion will be greatly missed by all those who knew him personally and his loss will continue to be felt by many more whom he impacted

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through his work. I am a better person for having known RON BROWN, and I deeply mourn his passing.

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, we are all horrified by the untimely death of the Honorable RONALD HARMON BROWN, a man of incredible ability who was loved and respected across the globe. In searching for words to appropriately honor him, I recalled the following tribute, which I had the privilege of inserting into the Congressional Record on August 4, 1995.

TRIBUTE TO SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RONALD H. BROWN

Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to return to our districts where many of us will be meeting with community and business leaders concerned about economic development opportunities in our neighborhoods, I want to use this occasion to salute the outstanding accomplishments of a gentleman who has worked tirelessly to promote the cause of business and economic opportunity throughout the United States and abroad. The Honorable RONALD H. BROWN, our distinguished Commerce Secretary, is to be applauded and commended for the outstanding job that he has done in serving as the administration's enormously adept "Pied Piper" of economic opportunity and empowerment.

RON BROWN is the 30th United States Secretary of Commerce. In nominating him to this auspicious post, President Bill Clinton noted that "American business will know that the Department of Commerce has a strong and independent leader and a forceful advocate." Those of us who have been privileged to know RON can attest to his outstanding leadership acumen and his tenacity and considerable powers of persuasion. He is a skillful negotiator and an indefatigable advocate on behalf of America's economic interests abroad as he seeks to expand and open markets for American-made products around the globe.

RON's career has been structured around public service and helping to make America a better place for all of her citizens. A native Washingtonian, he grew up in New York where his parents managed Harlem's famous Hotel Theresa. He attended Middlebury College in Vermont and received his law degree from St. John's University. He is a member of the New York Bar, the District of Columbia Bar, and is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court.

A veteran of the United States Army, RON saw tours of duty in Germany and Korea.

Secretary BROWN has had an eclectic career. He spent 12 years with the National Urban League, serving as Deputy Executive Director, and General Counsel and Vice President for the organization's Washington operations. He also served as Chief Counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee. He is a former partner in the Washington, DC, law firm of Patton, Boggs, and Blow. And who among us does not remember the brilliant job that he did as the chairman of the Democratic National Committee and 1993 Inaugural Committee.

As Secretary of Commerce, RON has traveled extensively, promoting the administration's trade policies and forging sound private/public sector partnerships. Following the Los Angeles, Northridge earthquake in January 1994, RON was one of the first Cabinet officials on the scene, working with local, State, and Federal officials to identify and earmark funding sources for businesses severely damaged and/or destroyed in the quake. He has

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since returned to the quake damaged areas on several occasions to survey the progress made by programs implemented under this aegis.

RON maintains a schedule that would tire men half of his age. Yet he is always prepared to go wherever he is needed, and he always does it with aplomb and with a spirit of unyielding optimism that inspires all around him to achieve the same level of commitment.

In addition to his weighty responsibilities as Commerce Secretary, RON served on several Presidential boards and councils. He is a member of the President's National Economic Council, the Domestic Policy Council, and the Task Force on National Health Care Reform. He serves a Co-Chair of the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade, the U.S.-Russia Business Development Committee, and the U.S.-Israel Science and Technology Commission.

Secretary BROWN is also a member of the Board of Trustees for Middlebury College and is chair of the Senior Advisory Committee of the Institute of Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to have this opportunity to commend my good friend, Secretary RONALD H. BROWN, on the fine job that he is doing as our Secretary of Commerce. He has led an exemplary career, and I have no doubt that he will continue to lead and inspire. Please join me in applauding him on an outstanding career, and in extending to him, his wife Alma, and their two children, attorneys Michael and Tracy, continued success in the future.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note with appreciation the many achievements and inspirational life of Commerce Secretary RON BROWN. With his constant good will and hard work, he was able to build bridges where there once were valleys and hope where there was once despair. Secretary BROWN used the power of the Commerce Department to find ways to give opportunity to ordinary Americans, to generate jobs for the American economy, and to build futures for American citizens.

One could look at RON's life as a series of firsts. That would be a disservice, for in fact, his life was a series of first place and solid accomplishments. RON BROWN always believed that we would succeed. Whether as a student at Middlebury, staff person to Senator Kennedy, or top campaign aide to the Senator, RON was a success. As chairman of the Democratic National Committee, RON was a success. A lawyer, a skillful negotiator, a pragmatic bridge builder, and past highly successful chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Secretary BROWN strongly believed in the promise of America and aggressively advanced policies and programs to accelerate the Nation's economic growth and create new jobs and opportunities for all American people.

Under his leadership, the Commerce Department became the powerhouse envisioned by President Clinton. Secretary

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BROWN promoted U.S. exports, U.S. technologies, entrepreneurship, and the economic development of distressed communities throughout the Nation.

He led trade development missions to five continents, touting the competitiveness of U.S. goods and services. During his tenure, U.S. exports reached a record high, America regained its title as the world's most productive economy, and exports and technology were key contributors to the millions of new jobs created during the first 3 years of President Clinton's administration.

Mr. Speaker, my prayers go out to his wife Alma, son Michael, and daughter Tracy. Their strength and courage were displayed during Secretary BROWN's funeral service and they should be forever proud of their husband and father.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor the memory of former Secretary of Commerce RONALD H. BROWN, an American pioneer, patriot, and hero. Secretary BROWN was also a dear friend. I am sure that my sense of loss is shared by many who work, or have worked, on Capitol Hill. In 1979, Secretary BROWN became the first African-American to serve as a chief counsel for a standing Senate committee when he took over the Senate Judiciary Committee. As was the case throughout his career, his service on the Hill helped to chart a new course of participation for African-Americans within the corridors of political and public policy decisionmaking.

Being the first, being the only, being a pioneer, was the former Secretary's calling card. He was the first African-American to join a social fraternity during his undergraduate days at Middlebury College. An Army officer, he was the only African-American officer in his unit during his tour of duty in Germany. He was the first African-American partner in the law firm of Patton, Boggs & Blow. He was the first African-American to head a major political party. Finally, he was the first African-American to head the Department of Commerce.

Upon nominating RON BROWN to be the 30th U.S. Secretary of Commerce, then-President-elect Clinton declared, "American business will know that the Department of Commerce has a strong and independent leader and a forceful advocate." The President could not have been more prescient, nor could have made a more brilliant appointment.

Under the leadership of Secretary BROWN, the Commerce Department became one of the major success stories of the Clinton Administration. He launched a national export strat-

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egy predicated on the very basic idea that American exports translate into jobs and opportunities for American business and working people. In the pursuit of this strategy, Secretary BROWN conducted trade mission after trade mission abroad. He traveled most often to what he liked to call the big emerging markets of Asia, Latin America, and Africa.

The trip on which Secretary BROWN and his 34 colleagues lost their lives was typical of his missions. It was visionary in the most practical sense of the word. It was practical in the most visionary sense of the word. He had the vision to see that beyond the horrors of war wracking Bosnia and Croatia, lay opportunities for American business to be of service, as well as to engage in commerce. He was grounded enough in the realities of that conflict to understand that the road to peace lay in the rebuilding of those shattered communities.

When Secretary BROWN's plane crashed into that mountain on the way to Dubrovnik, an American patriot became an American hero. He is no less a hero because he died in an accident. He is no less a hero because some persons serving in this Congress have spent an inordinate amount of time besieging him and undermining the Department he led so brilliantly. He is a hero because he died in the service of this Nation, pursuing its interests at the cutting edge of diplomacy and peacemaking.

I would be remiss if I did not comment on Secretary BROWN's meaning to me as an African-American public servant. Secretary BROWN could not be mistaken for anything else than what he was, an African-American. He did not deny that fact, nor did he allow that fact to limit his personal or professional horizons. To be sure, Secretary BROWN did everything within his power to help African-Americans. Beyond that, he did everything he could to find points of convergence between the interests of America, African-Americans, and Africa. But he never allowed himself to be the black Secretary of Commerce, nor, for that matter, the black head of the Democratic National Committee, or the black anything else. RON BROWN was the Secretary of Commerce, in the service of each and every American, hyphenated and unhyphenated.

It is often said that a picture is worth a thousand words. I agree, a thousand and sometimes more. The picture that I have in mind is that of President William Jefferson Clinton presenting an American flag to Mrs. Alma Brown at Arlington National Cemetery on Wednesday, April 10, 1996. That

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picture says it all. Secretary BROWN's life was a life of service in the public arena in the pursuit of justice and opportunity. It was the life of an American pioneer, patriot, and hero.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pause with my fellow colleagues to remember our friend RON BROWN. As many have already said, RON BROWN was an exceptional person with a deep love for his family, friends, and country. Today, I would like to honor his memory by celebrating some of his achievements as Secretary of Commerce.

Our record in international trade will ultimately define the future prosperity of our Nation. The ability of our work force to meet the new challenges of the global economy and compete for high-skill high-wage jobs of tomorrow will be critical. No one understood these principles more than RON BROWN.

As Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN expanded our international role by reaching out to countries all over the globe, and by strengthening the foundations of our domestic economy. His work to improve our trade balance, increase overseas opportunities, and create domestic jobs helped to prepare the United States for the next century. In my State of Rhode Island he genuinely made a difference.

Last summer, Secretary BROWN visited with me in my office to discuss the many programs at Bryant College that focused on improving our State's economy by investing our resources in international business. We talked about Bryant's existing initiatives like the Rhode Island Export Assistance Center and their innovative International Trade Data Network [ITDN]. The purpose of ITDN was to help create and distribute practical information and data that will enable businesses to effectively and realistically target their export efforts to actual opportunities. For Rhode Island, the programs at Bryant were a way to reduce the effects of defense downsizing and struggling economy.

Secretary BROWN saw the impacts that international trade could have on local economies and later visited Rhode Island twice to see Bryant College and various other initiatives first hand. He took the time to investigate our latest ideas and offer the support of this Department. Truly, RON BROWN led by example.

In the end, RON BROWN died as he lived: a dedicated patriot who selflessly give his all for friends and country. As a nation we are forced to continue without him, but his time

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with us all will be remembered as a time of progress, learning, and achievement.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I join with my fellow colleagues to pay tribute to a truly great American, the late Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN. To many of us, RON BROWN was not only a Cabinet member with an impressive record of accomplishment, but he was also a dynamic party leader, a trailblazer in the business world, a ferocious advocate for the business community as well as those in need, a role-model for blacks and whites alike, and a dear friend.

I will remember RON for his charming and captivating persona, for his astute mind, and for his love of country. RON BROWN was full of energy and enthusiasm in each endeavor that he undertook. As chair of the Democratic National Committee, RON utilized his skills in bringing people together and motivating them to work toward a common goal, and that propelled the Democratic Party to victory in 1992.

In his capacity as Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN was masterful in seeking out and opening up new markets to U.S. businesses. I know firsthand of his tremendous talent in bringing together the public and private sectors in partnerships. A perfect example of this is in my home district of Rochester in which RON displayed his immense support of Eastman Kodak Corporation's efforts to halt unfair trade practices that were detrimental to Kodak. Upon RON BROWN's insistence, the International Trade Commission concurred and steps were taken to address the inequities.

RON was such a wonderful and unique leader because he recognized his role as Commerce Secretary was broader than simply promoting American business and trade in foreign lands. He also used his position to help ensure the peace and stability that would provide the foundation for a stable economic base in tormented nations such as Bosnia and Croatia.

RON died in the midst of an important mission. And he died doing what he did best: building bridges between people and building bridges between nations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in extending my deepest sympathies to Alma Brown, RON's children, and all of the family and friends of this extraordinary man. His presence will be sadly missed by the entire Nation.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, in the few days since RON BROWN's death, it has already become a cliche to speak of his brilliant political career—of his pioneering role as party lead-

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er, and his efforts to almost single-handedly redefine the Commerce Department and its influence on the American economy. For those of us who considered RON a friend, it is reassuring to know that the country remembers him as fondly we do. But when there are so many tangible achievements to celebrate in a man's life, it becomes harder to recognize what is less tangible, but perhaps more important.

To me, there is a reason that RON BROWN broke down so many barriers in so many aspects of his life, and shattered so many preconceptions about politics, race, and America's place in the world. For all his practical and political talents, RON BROWN was an idealist, pure and simple. His goals for himself, his party, and his country were always based on what should be, and not on what others thought could be. That is a rare quality in a politician, and a rare quality in a human being. But it is why people loved and respected RON BROWN, and were so often willing to abandon their own goals and egos to work with him for that higher purpose.

I first began to work closely with RON when he became chairman of the Democratic National Committee in 1989, around the same time that I became House majority leader. It may be hard to remember just how bad prospects seemed for the Democratic Party at that point, and how few people believed that our party could ever again capture the hearts and minds of the American people. RON BROWN was not only an unfailing optimist—often the only voice of optimism at those early meetings and strategy sessions—but a man who believed so strongly in the bedrock principles of the Democratic Party, he refused to accept any reason why America would not rally around Democratic ideals and candidates.

There is no question in my mind that RON BROWN was the driving force behind Democratic victories in both the 1990 midterm elections and the 1992 Presidential election—and that he worked and sweated for those victories not out of some desire for narrow political gain, but because of his unshakable faith in the Democratic Party as the party of progress for average, working Americans. He never forgot where he had come from, and who he wanted to help.

Much has been said in recent days about RON BROWN's ability to heal divisions, to reconcile warring factions, to focus on what united people as Democrats, or business leaders, or Americans. He truly believed that you could always accomplish more by working together—by bringing others along with you. That may be why he established a unique precedent in working so closely with congressional leaders as

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party chairman. He really did bring the Democratic Party together—sometimes almost one person at a time. To see the depth of his empathy and understanding—to see how far he would go to understand divergent people and opinions, and then to find the common ground between them—was to see the very essence of leadership.

As Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN dramatically expanded his mandate, reinvigorating the Foreign Commercial Service, and becoming a booster of U.S. exports on a scale that had never before been seen. He poured his energy and passion into his work at Commerce, much the way he had done so at the DNC. I admired the aggressive manner in which he led that department, even in the face of partisan political pressures to play a lower profile.

Our country could use another RON BROWN. For he pushed boundaries and broke down barriers almost instinctively, intuitively, as if he simply refused to acknowledge they were there in the first place. Perhaps, in that sense, we can find some shred of meaning in RON's terrible death—because no risks and no naysayers could ever have kept him from exploring new terrain, reaching for new challenges, and trying to redefine the world in which we live. That he managed to do all those things in so few years is a powerful legacy indeed.

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join members of the President's Export Council today in paying tribute to Secretary RON BROWN. RON BROWN was a personable individual and a master of the art of politics. He served his country and his party with distinction. I worked with the Secretary during his tenure as Secretary of Commerce and was always impressed with his dedication to economic growth and jobs. We shared the goal of promoting U.S. exports, as Ohio has become a leader in the export of goods to other countries. The objective of his final mission was again to facilitate the movement of U.S. goods into overseas markets, thereby working to keep good jobs here in the U.S. I extend my sympathies to Secretary Brown's family and friends.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in both sadness and mourning to extend the condolences of myself and my family to Mrs. Alma Brown, their two children Michael and Tracey, and to the entire Brown family. Your husband, father, and mentor was indeed a unique man who graced the institutions which he diligently served.

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He was a man committed to the service of his country and to the fulfillment of a promise he had made to himself and the community that surrounded him in his youth. It was a promise that compelled him to demonstrate time and time again that America's diversity was a strength and not a weakness. It was a promise that elevated him from his beginnings in Harlem to the position of Secretary of Commerce where he served with distinction and ultimately died in that service. And above all, it was a promise that drove Secretary BROWN to tirelessly break down the barriers that divided people.

RON BROWN was a lawyer and skillful negotiator who became the first African-American chairman of the Democratic National Committee. Secretary BROWN strongly believed in the promise of America and aggressively advanced policies and programs to accelerate the Nation's economic growth. He also became the first African-American to hold the office of U.S. Secretary of Commerce, and through his outstanding inspiration, vision and force of will, left an indelible stamp upon the Department of Commerce.

His list of achievements reads longer than the endless accolades that have adorned his passage from this world into the next.

Secretary BROWN worked endlessly to champion the role of civilian technology and technological innovation as the means to ensure American job creation, economic prosperity, and a higher standard of living. Under his tenure, he worked to establish a nationwide network to help small businesses. He led trade development missions to five continents, touting the competitiveness of U.S. goods and services. Under his leadership, U.S. exports reached a record high.

RON BROWN worked vigorously to remove outdated government-imposed obstacles that hindered U.S. exports, and he strongly believed in the competitiveness of American business. His dream was to make America stronger, and he remained steadfast to this commitment. Under Secretary BROWN, United States exports to Japan increased by one-third. He advocated for $80 billion in projects and supported hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs. His vision and leadership included his understanding of the vital link between our economy and the integrity of our environment. He furthermore understood the critical importance of protecting intellectual property worldwide, and to this purpose he negotiated with countries around the world.

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There was a purpose to Secretary BROWN's commitment that found fruition in his constant struggle to transcend all barriers. It is indeed befitting that this dedication will serve as his legacy; a befitting legacy that will outlive the demise of its creator. His passing will not detract from the quality of his achievement, but will rather inspire us all to achieve more from ourselves.

His premature departure not only leaves a void, it also leaves a tradition that has taught America how to face and overcome adversity. His passing compels all of us to take note of his outstanding determination and pay respects to his commendable achievements. On this day, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a man who served his country faithfully in both life and in death.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there is much that many of us can say about our good friend and public servant for this Nation, Secretary RON BROWN. I simply want to say to Alma, Michael, and Tracy and the family, we loved and respected him; but to America, he was a leader beyond leaders. He realized that American business meant American jobs.

As a member of the Committee on Science, I saw his dynamic leadership in support of advanced technology, recognizing that was the future of America. So it is my commitment to his family and to his legacy that I will continue to work toward creating jobs, and I leave this tribute to Secretary RON BROWN:

> Isn't it strange that kings and queens and clowns that caper in sawdust rings and common people like you and me are builders for eternity? For unto each of us is given a bag of rules and a shapeless mass and each must give or life is flown as a stumbling block or stepping stone.

It is my belief and the belief of the American people that RON BROWN was a stepping stone for America, American business, American jobs. Long live the legacy of the honorable Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN.

Mr. Speaker, I consider it a great privilege and honor to participate in this special order in tribute to RONALD H. BROWN, former U.S. Secretary of Commerce. He had an outstanding career as a lawyer, National Urban League executive, Democratic Party chairman, Cabinet Secretary and close Presidential adviser. I am proud that the city of Houston paid tribute to Secretary BROWN and the others that perished on April 3, on Friday, April 12, 1996, at Antioch M.B. Church.

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RON BROWN used his many talents to create a better quality of life for all Americans. This special order's focus on his impact on the expansion of American-owned companies into foreign markets is very appropriate. During his tenure at the Commerce Department, he redefined the Department's mission to provide economic opportunity for every American. Moreover, he believed that peace and prosperity could be strengthened and promoted through international trade.

Over the past 3 years, he helped develop a national export strategy to assist American companies in increasing their exports to foreign nations. Since 1993, American-owned companies entered into commercial deals with foreign businesses in the amount of $80 billion.

Most of this expansion was as a result of his tireless efforts in leading numerous trade missions around the world. He supported the creation of strong ties with new markets in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. BROWN also helped to streamline regulations that unnecessarily hindered the exports of our goods and products.

BROWN served on President Clinton's National Economic Council and the Council on Sustainable Development. He was also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He chaired the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee, which was comprised of 19 Government agencies, to strengthen the American economy through trade.

RON BROWN was a man of great vision and understood the importance of technology in our growth and development. He was a strong supporter of the Commerce Department's advanced technology program, which helped create thousands of businesses that will lead us into the 21st century.

All of us in public service owe a great debt to RON BROWN. He inspired us to always remain optimistic, to be committed to achieving our objectives and work to ensure that no American is left behind. This is his great legacy. Let us renew our commitment to public service.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult for me to discuss my feelings, my personal feelings, about RON BROWN. I have known RON BROWN since he was a very young man. I have seen him come up through the ranks. He did it the hard way. He worked for it.

I appreciate the kind of commendation that we are giving RON BROWN today. I want to send my condolences to the family, especially to my baby, Michael, his son, and to say to Alma and to her daughter, Tracy, that God will go with them, as we all know, and that RON will always be remem-

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bered, and that we will keep his legacy going. He will not be a forgotten man. I also want to say to Mrs. Meissner, who lost her husband, to send my condolences to her.

People were magnetized by RON BROWN. He lived in such a way that people would gravitate toward him because they knew he was good. I will tell you one thing, Mr. Speaker, every youngster in this country who is from a poor or disadvantaged community, or even more, all over this country and all over this world, not due to ethnicity, race, or creed, will pattern themselves after RON BROWN, because they see an opportunity in him, in what he did, to make the American dream work. That is going to be his legacy.

He walked through the streets of Liberty City with me, a very poor community, and he reached out to every one of them, yet he got to be a counselor to the President of the United States. He sat on the Cabinet.

When I think of RON, I think of a poem which we call, and I am going to paraphrase it, The Builder:

> There was an old man at evening tide who was building a bridge on the countryside. A young man came to him and said, "Old man, why do you try to build this bridge? When the tide comes in you will be long gone. You won't be here." And the old man lifted his head and said, "Young man, let me tell you something. The reason I build this bridge at evening tide is there will be a young man such as you who will come after me. Young man, I build this bridge for thee."

That is why RON did what he did, to build bridges for all of us. I thank the gentleman for sharing his time with me.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for sharing in this special order tribute to RON BROWN. Mr. Speaker, I want to spend a minute or two in this final part of the 5-minute period just saying a couple of things, more from the heart.

First, Mr. Speaker, I want to express my condolences to Alma Brown and to the entire Brown family, and to the families of those others who perished so tragically in this crash. This was a devastating loss for our country and for me personally.

Second, I cannot help but recall the very last time that I saw RON BROWN, which was in the hall in the Rayburn Building. I had been involved in a hearing and was rushing in one direction. RON had been called before a committee of the House to testify at another hearing. He was coming out of that and was rushing off to another place.

Despite the fact that both of us were in a hurry and headed in different directions, the characteristic that always

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came through from RON BROWN surfaced. That was the ability, for whatever small period of time he had, to look at you in the eye and make you feel that you were the most important person in life at that moment. We spent a few moments together, and that came through to me. That is the memory that I will always have of RON BROWN.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my condolences to Alma and the rest of the Brown family and to the families of those who perished tragically in the plane crash in Croatia.

The outpouring of support that we have seen since RON's passing is a testament to the life he led and the impact that he had on people. Since his passing there have been two things that have been said about RON most frequently. They are that RON BROWN had a lot of friends and that he had a tremendous amount of political acumen. I knew both of those things were true.

Almost 2 weeks after Secretary BROWN's passing I think it is necessary for us to continue to honor his life and celebrate his legacy. RON BROWN taught us about the importance of providing jobs for our citizens through economic expansion and ensuring equality of opportunity so that all could share in the fruits of economic expansion.

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

RON BROWN knew that the success of the American economy in the 21st century would depend upon expanding economic opportunity for all of our people. In a time where the gap between the rich and the poor is ever-widening, we must see to it that our economy creates jobs which provide living wages. We must also see to it that the good which flows from economic prosperity is shared among all of our people.

EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

RON BROWN knew that our schools and our workplaces should be a reflection of America and should ensure equality of opportunity. He saw to it that his Commerce Department reflected the racial, ethnic and gender differences of the taxpayers on whose behalf his department worked. RON worked to provide opportunities for others who might not have been given the chance. RON BROWN knew that there were many more RON BROWNs with intelligence, ambition and the will to succeed. RON BROWN gave them an opportunity to shine. They were African-American, white, Latino, Asian-American, they were among those who accompanied him on the mission

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to Bosnia. We must continue to work to see to it that America fulfills this promise of equality which RON BROWN exemplified.

As we honor our late Secretary of Commerce we must not forget these things which his life has taught us so well and we must work to continue his legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio for providing this opportunity to do this special order before his special order comes forward.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my voice to the numerous voices that have been raised to pay tribute to RON BROWN. RON BROWN, the mentor for all public servants, he could teach us all a great deal.

I will enter my statement in its entirety into the Record, but I would like to read the statement and comment on it.

RON BROWN was a renaissance politician. He was a jack-of-all-trades who mastered all the trades in politics. He was a mentor for seasoned professional politicians, and he was qualified to tutor most of us.

RON used his considerable influence and charm to become an extraordinary fund raiser for the Democratic Party. From the complex job of raising money to the details of election day engineering, RON performed with great enthusiasm.

RON BROWN was the kind of person who could raise funds, and I admire him most for that. He probably had a problem like everybody else but he plunged into the process of raising funds and did a great job of that.

There are some people who do fundraising very well, but they are not good at strategy. They are not good at tactics. They do not have certain other qualities. But in addition to being able to raise funds, which we all admired him for, RON BROWN had the talents that went across the entire spectrum in terms of skills that are needed in public life.

I first met RON BROWN in Chicago while campaigning for Harold Washington for mayor of Chicago. Former majority whip Bill Gray, RON, and I were in a car on a tour through the public housing projects on Chicago's south side. We had been assigned that area to campaign. At that time RON was working with a well-known, prestigious, and powerful law firm in Washington.

However, on that day it was simply RON, the lawyer, friend, campaigning for a fellow democrat. We went into huge, tall, cold, concrete buildings and walked on floors which seemed to be completely out of this world. The deterioration and the garbage inside the halls were unbelievable,

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even to a poor boy like me, whose father has never earned more than the minimum wage. I had lived in some of the poorest neighborhoods in Memphis, TN, and I had worked in some of the poorest neighborhoods in New York. but never had I seen such despair. The only glimmer of light I saw in those high-rise urban tunnels that day were the Harold Washington posters that the residents waved at us when they saw our familiar signs.

We had connected at that point with the most depressed among us.

As my eyes met RON's eyes, he broke into his signature smile. This is what politics has got to be all about, he said, as we plunged into the crowd of outstretched hands and marched through the halls reminding folks that tomorrow was the day to go out and elect the first African-American mayor of Chicago.

RON BROWN was the unifying driving force behind the most successful and conflict-free convention the Democrats have had in nearly two decades. RON was a star who kept his poise. He kept peace among the many party factions and made the Democratic National Committee an effective force to be reckoned with in politics.

RON BROWN was a masterful strategist who began his tenure as party chairman with several special election victories despite great obstacles. He was a great communicator, and he was a great cheerleader who also understood the nuts and bolts of winning campaigns.

Seldom in America does one man so gracefully transcend the racial chasm as RON BROWN did, and in his journey he deeply touched the heart and soul of a Nation.

As our Secretary of Commerce, he was our corporate Ambassador to the world. As the chairman of the splintered, fractured Democratic Party, he was the glue that held it together, and in so doing he delivered the White House and became the most beloved chairman in history.

RON BROWN was undaunted and unfazed by challenges. Being a first was not unusual for him. He was the first African-American in his college fraternity, the first African-American counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee, and the list goes on and on.

RON was a trailblazer and an eternal optimist. He saw no mountain that could not be climbed or moved or conquered.

The Nation has lost a great leader and statesman. I join RON's many colleagues and friends, not in mourning his death, but in celebrating his life, his accomplishments, his

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style and spirit. RON BROWN will be missed, but RON BROWN will never be forgotten.

RON BROWN was an ambassador for corporate America. RON BROWN was about the business of expanding the markets of America across the globe. RON BROWN understood that a prosperous America was an America that would generate the revenues needed to do the things that had to be done in our country for all Americans.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, Mr. P. Stuart Tholan was one of the 32 Americans accompanying Secretary RON BROWN on his mission to contribute to the rebuilding of Bosnia. He was aboard the military transport plane which crashed, killing all abroad. My most sincere condolences go out to his wife, Marilyn, his children, Scott and Carolyn, and all his family, as well as to all those whose lives P. Stuart Tholan touched.

Mr. Tholan had been invited on the humanitarian mission by Commerce Secretary RON BROWN because of his distinguished record of overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles and succeeding again and again. The reconstruction and revival of Bosnia's devastated economy would have been Mr. Tholan's most significant challenge. I have the utmost confidence, as did Secretary BROWN, that he would have succeeded at this ultimate challenge.

Mr. Tholan's outstanding work for the Bechtel group of companies, based in San Francisco, CA, earned him a reputation as a demanding project director who tackled the most daunting tasks with eternal optimism and a can-do attitude. While his focus on the successful completion of a project could not be swayed, he never lost sight of the importance of the people on the project. Mr. Tholan would always take the time to help a co-worker when they had personal or family difficulties or to devote his spare time to coaching little league and girl's softball.

The mission that P. Stuart Tholan was participating in was perfectly suited to his strengths. Throughout his career, he had shown an ability to bring together people and motivate them to accomplish the most difficult tasks. The strengths of his personality and character shone through the overwhelming nature of jobs he took on. His leadership propelled an international work force of 16,000 to put out the Kuwaiti oil fires in a fraction of the time experts thought possible.

These are the reasons why Secretary BROWN chose P. Stuart Tholan as the perfect candidate to help rebuild the devastated economy of Bosnia. Mr. Speaker, P. Stuart Tholan

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and the others who perished on that plane deserve our gratitude for their commitment and dedication to bring peace and stability to Bosnia and for their service to our Nation.

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, for any parent, the death of a child is surely life's greatest tragedy. I can personally remember the profound grief and gloom that swept over my own father and family when my youngest sister Nancy was tragically killed following a horseback riding accident in Colombia, where I served in the Peace Corps more than 30 years ago. Even now, not a day goes by that my family does not sorely miss Nancy and regret the fact that she did not live longer, though we all know she led a magnificent life while she was with us.

The same sentiment, I am sure, will be true for the family of Santa Cruz resident Adam Darling, who left this world last week with Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and 32 other brave Americans in an ill-fated flight over Bosnia. Adam died doing precisely what he wanted: Serving his country, while working to make the world a better place. The eternal optimist, Adam had once offered to ride his bike cross-country from his home in Santa Cruz to Washington, DC for then Governor Bill Clinton because he felt he could make a difference in the 1992 Presidential race. After the election, he ended up in Washington working in the Commerce Department. When I arrived to be sworn in as a Member of Congress, Adam was there to meet me. He brought his father, the Reverend Darrell Darling from Santa Cruz with him to all of our Washington activities. According to Darrell, "Adam Darling was a leader among his peers, his friends, his family and in his work. His leadership grew from a keen and uncluttered mind, a character free of shame, given or received, and a thoroughly generous spirit. He was very realistic about both public policy and public service, and the limitations and temptations of both. Adam's realism never became cynical. When you decide to make a difference where there is risk, you can't calculate the cost or be guaranteed delivery from pain or loss. Bosnia is a land of grief and turmoil and none of us is immune."

At the Commerce Department, Adam served as staff in the press office for several months before becoming a personal assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Commerce for 2 years. Adam was also instrumental in bringing state-of-the-art science to Central Coast and the country. Just 1 year ago, he helped organize the first-ever link between classrooms across America and marine biologists working in the Monte-

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rey Bay. RON BROWN had recently asked Adam to handle press relations and advance planning for the economic development mission in Bosnia. According to his family, "Adam saw it as an opportunity to make a significant contribution to a peace effort where it is severely needed."

Rather than working hard to gain personal attention, Adam worked hard for the sheer pleasure of doing a job well and the satisfaction of knowing he had helped make someone else's life a little more livable. He was one of the many invisible government hands working in Bosnia to ensure the survival of a nation. Amazing acts of heroism, dedication, and humanitarianism exemplify the work done by those invisible hands. Without people like those who served, continue to serve and will serve their country by helping others, the world would be hard pressed to survive tragedies such as the Bosnia conflict.

Adam too saw life as an opportunity to serve the world. Telling his family at the age of five that he would be President of the United States some day, a young boy made his commitment to bettering his country at any cost. During the few years he was afforded, Adam worked with the dedication and commitment of a President, and accomplished more for the good of humankind during his lifetime than many even attempt in 100 years.

The loss of Adam Darling and the 34 others in Bosnia will be sorely felt by all and will remain in our hearts as a memorial to all who pay the highest cost possible in order to help the world by serving their country.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, Mr. I. Donald Terner was one of the 32 Americans accompanying Secretary RON BROWN on his mission to contribute to the rebuilding of Bosnia. He was aboard the military transport plane which crashed, killing all aboard. My most sincere condolences go out to his wife, Deirdre English, his children, and to all those whose lives Donald Terner improved with his many good works.

Donald Terner was a man of truly extraordinary energy and commitment, and we are extremely fortunate that he chose to devote his talents to improving the lives of low-income families throughout California. As founder and president of Bridge Housing Corp., Donald Terner created a low-income housing enterprise which constructed nearly 6,000 homes in the 13 years the organization has been in business. Both the continuing success of the solid organization Donald Terner built and the thousands of families who will have a

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roof over their heads for years to come will serve as a lasting testament to the life of Donald Terner.

Commerce Secretary RON BROWN was so impressed with the remarkable achievements of Donald Terner that he invited Mr. Terner to accompany him on a humanitarian mission to restore the housing resources destroyed by years of all-out war in Bosnia. Donald Terner was not deterred by the overwhelming difficulty of rebuilding this devastated region. Secretary BROWN recognized in Donald Terner the same qualities that those who have worked with him have appreciated for decades. His humanitarian spirit combined with his unrelenting commitment to success in the face of adversity has allowed him to succeed in California and it would have propelled him to success in Bosnia.

Donald Terner was known as a relentless promoter of low-income housing in California and throughout the world. Building affordable housing entails not only raising the necessary funds, but also the often more difficult task of convincing homeowners to allow the housing to be built in their neighborhoods. It was impossible, however, to say "no" to Donald Terner. He was able to convince lenders and neighbors to support to projects because he believed that what he was doing would help people, and that made his persuasive powers all but irresistible.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in tribute to Donald Terner for his commitment to making the world more livable for low-income people. His efforts in behalf of the community should serve as a model for all Americans. While we cannot all devote the time and energy that Donald Terner did, we can invoke his memory when our communities ask something of us.

WEDNESDAY, *April 17, 1996.*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, last evening our colleague, the gentlewoman from North Carolina, Representative Eva Clayton, called a special order to honor the memory of and celebrate the life of Secretary of Commerce Secretary RON BROWN. There were so many of us who wanted to participate that we have some overflow this evening. I am among those. I want to acknowledge the leadership of the gentlewoman in calling that special order. She asked us to focus not only on

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our personal, but our professional relationships with RON BROWN in remembering him.

First, I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that our country suffered a staggering tragedy with the loss of our distinguished Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN. How he would enjoy seeing some of the tributes to him that were written in the past week. The Washington Post says "Best in the Business." Another headline, "BROWN, a Pioneer at Home In Black and White America. Ex-Party Chief Had Key Role in Clinton Win." Indeed he did.

Another headline, "Builder of Bridges." How he would like to have seen this headline, "Devoted To Mission Until the End." "RON BROWN's contribution to his people," "Changing the face of America's executive suites, still lily white, is a tribute worthy of BROWN."

And the list goes on and on of RON BROWN's contributions. Commerce Secretary RON BROWN showed endearing enthusiasm for whatever task he undertook. How true that is.

I call these to your attention, Mr. Speaker, and to the attention of our colleagues, because I know that RON BROWN would have enjoyed them. I hope that they are a source of comfort to the Brown family.

Our colleague the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, Ms. Eleanor Holmes Norton, when she made her presentation last evening mentioned some of the other people who, unfortunately, also lost their lives in the tragedy, and I would like to call attention to three others who I am familiar with. The First Lady attended the funeral of Adam Darling, an optimistic and interested person in politics who went on to work at the Commerce Department under RON BROWN's leadership. I note with particular sadness the death of Bill Morton, a dynamic and brilliant young man who devoted his life to advancing minorities in public service. And in our community in San Francisco, we are particularly grief stricken by the death of Don Terner, the Bridge Housing Corporation executive, who was a member of the delegation.

Don Terner is a great lost to the San Francisco Bay Area and the affordable housing community nationwide. In his life, he gave dignity and hope to American families by providing shelter. Don Terner died as he had lived, bringing hope to people in need.

Now I would like to return my focus to Secretary RON BROWN. I had the privilege of working with RON BROWN since the early eighties, when we worked together putting together the 1984 Democratic Convention in San Francisco,

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but also working on the delegate selection process. In the convention in 1992, I served as co-chair with Governor Romer of the Platform Committee. I mention those two relationships with RON because in both of those instances, whether it was participation in the party, in the delegate selection process, or whether it was policy formation in putting together a platform, RON BROWN gave no tolerance to discrimination. Our party would be open and our policy would be open to all people in our society. Indeed, I believe that is a hallmark of the Clinton Administration, and RON BROWN's influence was surely felt there.

I hope it is a comfort to all of the families of all of the people in the delegation, I hope it is a comfort to their loved ones that they are mourned by an entire Nation, that they died in a mission of peace, bringing humanitarian and economic assistance to the Balkans, and that their sacrifice will never be forgotten.

I want to particularly commend Alma Brown and extend sympathy to her and to Michael and to Tracy, RON and Alma's children. Across the world, people saw Alma Brown as dignified in her sadness. I happened to be in Indonesia when we got the news, and even at that distance, the press was one of great admiration and, of course, sympathy for Alma. But she led us through this tragic time, through this sadness, in a way that I know would have made RON BROWN very, very proud. But, of course, he knew that about Alma.

So I would say that as we mourn, the leaders of the delegation, we must also remember the patriotic members of the military on the flight and the members of the Commerce Department staff. The prayers of my family I know will always be with the Brown family, as well as with the families of this mission of peace.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, later on this evening, the gentleman from New Jersey, Don Payne, and other Members of Congress will continue to pay tribute to my fallen buddy, RON BROWN, but I just want to share some views as I saw RON and 33 other coffins arrive in Dover, these flag-draped coffins covering the bodies of people that were in the business of selling the United States of America, and then heard the tributes that were paid to all of them, as well as attending at Arlington cemetery.

As the bands were playing and the flags were unfurled and the cannons were blasting, I could only think what a great country we live in and how many things we just take for granted; that here a young American who comes from one

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of the poorest communities can, in such a short period of time, capture the love and gain the respect of not only the President of the United States but so many Americans from seashore to seashore, and, at the same time, to know that in so many foreign countries, some not as friendly as we wish that they would be, that they lowered their flags at half mast for this great American, RON BROWN.

I think that when we start thinking about loving America, we have to think about what kind of person could love his country so much that he would try to climb mountains that other people would not even attempt, not only to show how great America was and what products we wanted to sell, and not how superior we were, but to actually talk with trade ministers and prime ministers and presidents in terms of the needs of their country. The poverty, the disease, the sickness, the hunger, the unemployment, the joblessness, and to be able to say to that country that America was there as a friend that wanted to help.

This was a part of the world that we never spent that much time in. This was the part of the world that we had to develop markets in. This was the part of the world that we had to increase their ability to have disposable income so that as we had once done in Europe under the Marshall plan, that we could regain the leadership that we have possessed since World War II. And how they loved him, because it was not just selling America, it was the interest he had in them.

I saw at the funeral Ambassadors that had flown in from Mexico, India, South Africa. They spoke, they talked, they loved, they cared. And I said what a wonderful country it is that we have in the United States of America, people that come from every country in the world.

Unlike other countries where you just look at the country and you can feel just the narrow culture interest that they have, there is no country in the world that we cannot reach and show that Americans come from all over. To see what investing in the education of a RON BROWN, or Ron Gonzalez, or Ron Lee, or the women that have been denied the opportunity to show, to be given the opportunity to show that they are Americans, this is a great country, and go abroad and find out that they are making friends for us, as well as creating trade.

Mr. Speaker, I have received notices, as well as telephone calls, from Senator Dole and from Haley Barbor, who is the chair of the Republican Party, to say to me, as they have

said to others, this issue is too big to look at party labels. It is too big to look at the color of American skins. It is American to be able to say that we can make our country a greater place, create more jobs if only we cared enough to train our people for these type of opportunities and to share our talents with so many other countries in the world.

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, I wanted to take some time this evening to pay tribute to a man so many of us knew as a great friend and a real true patriot. Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN was a person we all knew and loved. So many people across this Nation have been inspired by RON BROWN, it is fitting that we celebrated his remarkable life and legacy.

Even in the midst of our grief over his untimely passing, we recognize that RON was the kind of person who would want to be remembered for how he lived his life rather than how he died. It has been said that a man's reach should exceed his grasp. Throughout RON BROWN's wonderful life he kept reaching, seizing each challenge with boundless confidence, with enthusiasm, with energy, with vision. Both in the private sector and in the public life he displayed that all-American can-do attitude, refusing even to entertain the thought that any obstacles would be insurmountable.

It was this spirit that won him so many firsts. First black fraternity member at Middlebury College. First black to hold the position of Chief Counsel of the U.S. Senate. First black partner at Patton, Boggs & Blow, and then on to becoming the first black chairman of the Democratic Party before being appointed by President Clinton as the first black Secretary of Commerce.

Yet it was typical of RON BROWN that even as he built racial coalitions, he downplayed the significance of race as he sought to take on new challenges in his life. He said that race was not important as an obstacle. He simply said he can continue to move on up a little higher.

I remember back in 1988, when I was a member of the Newark City Council and seeking election to the House of Representatives, RON BROWN was campaigning at that time to become chairman of the Democratic National Committee. I traveled to Washington with the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce early in February 1988 to their annual legislative visit, when we talked to legislators here and talked about policies for our State. During my stay I introduced our State Democratic chairman, Ray Durkin, to RON BROWN, knowing

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that RON was seeking the office of chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

After hearing RON's ideas and observing his enthusiasm and his approach to problem solving and his enthusiasm and his approach to problem solving and his vision, the State Democratic chairman, Ray Durkin, made a decision right on the spot to support RON BROWN. He said this is the man we need to lead our party.

I was pleased when our New Jersey U.S. Senator, Bill Bradley, immediately came on board to join in for the backing of RON BROWN to become the chairman of the Democratic National Committee. In fact, New Jersey was the first State to endorse Secretary BROWN when he made his run for the chairmanship of the Democratic National Committee.

RON BROWN did not run a narrow campaign based on race, he reached out to a wide range of Americans, as he always did in his life, ultimately convincing the electorate to return the White House to the Democratic Party for the first time in over a decade. As a matter of fact, our State of New Jersey went overwhelmingly for President Clinton for the first time in almost three decades. It was because of RON BROWN and his vision, his imagination, his creativity, his gumption, his stick-to-itiveness. He embodied the power of positive thinking, always looking ahead, assuredness, and optimistic.

Secretary BROWN became involved in politics in 1971, when he was a district leader in Mount Vernon, NY, in the Democrat Party there. He made a name for himself in the Urban League with his innovative ideas and creative approaches. He loved both public service and politics. Before working for Senator Kennedy on the Committee on the Judiciary, he served as director of the California for Kennedy committee and later organized for Jesse Jackson's run for President.

Another point that needs to be made, in this era when it is popular in some quarters to bash those who work for the Federal Government, that RON BROWN and those who perished with him out there, risking their lives under very dangerous conditions on a mission to improve the lives of people in Bosnia and to promote American products, American business opportunities in order to create American jobs.

Secretary BROWN and his staff worked tirelessly over the years bringing in billions and billions of dollars of contracts to Americans. Let us hope that out of respect for the victims and their families this unfair debasing of Federal employees for cheap political mileage will cease.

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Let me take a moment to pay tribute to the victims of the tragedy who were connected to my home State of New Jersey who were on that ill-fated trip that day. We are proud of their service and extend deepest sympathies to their families.

Lee Jackson, who was born in Montclair, NJ, part of my district, was executive director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development at the Treasury Department. He was a young, bright African-American fellow whose father was a former newspaper person, who, as a matter of fact, was a very close friend of my Newark district office manager. We sat, Rick Thigpen and myself, watching the television, very saddened, awaiting the news from over in Croatia.

Another person on that flight from New Jersey, Claudio Elia, was chairman and chief executive of Air and Water Technologies Corp. in Branchburg, NJ.

Walter Murphy was vice president of global sales at AT&T Submarine Systems in Morristown, NJ.

Our State also lost two young people who were serving our country in the military, as Secretary RON BROWN had done as a young U.S. Army captain early in his life. S. Sgt. Robert Farrington, Jr., was from Brierfield, NJ; and T. Sgt. Cheryl Turnage lived in Lakehurst before she joined the Air Force.

RON BROWN left us too soon. He had so many gifts and yet he was not to have the gift of long life. We do not understand how life is given out, it is beyond us. Yet we can take comfort in the fact that his spirit, his zest for living, and his monumental achievements will definitely live on.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to his loving family, his wife, Alma, his son, Michael, his daughter Tracey, and his grandchildren. We will keep them in our thoughts and in our prayers.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for having this special order. I rise to add my voice to the multitude of voices singing the praises of RON BROWN. With all that has been said about him in the last 12 days, some may feel that all that needs to be said has already been said; but as we frequently say, all that need to say it have not already said it.

The fact is that we have all been affected by RON BROWN's life in general and in unique ways, and feel the need to ensure that the record of his life and his good works reflects some of those unique contributions.

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For example, Mr. Speaker, the Newport News Shipyard in the Third Congressional District of Virginia, which I represent, was a beneficiary of his good works. Even before the collapse of the cold war, the shipyard knew it needed to diversify its business portfolio beyond just military shipbuilding, so it began to revive its commercial shipbuilding program.

RON BROWN stood ready when called upon to help the Newport News Shipyard, just as he had helped so many other businesses before. For the Newport News Shipyard, he took Pat Phillips, the former president of the shipyard, to the Middle East to meet with business and government leaders in Israel, Egypt, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates to market the frigate ship program, and they were very successful. Bill Fricks, the current president of the shipyard, stated upon the news of RON's death that, and I quote:

> RON BROWN was a great advocate of our yard and voiced his support for Newport News Shipyard and other Tenneco subsidiaries during numerous trade missions overseas. Not only an advocate of stronger international ties, BROWN was also a friend of Newport News Shipyard. He will truly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, there have been a lot of words used to describe RON BROWN and his life: trailblazer, bridgebuilder, fence mender, power broker, coalition builder, energizer, visionary, humanitarian, public servant, crusader, lawyer, businessman, politician, husband, father, friend; all extraordinaire. And to this descriptive list I have to add shipbuilder and a friend of the Third Congressional District of Virginia. We are all grateful for his life and his contributions and for the lives and contributions of those who were with him on that fateful trade mission.

Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN will truly be missed.

Mrs. CLAYTON. I am indeed grateful to Mr. Payne for organizing this special order. I wanted to participate in this special order under the guidance of the Black Caucus, because I think it is appropriate in this leadership that we also have an opportunity to have a special order.

Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN was a bridgebuilder, a peacemaker, a soldier for souls, a fisher for young men and young women.

Out of the ashes and wreckage of that faraway mountain in Bosnia—something remains—a blade of grass, an idea.

The idea—RON BROWN's living legacy—is that you can grow up in Harlem, and progress in Washington.

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He left with us a prototype to follow, a style, a design, a mold, a model that we may never duplicate, but we can certainly replicate.

Under the careful counsel of his father and mother, he learned that it is far better to build bridges than to burn them. He knew that a bridge could arch a flood.

And so, he built bridges between the rich and poor, between people of every hue, between cherished views and fresh beliefs. Perhaps that is why his motorcade journey to his resting place in Arlington was as appropriate on U Street as it was on Constitution Avenue.

RON BROWN was a bridgebuilder.

His time spent in service to America, as an officer of the U.S. Army, apparently taught him that the best way to preserve world peace and avoid war is by doing business.

That is why he traveled to China, journeyed to India, took a trip to Turkey, and voyaged to Africa. And, that is why he risked a rainstorm to get to Tuzla.

He was opening doors, cementing relationships, serving his country, and promoting peace, even in a region torn by war.

RON BROWN was a peacemaker.

His rapid rise to the top was by measured steps from the bottom.

He worked by day and attended law school by night. He was a welfare social worker, a leader with the Urban League, a brilliant political strategist, a lawyer, the pilot of the Democratic Party and the architect of one of the greatest Presidential campaign victories in history.

Through it all, he never lost the common touch.

He was as comfortable playing pick-up basketball in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, DC as he was conversing with Kings and Queens and Prime Ministers.

RON BROWN was a soldier of souls.

But, perhaps the mark that he made that is most worthy of note is his mentoring, wherever he went, he took others with him, especially young men and women.

RON knew how tough it was for an African-American to move from 125th Street in the heart of Harlem to the Commerce Building at the center of power in Washington.

With each career step he took, he embraced young people, forming and fashioning the RON BROWN's of the future.

They are there, at the Department of Commerce, at Democratic National Headquarters, in the public sector and in the private sector—the next Ron Browns.

He was a fisher of young men and young women.

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Whether he was building bridges or closing divides, fighting the good fight or making peace, reaching with a helping hand or bringing others along—he always did his duty with dignity, pride, graciousness, vision and boundless energy. He filled each unforgiving minute with 60 seconds of long distance run.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his lovely wife Alma, his loyal son Michael and his darling daughter Tracey. They have every reason to be proud.

RON was a trailblazer, a tireless champion for all, a role model for role models. He has left his permanent imprint on the sands of time. God's finger has touched him, and he now sleeps.

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Thank you for those remarks.

As you know, we are talking about the life of RON BROWN, but there were a number of people. I mentioned several of those who lived in my great State of New Jersey who lost their lives on that mountainside in Croatia and return flight from Bosnia. There were other people who worked for the government.

As we talked about the fact that all too often it is made trite about working for the government, we hear people saying that Americans should not have to pay taxes. Why should we be involved in such things? What right do we have to take their money? We heard some of that dialog earlier here tonight.

Well, because we live in a country that is great. We live in a country where you can get on a road and the road will take you where you need to go, with pavement, with utilities, with lights. We live in a place where you can drink clear water and not worry about having bacteria in it. We live in a place that you can call the authorities or go to a courtroom and find that you can have your cases heard. And that is why it is a responsibility of Americans to have a responsibility.

As a matter of fact, at some other time we will get on to this subject, but people make it seem that here in America we are overtaxed. We pay about 29 percent. Japan used to pay 19 percent; they paid 29 percent. In the Western Europe countries, most pay 38 to 39 percent. We should take a look at the global situation, and I say that to say that RON BROWN was a person who had to take this unnecessary bashing. People in government took unnecessary bashing. We heard people criticize the Department of Commerce, but bil-

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lions of dollars worth of business have been brought back to this country.

There were other people who gave their life for this country.

Bill Morton was a fellow who was always at RON BROWN's side. Bill was a deputy assistant secretary for international trade. He was a long time aide of RON BROWN. He graduated from Georgetown University, a native of Colorado, was always there when RON BROWN had to go. Did not like to fly at all, did not like travel at all, but he felt that it was his responsibility to his boss, RON BROWN. It was the responsibility to his country, and he went when called and did not want to go on that trip to Bosnia, but he was there.

These are the types of Americans who are the unsung heroes, people who dedicate their time, their life, their energy, time away from their family. The Bill Mortons of the world are the type that makes this country run, that make it as great as it is.

There were a number of people on that flight. Duane Christian, who was RON BROWN's chief security officer, a person who had been in this government for many years, used to work for the Office of Personnel Management, a former school teacher.

On that trip was Adam Darling, just a 29-year-old person, a confidential assistant for the Deputy Secretary of Commerce. He worked in international trade, wanted to make America strong, wanted to increase our balance of trade, wanted to reduce the balance of trade deficit, a young 29-year-old person was there serving our country.

Gail Dobert, acting director of the office of business liaison, a person who had worked many years on the Hill, who was there serving our country.

Carol Hamilton, the press secretary for RON BROWN, who was a person who had worked in business and industry, worked for Chase Manhattan Bank, but decided to give her time, her talents to the United States Government and came to work in the Commerce Department so that the work that great department was doing could be better told.

We have Kathryn Hoffman, a special assistant to RON BROWN who was a person who was interested in politics, worked in the Clinton campaign during 1992, and actually was the person that produced the first African-American inaugural gala and leadership forum at the inauguration of the inaugural committee for President Clinton, a person who worked for Sony Pictures and in the past for Senator Biden

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and Julian Bond. A person with tremendous amount of ability, also lost her life.

We have Stephen Kaminski, who was a senior commercial officer who traveled a great deal, who tried to see that the market access of American companies could be enlarged in places like Japan, and worked in capitals of Hamburg and Dusseldorf and Vienna, and was a person, a real world leader.

Kathryn Kellogg, a confidential assistant, office of business liaison, who came to that office from a background with the Jay Rockefeller office and did a tremendous amount.

And we had a very senior person with us on that trip with RON BROWN, Charles F. Meissner who was the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for International Affairs, has been very active in government, and his wife was the Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner, Mrs. Doris Meissner, and certainly our heart goes out to her, a person who is still contributing to our Government.

Also a part of our Government team was Lawrence Payne, a special assistant, office of domestic operations. He was a person who added a great deal to the mission.

Naomi P. Warbasse, who was a deputy director of Central and East Europe Business Information Center.

We had James M. Lewek, who was an intelligence analyst who worked on European economic issues. He was a person who was an analyst, a very bright individual who served very well.

So these were people who worked for our government who felt it was important, who felt they had a contribution to make, who felt that this great Nation of ours could do better. They never accepted enough was enough. They went on to move to higher heights.

RON BROWN had gone on a mission to India. No one ever looked at India as a place where we should take trade missions. It was never on the radar screen. But RON BROWN looked at the population, a population of over 900 million people, a country that in the next 20 years will have a population in excess of the population of the People's Republic of China.

It is estimated by the year 2020 the population of India will exceed 1 billion 250 million people—1 billion 300 million people. This is awesome.

The People's Republic of China currently has 1 billion 100 million people. The population of the United States is 250 million.

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RON BROWN looked at India and said, after analysis, that India has as many middle-income people as the entire population of the United States of America. He was one that looked around and saw the poverty and saw the problems, but he also looked at the aggregate number, 900 million people, and found out that 250 million were middle-income people in India. And so he took a trade mission and, in less than a week, did over $7 billion worth of business on that trip. It was RON BROWN conceiving that there is opportunity in that great country of India.

He took trade missions to South Africa, worked with Mr. Mandela. As a matter of fact, RON BROWN was one of President Nelson Mandela's favorite persons. Mr. Mandela, who, as you know, is probably one of the greatest leaders in this world, has tremendous insight, and he was a person that opened his doors to his personal home to RON BROWN because of the camaraderie between the two. Of course, President Mandela, being much older than RON BROWN, RON just looked up to him and went to South Africa, and through RON BROWN's creativity the Mbeke-Gore Bilateral Commission for Trade, directly the deputy president, Tabo Mbeke, Vice President Al Gore cochaired this trade development that will increase imports and exports from these two great countries.

RON BROWN went to Asia and was very popular.

The Japanese trade officials enjoyed working with RON BROWN. They felt that he was very astute, and he did outstanding business in Japan. He was one, and we heard of Mickey Kantor and his debates in Geneva with the auto parts, but RON BROWN would go over to Japan, and it was, they call it, the "bad cop, good cop," Mickey Kantor being the bad cop, tough guy, mean guy, never smiled, and RON BROWN would come with his smile. He was a good cop. But RON would always get the signature on the dotted line. So, as we have recently heard, the tremendous increase in the amount of autos and auto parts being sold to Japan, a record for this country. Part of that success for our big three auto makers is because of RON BROWN and the work that he has done.

He went to the People's Republic of China and was ready to do business all over the place. It was just that it was so large, RON just took a little piece of it, but billions of dollars' worth of People's Republic of China.

And so I mentioned these various missions that he took. He was interested in the whole relationship between Mexico and the United States. He felt that Mexico has tremendous

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potential, but that the human rights of people in Mexico must be observed better. He talked about changing over the type of government, making it more people oriented, and he was a person that saw that one way that we could stop illegal immigration is that Mexico itself becomes a place that people feel they should stay, their country. Most people prefer living in their own country. They do not like traveling to other countries. They do not want to learn a foreign language. They do not want to be put in substandard jobs. They do not want to be pointed out as the problem. So most people, wherever they live in the world, prefer to stay where their home country is.

RON BROWN felt that, with Mexico developing, with opportunities in Mexico for Mexicans, that would be the biggest way to slow down and eventually stop illegal immigration and actually have people emigrate back to Mexico once opportunities developed there. But he also said that, as Mexico developed, that there would be markets for the United States, there would be trade opportunities, that it would not be a one-way street, but we would be able to solve a tremendous social problem in our country of illegal immigration.

So RON BROWN's policies really affected the world, whether it was in the Far East, the Pacific rim, whether it was in the new independent States, or in Africa. He was a person who felt that we could do things best in this country, we make the best products, once we put our minds to it. He felt that all we had to do was to get an opportunity to introduce our business people to foreign markets, and that they would really jump on board on getting our products.

So as we wind down on our commemoration of RON BROWN, the man, RON BROWN, the leader, RON BROWN, the father, RON BROWN was a person that even when he was under attack, and I sat at a hearing of the committee on International Relations where there was the move to abolish and eliminate the Department of Commerce. Some mean-spirited questions were asked, and the manner in which some of the questioners on the other side of the aisle were lashing out at the Secretary of Commerce. He answered every question. He answered the questions well. He had the facts.

As a matter of fact, when the hearing ended, most of the Members who started out with this mean-spirited slash and burn type of philosophy had to admit that the Department of Commerce had done an outstanding job; had to admit that, truly, this is the first Department of Commerce Sec-

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retary that the American people can say the name of the person. This is a Commerce Department person that people felt was doing the job. But in their fallacy, their preconceived notion was to eliminate the Department of Commerce. I think that that started to sort of slow down once RON BROWN really gave the facts to people.

We are here to say, Mr. Speaker, that we hope that we will remember RON. We will once again say that he was a great American. We will once again say that he is the type of person that we can have young men and women, African-American, Caucasian, native American, whatever, point to and say that he is the measure of a man. Anyone can succeed if you try hard enough, that all you have to do is to have a vision, have creativity, and be ready to step up to the plate.

Once again, I would like to thank the Speaker for this time, and to express to my colleagues who came out tonight that I appreciate their participation this evening. I also appreciate the participation of many, many Members who have expressed their views during the past week that we have been back here, Monday, Tuesday, and today.

As a matter of fact, concluding, it was going to be on a week from today that he was going to visit the Congressional Black Caucus' weekly meeting. We talked before his trip, and April 24 was the date that he was scheduled to come to talk about women's opportunities, small business, the census. So we will certainly even more remember him next week when we meet in our weekly Wednesday meeting. He is a true American, a real American hero.

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the American chorus of praise for Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and to join my colleagues in expressing our profound sorrow at the loss of his life in the plan crash in Croatia. And I also take this time to let the Nation know that a constituent of mine, Air Force Staff Sgt. Gerald V. Aldrich, of Louisville, IL, was a member of the crew and also perished in that terrible crash.

Because of that, the 19th District of Illinois was touched as much as any other in the Nation by the news from that rugged mountainside in a nation torn apart by civil war and cultural strife.

Unexplainable tragedies inevitably take with them outstanding people who are a credit to their families, friends, and communities. Certainly that is true with Sergeant Aldrich and Secretary BROWN.

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I have talked with the Aldrich family at length, and know that they are extraordinarily proud of their fine son. He entered the military shortly after graduating from high school and fashioned a career that was clearly taking him to leadership positions in the Air Force. On behalf of everyone in the 19th district, I send my deepest sympathies to his entire family.

As I comprehended Secretary BROWN's death, I knew that most people would remember him for his efforts in the Democratic Party and for his global approach to supporting American economic interests. And while he must certainly be commended for those things, I knew that I would remember him much more for two very simple, relatively small projects which were extremely important to me and the people in my district. There are two major construction projects underway in my district right now because the communities made their case to the Commerce Department, and Secretary BROWN made sure their needs were addressed. He was personally interested in how these projects would create jobs and improve the lives of working people, and I will always be thankful for that.

Mr. Speaker, two fine Americans were taken from us on that mountain in Croatia. I thank the Aldrich and Brown families for sharing their precious gifts with us for as long as they did, and commend their careers of public service to the rest of us to emulate and admire.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Secretary RON BROWN, an American who distinguished himself as a leader in the Democratic Party and an outspoken supporter of free trade while serving as Commerce Secretary.

During his youth, Mr. BROWN excelled in school. His success led him to Middlebury College in Vermont, which he attended on a ROTC scholarship. After graduating in 1962, Mr. BROWN entered the Army and rose to the rank of captain.

Throughout his life he held many important positions in both the private and public sectors. Secretary BROWN ably assisted Senator Kennedy on his staff and with the Judiciary Committee. In addition, he was a highly sought lobbyist with Patton, Boggs & Blow.

Mr. BROWN impressively unified the Jesse Jackson and Michael Dukakis supporters at the 1988 Democratic National Convention. His efforts propelled him to chairman of the Democratic National Committee, where he ably served

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for 4 years, culminating in Bill Clinton's 1992 election. RON BROWN deservedly received much of the credit for his work with the Clinton campaign.

Over the past 3 years, Mr. BROWN had directed his efforts toward improving trade and commerce for the United States. He served as a proud emissary for American interests.

Mr. BROWN was a talented and tireless adversary on the campaign trail as well as a distinguished member of the Clinton Administration serving on behalf of the American people. I offer my condolences to the family and friends of Secretary RON BROWN.

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to salute a man who did more to advance U.S. economic interests at home and abroad than any other in our nation's distinguished history. RON BROWN, whose other accomplishments include revitalizing the Democratic party and advancing race relations in America, died tragically 2 weeks ago on a trade mission in Bosnia.

As Commerce Secretary, BROWN was accompanied by 34 other brave Americans, one of whom was my constituent. Adam Darling, a 29-year Commerce Department assistant who offered to bike cross-country from his Santa Cruz, California home to promote Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, also lost his life on that terrible flight. I had the honor of saluting Adam's life last Friday, along with the First Lady, his family and friends at a touching memorial service. He will be sorely missed by all.

Adam was on board, because as President Clinton put it, RON BROWN could see in him and the others "the promise of a new tomorrow and he knew they needed someone to reach down and give them the opportunity to serve." RON BROWN was truly one of a kind.

The son of a hotel manager, RON BROWN grew up in black America but bridged the gap between white and black from the earliest years of his life. Attending white private schools, BROWN went on to be the only African-American in his class at Middlebury College, where he forged the desegregation of his fraternity. He later attended St. John's University Law School and subsequently worked as a prominent attorney in the largely white world of law. After that, RON BROWN became the first African-American chairman of the Democratic National Committee. As former National Urban League chief John Jacob said, "RON could accomplish anything, because he didn't believe he couldn't do it.

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As Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN worked tirelessly to promote our economic interests both here an around the globe. He firmly believed that free, but fair trade was one of the best ways of advancing our country's national interests as we move into the 21st century. It was for this reason that RON BROWN enthusiastically led his mission to Bosnia. He believed that the untapped possibilities of the war-torn region held untold possibilities for the United States.

I personally have had the pleasure of working with RON BROWN on a number of occasions. Before his untimely death, he and I had been developing a unique initiative of sustainable development for my congressional district. We both eagerly looked forward to harnessing the creative energy of public and private enterprise to forget this new national model.

I don't believe a day has gone by since the tragic accident that I have not mourned what this country will miss without RON BROWN, and the others aboard his plane. While the important work of the Commerce Department will surely continue, America will never recapture the potential that traveled aboard that flight. We can never replace the enormous possibilities that traveled with RON BROWN.

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend, a visionary, a dream-maker, and trailblazer; the Honorable RONALD H. BROWN. Although I am deeply saddened by his sudden passing, I am inspired and encouraged by the legacy RON has left for all citizens of the United States. RON BROWN was not only a personal friend, but a friend of our country.

Elected the first African American Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he utilized his experience and successes, in reuniting the Democratic Party and ensuring a victory for President Clinton.

As the first African American Secretary of Commerce, RON not only pursued the expansion of American trade opportunities, but also sought to extend the American Dream to improve the quality of life for all people throughout the world. His vision for the Department of Commerce included providing economic opportunities for all Americans, opening and expanding markets globally, and generating jobs through his national export strategy which allows U.S. companies—big and small—to maximize their export potential. In addition, he wanted to ensure an enhanced technology base and infrastructure and utilization and growth for the Information Superhighway. In doing so, he transformed America into an ex-

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port superpower, creating over $80 billion in foreign agreements for U.S. businesses. A champion of civil rights, he fought for diversity within the Department, as well as increased opportunities for minority-owned businesses.

RON was a trailblazer. The list of accomplishments which inspires not only African Americans, but all working men, women, and minorities is commendable. He, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was an effective communicator, a passionate civil rights advocate, keen political strategist, skilled negotiator, and compassionate bridge builder. A man of action, RON BROWN not only dreamt, but more importantly, realized his dreams for himself and others.

I will personally miss our heart to heart conversations and political discussions, RON's enthusiasm for life, and most of all, his infectious smile.

As my friend, the Reverend Jesse Jackson so eloquently described him, "We must remember RON BROWN—freedom fighter, social servant, patriot, dream-maker. . . . A monument to his success is opening the door for coming generations." We must always hold a special place in our hearts for RON BROWN. RON was truly a man for all seasons who we will sorely miss. Thank you, RON, for all you've done. We love you, brother.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, people from all walks of life, professional, personal, religious—friends, colleagues and strangers alike—found themselves binding together over the past 2 weeks in mourning the loss of RON BROWN, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, who died tragically in a plane crash in Bosnia. As could be expected, RON was lost to us while on a mission of peace as he sought to repair the fabric of war-torn Bosnia.

Today, in honor of his memory, I would like to add my voice to those of hundreds of thousands—perhaps millions—of others who spoke of RON BROWN the man, the husband, the father, the friend of Democrats, the beloved adviser to President Clinton.

I begin by extending my personal condolences to his wife, Alma and their children, and to the families and friends of all others who gave their lives as well, and to assure them that they are in my thoughts and my prayers; may they be comforted by God's love and the outpouring of grief, love, and the many tributes coming from people throughout the world.

I also convey condolences to the family and friends of William Morton, a native of Huntington, WV, located in the district I represent, who was also aboard the doomed plane over

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Croatia. To them I extend my deepest sympathies and offer my prayers on their behalf that will always be comforted knowing that William died on a mission of peace, as a patriot of his country, doing the job he was committed to doing and doing well, at the side of his mentor, Secretary BROWN.

I pay particular tribute to RON BROWN, Secretary of Commerce, for while he excelled in all aspects of every endeavor or job or position he ever held in public life, it was as Secretary of Commerce that he won my everlasting admiration and esteem.

As the Representative in the House of the people of the third district in West Virginia, one of my major goals is to do all that is possible to increase economic development opportunities and the job creation that follows such incentives, for my people. We live in the heart of Appalachia where unemployment in some areas still remains in double-digits, and where economic development is integral to our effort to create a stronger, stable economic base for all West Virginians.

RON BROWN won my heart by requiring his entire department staff to memorize a one-sentence mission statement that ought to be the mission statement of every person in government, and that sentence was: "Our mission is to ensure economic opportunity for every American."

RON BROWN, having achieved the American dream for himself, spent the rest of his life seeking to make it a reality for those bound over by poverty and despair. His life stands as a testament to the power of educating our people, to a sound work ethic meaning a willingness to work hard, and a dedication of ourselves to work for the common good of all.

In West Virginia, RON will be remembered more for local economic development projects through the Economic Development Administration [EDA], and the Office of Economic Adjustment perhaps, then for his global view on trade initiatives between the United States and the rest of the world. He was a friend of towns and cities large and small throughout the Nation, and became the catalyst for change in social and economic circles that were long overdue, by reminding American capitalists that their prosperity was inextricably linked to the prosperity of all Americans.

Whether RON was in an American city, the Middle East, or Bosnia, he believed that participation in economic success would go a long way in healing racial, ethnic, and religious differences.

Secretary BROWN ran the Commerce Committee like no other Secretary before him—by actively involving businesses

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in securing jobs for Americans. He took a page from the investment strategy book of the Japanese Government whose economic growth excelled for many years because of the direct involvement of government in the Japanese business community, issuing a challenge to America's economic thinking.

RON BROWN learned from that, and he acknowledged the power and importance of businesses great and small in the United States, and encouraged greater investment in business and industry, rather than ignoring them as his predecessors had done. Under his stewardship, the American economy rebounded over the past 3 years, largely due to his personal involvement and the involvement of his department staff who had memorized the one-sentence mission statement: "Our mission is to ensure economic opportunity for every American."

RON BROWN was many things to many people, and he was remembered as having great charisma, of being able to walk into a room and energize it, drawing people to his side. He was known for his sense of compassion, his willingness to listen to both sides. He was also known for his sense of humor and, needless to say, for his outstanding political acumen, and his ability to make friends anywhere and everywhere he went, working on behalf of the America he loved.

That is Secretary BROWN's legacy to us all, and we must not forget.

THURSDAY, *April 18, 1996.*

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration in the House of the resolution (H. Res. 406) in tribute to Secretary of Commerce RONALD H. BROWN and other Americans who lost their lives on April 3, 1996, while in service to their country on a mission to Bosnia.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Quinn). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

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Whereas RONALD H. BROWN served the United States of America with patriotism and skill as a soldier, a civil rights leader, and attorney;

Whereas RONALD H. BROWN devoted his life to opening doors, building bridges, and helping those in need;

Whereas RONALD H. BROWN lost his life in a tragic airplane accident on April 3, 1996, while in service to his country on a mission in Bosnia; and

Whereas thirty-two other Americans from government and industry who served the Nation with great courage, achievement, and dedication also lost their lives in the accident: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives pays tribute to the remarkable life and career of RONALD H. BROWN, and it extends condolences to his family.

*Be it further resolved*, That the House of Representatives also pays tribute to the contributions of all those who perished, and that we extend our condolences to the families of: Staff Sergeant Gerald Aldrich, Duane Christian, Barry Conrad, Paul Cushman III, Adam Darling, Captain Ashley James Davis, Gail Dobert, Robert Donovan, Claudio Elia, Staff Sergeant Robert Farrington, Jr., David Ford, Carol Hamilton, Kathryn Hoffman, Lee Jackson, Steven Kaminiski, Kathryn Kellogg, Technical Sergeant Shelley Kelly, James Lewek, Frank Maier, Charles Meissner, William Morton, Walter Murphy, Nathaniel Nash, Lawrence Payne, Leonard Pieroni, Captain Timothy Shafer, John Scoville, I. Donald Terner, P. Stuart Tholan, Technical Sergeant Cheryl Ann Turnage, Naomi Warbasse, and Robert Whittaker.

SEC. 2. The Clerk of the House shall transmit a copy of the resolution to each of the families.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning with great sadness to offer a resolution in tribute to Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and all of the Americans who lost their lives in that awful tragedy on April 3 while they were all serving their country on a mission to Bosnia. I am pleased that we are able to make this a bipartisan resolution, in fact, a resolution of all the Members of the House. For when a highly and distinguished member of the U.S. Cabinet is killed overseas for the first time in American history, when we lose an individual, and individuals of such extraordinary ability and achievement, when we lose so many other dedicated business leaders and public servants, members of the Commerce Department, members of the U.S. Air Force, it is not a partisan tragedy, it is truly a tragedy for all of our citizens and all of our country.

In the week since RON BROWN's death, it has already become a cliche to speak of his brilliant political and public service career. Of his pioneering role as chairman of the Democratic Party and his efforts to almost single-handedly redefine the Commerce Department and its mandate. For those of us who considered RON a friend, as I did, it is reassuring to know that the country remembers him as fondly as we do. But when there are so many tangible achievements

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to celebrate in a man's life, it becomes harder to recognize what is less tangible but perhaps as more important.

To me, there is a simple reason why RON BROWN broke down so many barriers in so many areas and shattered so many preconceptions, about politics, race, and America's place in the world. For all of his practical and political talents, RON BROWN was an idealist, pure and simple. His goals for himself, his party and his country were always based on what should be and not on what others thought could be. This is a rare quality in any of us, in a politician, a rate quality in a human being. But it is why so many people loved and respected RON BROWN and were so often willing to abandon their own goals and egos to work with him for a higher purpose.

Mr. Speaker, much has been said in recent days about RON BROWN's ability to heal divisions, to reconcile views, to focus on what unite people rather than on what divide them. He truly believed that you could always accomplish more by working together, by bringing others along with you. That is one reason why he nurtured so much talent in so many other people throughout his career. As party chairman, he really did bring the Democratic Party together, something that is hard to do, sometimes almost one person at a time.

To see the depth of his empathy and understanding, to see how far he would go to understand people who disagreed with him and opinions and then to find the common ground between them was to see the very essence of leadership. Commerce Secretary RON BROWN dramatically expanded his mandate, reinvigorating the foreign commercial service and becoming a real booster of U.S. exports on a scale that we have never seen before. He poured all of his passion and energy in his work at Commerce, as he had at the Democratic Committee, and I always admired the aggressive way in which he led that department, even in the face of criticism.

Mr. Speaker, our country could use more RON BROWNs, for he pushed boundaries, broke down barriers almost instinctively, intuitively as if he simply refused to acknowledge that they were there in the first place. Perhaps in that sense, we can find a shred of meaning in RON BROWN's death, because no risk, no naysayers could ever have kept him from exploring new terrain, for reaching new challenges, and from trying to redefine the world in which we live.

That he managed to do all of these things in so few years is a powerful legacy indeed. I also want to reach out on behalf of all of us to the families not only of RON BROWN but

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all of the Americans who died in this terrible tragedy. All of them together, in their own way, were trying to do something very important for the United States and for the world. The business people who were out there were out there to help rebuild an economy torn by war and strife.

Mr. Speaker, the truth is there was no real profit to be made by these companies. They were there on a mission of the United States to help the people of Bosnia. Unlike maybe many of the other trade missions that RON BROWN asked them to be on, this one was truly a mission of help. This was a mission of altruism in the highest sense of the business community and the people of this country.

So to the families of all of these people, whether it was business leaders, whether it is RON BROWN, whether it was the Air Force people who were trying to take them there, whether it was the staff people at Commerce, I want to reach out and deliver in as heartfelt a way as we can the deep sympathy and the feeling of gratitude and appreciation that all of us have for all of these people and their families.

There is no way that any of us can bring these lives back, but we can at least stand here today and on behalf of the American people give a heartfelt condolence of sympathy and heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the sacrifice of all of the people who died in this terrible tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished Speaker of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Gingrich].

Mr. GINGRICH. Let me thank my colleague for yielding and let me thank the minority leader for proposing this resolution which I think every Member of the House will support and which I think every Member of the House wishes to reach each family touched by this tragedy.

The House, I believe, will want to extend condolences to every member of every family to realize that there were a number of Americans serving their country, serving the cause of freedom, seeking to help a war-torn region who found themselves willing to take real risks. This tragedy is a reminder that service in our armed services and at times service to our country is potentially dangerous and requires of our citizens a willingness to put duty above pleasure and to put country above self.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary RON BROWN is the first Cabinet Secretary killed on duty in over 150 years. I think it was an enormous shock to all of us to be reminded of the dangers traveling around the world that can affect those who serve

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even in civilian posts. I knew RON BROWN as a competitor. We did not meet in the same planning meetings. We were not involved in the same things when he was chairman of the Democratic National Committee, but I got to know him as somebody who was brilliant, who was charming, who was energetic and, maybe more important, who had a kind of creativity with a remarkable resilience. Whatever angle you came at RON from, he came back with a new idea, a new approach, new intensity. He was a great competitor. I think that both Lee Atwater before his death and Haley Barbour since have found in RON BROWN a personal friend and somebody who shared their passion for democracy and shared their zest for partisan competition.

It is true that RON BROWN was at times very controversial and a lot of questions were raised, a lot of charges were made. Certainly, of all the Members of the House, I may be the most able to identify with being at the center of controversy at times. And I can say that every time we would meet and we would talk, there was a positiveness to his approach. There was an intensity and a willingness to live out whatever happened and whatever fights he was in, a willingness to move forward, to focus on getting things done that was quite remarkable.

At the Commerce Department, he traveled across the world, worked with senior executives, did, I thought, remarkably creative things to create American jobs through world sales. And again and again he would put together a team, they would go to a country and he would achieve breakthroughs for American workers and for American sales that had not occurred before. In his last mission, as my good friend from Missouri was pointing out, RON BROWN was on a selfless venture to help those who needed help, to help those who sought peace, recognizing that as Commerce Secretary, if he could help them begin to rebuild their economies, he might be able to begin to rebuild their cultures, and they might be able to find a way to seek prosperity together rather than to destroy their region in war.

I think we in the House want RON BROWN's family and the families of all of those who died in this accident to know that we are deeply grateful for the commitment they made to freedom, to the willingness they had to serve their country, and that our offices and our doors are open, both to Secretary BROWN's family, but equally important, to the family of every American who was on that airplane, to the family of every person who died in service to their country.

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Again, I thank my friend for offering this resolution which I so strongly support and which I would hope the House will pass unanimously in just a few minutes.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for that fine statement and urge all the Members to vote for this resolution.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I first want to commend our distinguished minority leader and the Speaker for introducing this important resolution and for bringing it to the floor in this expeditious manner.

I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this resolution, which pays tribute to Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN and the other 33 Americans who lost their lives in the tragic airplane crash on April 3.

In the past 2 weeks, we all have heard the tremendous accolades paid to Secretary BROWN for his numerous contributions to this Nation. He was a great public servant, a loving husband and father, and a man who brought tremendous enthusiasm, vision, humor, and intelligence to every challenge he accepted.

The country is much better off because of RON BROWN. We have all heard the many tributes from American business leaders who have called him the best Secretary of Commerce in our Nation's history. These statements were made well before his tragic death. As Secretary of Commerce, RON worked tirelessly and aggressively to create and protect American jobs. Under his leadership, the Department delivered more for less by making sensible investments in our communities, protecting intellectual property rights, stimulating advances in technology and telecommunications, increasing our competitiveness and exports, and providing essential weather forecasting, research, and environmental services.

I know many other Members with to speak this morning, so I will end by simply saying farewell and thank you to my dear friend RON BROWN and by extending my deepest condolences to his wife Alma, to his wonderful children, and to the families and friends of the other Americans who lost their lives in service to their country on April 3. The loss of their collective talents will be felt for years to come.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to thank, as a representative of the Congressional Black Caucus, to thank the leader, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Gingrich], to thank our Speaker, and to say to our Speaker we thank him for bringing in the bipartisan part of

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this resolution, and I thank him very much, Speaker Gingrich, for adding this dimension to this resolution.

Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN and the other Americans who lost their lives on April 3 while in service to our country, they were true patriots, and they deserve the honor which patriots should receive.

The Congressional Black Caucus thanks all of this House for representing and paying a tribute to Secretary BROWN. We also want to thank Senator Bob Dole, who cosponsored the resolution in the Senate, and 98 of his colleagues properly and officially honored, just as we are doing, Secretary BROWN and the other great Americans who died in the service of their country.

We pay tribute to Commerce Secretary RON BROWN and the others. He was the 30th U.S. Secretary of Commerce. He had been a strong and forceful advocate for not only American business, but RON BROWN stretched all out to the byways and the ghettos of this country, and they all had a model to follow, regardless of race, color, or creed. He was a beacon of hope for the divergent messages that make up this country.

Under Secretary BROWN's leadership, the Commerce Department became one of the major success stories in the Clinton administration. He launched a national export strategy predicated on the very basic idea that American exports translate into jobs and opportunities for American business and working people. In the pursuit of this strategy, Secretary BROWN conducted trade mission after trade mission.

He was a tireless worker or soldier in the American Army. He had the vision to see that beyond the horrors of war, behind the horrors of war-torn Bosnia lay opportunities, not only for American business, but for the Bosnian people. To be of service, he wanted to be, and he did it as well as to engage in commerce.

RON BROWN was a common man with an uncommon touch who, while fighting against this Nation's injustices, also believed he could be bettering this Nation and that all people could be lifted up to reach their highest potential. Because of RON BROWN, doors have been opened for many Americans that were never even cracked before.

The Congressional Black Caucus is grateful for Secretary RON BROWN's legacy, which he left to all of us. He came from humble roots, but he did not internalize his race or his color or his creed. He did not internalize his humble beginnings. He made something out of each one. He did not relate him-

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self to the roles which society had defined for him and others like him.

He was an unifying and driving force to indicate to all of us what a public servant should be like. He knew what it meant to be one. He put the needs of the American people ahead of his own. He lived for America, and ultimately, Mr. Speaker, he gave his life for America.

So I want to thank this House for bestowing this tribute on RON BROWN, and on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus I would like to say, "Thank you to all of you."

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution, and most importantly I rise in support to celebrate the life of the man that we knew as RON BROWN.

I am a new Member of this body, going on my 15th month, and early in my tenure RON BROWN reached out to me as one of those new freshmen Members, those Republican freshmen Members of the Congress, because RON BROWN, above all else, was the kind of man that built bridges, and, yes, we know his service as a great politician, and I say that in the most reverent and decent sense because he understood good politics, he understood the art of compromise and building bridges.

RON BROWN was a people person, he was a good and decent man, and I am so very honored to stand in this well with so many others who have come to revere and respect RON BROWN and to have called him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 15 months we spent many moments together, some of his more difficult personal moments. I was honored to have spent some time over in his office with him, and, Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN, as I said, was a tremendous individual, and he was a tremendous public servant. He built the Commerce Department in a way that I think few on either side of the aisle would dispute. It said that the work of RON BROWN has sowed the seeds for about $44 billion in new economic opportunity for American businesses as a result of his travels around the globe to build partnerships with other nations.

As I said, he was a good and decent man, and we shared something else in common: our love for a place on eastern Long Island called Sag Harbor, and he spent many wonderful private moments there with his dear wife, Alma, and with his children.

Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN, as I say, will be sorely missed. He was a man of good humor, good decency, and we reached

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out and spoke with each other many, many times over the last 15 months.

I disagree with some who think that, for example, we should change the way the Commerce Department is set up. I disagree with that, and RON understood that, and we talked at great length about that.

I shared his interest in the National Marine Fishery Service, which was one of the many agencies under his charge at the Department of Commerce, and they did tremendous things, the National Marine Fishery Service, something again that we had in common with my eastern Long Island district, and, as I have acknowledge, he has built tremendous bridges across the world on behalf of all Americans in the area of international trade particularly, and during my last 15 months in this body I have heard repeatedly, long before the tragedy, of the tremendous accomplishments of the Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN, in the area of exporting.

So I rise today in support of the resolution. I extend to the family of RON BROWN, to his dear wife, Alma, and his children, Tracy and Michael, and to all of the families of the 33 others whom we lost in the tragedy earlier this month, I extend our condolences, our heartfelt sympathies, and our prayers and thoughts are with all of you.

I stood in this well several evenings ago and made note of another individual whom we lost in this tragedy from my district, young Gail Dobert, who served with RON BROWN in his chairmanship of the Democratic National Committee, and with excitement and great promise went with him over to the Department of Commerce and served so ably to help build this international presence that RON made possible.

So I rise in support of this resolution, and I appreciate the House taking this time today to celebrate the life of RON BROWN. He was a good and decent man.

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, today we honor a dear friend and a great leader, the late Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN.

Every so often, fortunately, our country produces someone who reminds us of the hope, energy, and optimism that are the very essence of being an American. RON BROWN was such a person. He was a vital man—vital in his love of life, and vital in the energy that he brought to his work.

Those of us who had the joy of working with RON BROWN know the total dedication he brought to any job. Verve, style, and sheer energy were his hallmarks.

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But beyond that dazzling surface lay an intellect of great depth in understanding the forces at work in the world today. He knew that in an increasingly complex and competitive world, Government officials must fight to gain a fair share of foreign projects and markets for U.S. goods. So RON BROWN pioneered commercial diplomacy. From his first day at the Commerce Department to his last tragic flight, RON BROWN proved himself to be the best advocate American business ever had. Against the world's toughest competition, he championed our country's industries, workers, and products. He pioneered commercial diplomacy from his first day at Commerce to his last, tragic flight.

RON BROWN proved himself to be a strong voice for American business and for all Americans. Against the world's toughest competition, he championed our country. His knowledge, his good will, and his commitment to this country will all be missed deeply. With my colleagues, I send my deepest sympathy to his family.

But, Mr. Speaker, on a personal note, I just want to speak about RON BROWN as I knew him. He had something that always had me in awe. When RON BROWN talked to you, you thought he cared about you.

The last time I talked to RON BROWN was a week before he went on his trip. My colleagues would have thought this terribly busy man was waiting for my call. And my call was a request, another request of so many requests, to take up part of his very important time.

My sympathy to his family, my sympathy to the United States of America, because he is gone.

RON, your thousands of friends are going to miss you.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise as a conservative to pay tribute and give my sympathy to the family of RON BROWN.

RON BROWN was a liberal. We rarely shared the same philosophical views. But let me say to my colleagues there was no more trusted man in politics, in my opinion, than RON BROWN because he really believed what he said. He was truly genuine. I think we really need to learn from RON BROWN's spirit. Even though he was a partisan Democrat and I am a partisan Republican, we all could meet with him, and when that meeting was finished and when I was walking out of the room, it felt like walking out after having met with a friend even though we might have disagreed.

That is the kind of man that RON BROWN was. We need more people like that in Government, we need more people

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like that in this House of Representatives. We all, those of us who show emotion from time to time, could take a lesson from RON BROWN because he was truly a decent human being, liked by so many people, including me.

Our condolences also go out to all of the families of those who lost their lives in the terrible tragedy including the families from Glens Falls, NY, my hometown, Claudio Elia, the husband of Susan Day, who grew up next door, and to Walter J. Murphy, who also grew up in Glens Falls.

They and RON BROWN were just 2 of the 33 decent human beings who were doing their part in trying to bring peace and stability to that troubled part of the world.

May God Bless them all.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding this time to me, and I thank him for his leadership and his tribute to RON BROWN.

Seven Americans, seven public servants, went down on that fated plane in Bosnia. One of them was RONALD H. BROWN. He was my friend of 30 years and my constituent. This was the city in which he was born, it is the city where he lived out his life, it was the city where he became known as both a public man and a public servant.

Many of us will remember him also as a family man. The most poignant photograph of RON is the one with his twin grandsons.

What RON meant to his son Michael and his daughter Tracy is itself a model for how to be a parent in these days when so many have lost that art. Yet, this most busy of men was a wonderful parent to his children.

RON will be remembered as a breaker of barriers on one hand, and as an extraordinary innovator on the other. He broke barriers that no man or woman before him had even attempted. This was, I have to say, my colleagues, a black man who simply did not know his place and refused to accept the notion that there was one for him. So when it came time to resurrect the Democratic Party, it was RON BROWN who stepped forward and said not "Not me," but "It must be me." When he went to the Commerce Department he said not "How do you do this job?" but "I will do this job in a way it has never been done before." So after he broke the barriers, he did something much more important. He was a pioneer in turning around each of those institutions.

It was RON BROWN who engineered the comeback of the Democratic Party in 1992, and it was RON BROWN who perfected the art of diplomacy, of commercial diplomacy at the

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Commerce Department. Either one of these breakthroughs, either one of these pioneering efforts, would have left RON's name written in the book of American history. He wrote new pages wherever he went. He wrote them in part because he had it all. He was an extraordinarily talented man, and because he understood the expanse of his talents, he gave it all.

RON exemplified the best of our country, the American spirit of optimism, the refusal to recognize any limits. May our country also make that same refusal.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute today to a great America, RON BROWN, who was an outstanding father to Tracy and Michael, a loving husband to Alma, a fine Cabinet secretary, a trusted adviser to President Clinton, a champion of business. He helped increase the growth of this country's companies and, as well, increased jobs; a goodwill Ambassador for the United States; a positive spirit; a modern-day Will Rogers. He never lost his cool.

The world gave him lemons and he made lemonade; a role model for our young people; for those who want to get involved in government, work for a good candidate, work for a good cause, and work for your country, just like RON BROWN did, a great American who we tribute today, and who will be greatly missed.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I proudly sponsor this resolution because RON BROWN was a friend and a rare American. He was African-American, but he transcended race and color. He was a party leader, and one of the best because he resurrected our party, but there was nothing ever small or petty or partisan about him. He had this enormous affinity for people, and he led by bringing people together, not by splitting us apart.

When he came before our committee to defend his embattled Commerce Department, he was a forceful advocate with the facts at his command, but he made his case without a trace of rancor or resentment. He could do that because he sat there as the single best argument for that embattled department.

RON BROWN was a bridge-builder at a time when so many of our differences seem unbridgeable. His goodness and his decency and his energy and charm are assets we sorely need in the public life of this country. We can ill afford to lose leaders like him, before his time, still in his prime.

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But in the broadest sense, we have not lost RON BROWN, for he remains a lasting symbol of what America at its best can be. I extend to his family, and to the families of all those who perished in this tragic accident, my sympathy and our gratitude for the selfless service rendered our country in the cause of peace in a forlorn place.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I also wanted to extend on behalf of my district and, obviously, all the Members of the House, condolences to the family of RON BROWN and all those who were aboard the airplane that crashed in Bosnia.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to point out that one of my constituents who was originally from Zanesville, OH, Shelly McPeck Kelly, was aboard that plane. She leaves behind a loving family in Zanesville, OH. That would be her mother, Shirley Clark, and also her stepfather, Sam Clark, and several siblings. She also leaves behind a loving husband, Dennis, and two children, Sean and Courtney.

Shelly McPeck Kelly was to retire in 2 years from the Air Force. She achieved the rank of technical sergeant. She was a loyal and devoted wife and a loving mother. She served faithfully her Government aboard a U.S. Air Force plane, and also had previously served for the President aboard Air Force One during the Bush administration.

I recognize her service to the country, and rise on behalf of the residents of eastern Ohio to say that we want to commend Shelly McPeck Kelly for her service to the United States of America during the Bosnia peacekeeping mission, and just also say that the residents of eastern Ohio join me in honoring the memory of Shelly McPeck Kelly and send condolences to her family, as we also send to the family of RON BROWN and the other devoted and loyal Americans aboard that plane.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Dingell] for yielding this time to me, and for his forthright vision in honoring the late Secretary of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to join my colleagues in sponsoring this resolution in honor of Secretary RON BROWN and the others who lost their lives on Wednesday, April 3. The tragic plane crash and death of Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN is a personal loss, as well as a national loss of a great public servant. In addition to being a professional

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colleague, I was a close personal friend, not only of RON BROWN, but of his entire family, his wife Alma, his two children, Tracey and Michael, and his brother Chip Brown.

Our prayers are with Ron Brown's family and with all of the families who lost loved ones in this terrible tragedy—Bill Morton, Carol Hamilton, Duane Christian, Kathryn Hoffman, and the others. It is a reminder to all of us to be good stewards of the time and talent that God has given us on this Earth, and to use it to serve others to the best of our abilities.

I was with Secretary RON BROWN just a couple of weeks ago at a breakfast meeting. He came up to me and congratulated me on my election to Congress. He said, "I am so proud of you." The feeling was mutual, I was also proud of him.

I was appointed to the Democratic National Committee [DNC] by Paul Kirk, largely at the behest of RON BROWN, who shortly thereafter was chosen as the chairman of the DNC. As Chair of the DNC, he is credited with running a coordinated campaign, which not only elected Democrats to the Senate and House, but helped to elect Bill Clinton President of the United States. Shortly, thereafter, he was appointed Secretary of Commerce, where he did a splendid job for the President and for the country.

RON BROWN was the convention manager for my father's Presidential campaign in 1988, where he used his bridge-building skills to close the gap between progressives and the more conservative members of our party. In many ways, even more than business development, that is RON BROWN's legacy. He was a gifted bridge builder—bridging the gaps of human misunderstanding and fear; and building human trust and understanding.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I got to know RON BROWN because I serve on the International Relations Committee, and because I also serve as Chairman of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus. RON BROWN had a great sense of humor. He was also a fellow that helped Republicans. I hold an exports conference every year, and over 1,000 people come to that conference each year. RON BROWN was one of the keynote speakers at the conference 2 years ago.

As I said, he had a great sense of humor. When I spoke with him at the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism, he said to me, "You know, you are my favorite Republican." I was really proud of that until someone told me, RON tells all the Republicans they are his 'Favorite Republican'." We have a travel and tourism bill developed from the

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recommendations of the White House conference. The success of that bill is a testimonial to RON BROWN, because we have 225 cosponsors of that legislation.

RON and I also worked together on another bill, the Export Administration Act. For 17 years, Congress was unable to put together an export administration act. Then, I want to RON BROWN and said, "I have to talk to the President about this." Thanks to RON BROWN, I did have a chance to talk to President Clinton three times on the legislation. That bill has been reported out of our full committee, and it is waiting for a full House vote in May.

RON BROWN was a great Democrat, and he worked hard for the party. I think the loss of RON BROWN to Clinton is comparable to the loss of Lee Atwater to President Bush. That is my opinion. That is how much I thought of RON BROWN.

Yes, he was the loyal opposition, but he knew when to put aside partisan politics. He went out of his way to help make my Exports Conference a success, and I happen to be a Republican. His help with the Export Administration Act was invaluable. That bill will increase our exports by $30 billion.

Mr. Speaker, I just want the people of this body to know that when RON BROWN went overseas, he worked hard. When he went down with a number of CEO's to Brazil, Chile, and Argentina, he worked as many as 35 hours in a row briefing people, talking to people, and trying to create jobs. RON BROWN did a lot for the economy of this country, and we are going to miss him. I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Dingell] for handling this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, last night we held a special orders session to honor our friend and a great American hero, RON BROWN. I rise now to join my colleagues in supporting this resolution paying tribute to this remarkable public servant.

As Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN was known around the world as a tireless crusader for fair and free trade. A skilled negotiator, he kept America's interests in the forefront while winning the respect of our foreign competitors. Although RON BROWN's life was cut short, it was filled with extraordinary achievements: U.S. Army captain, vice president of the National Urban League, chief counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee, partner in the law firm Patton, Boggs & Blow; chairman of the Democratic National Com-

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mittee, and his crowning achievement, Secretary of Commerce.

His dynamic energy was the force that propelled the Commerce Department forward. He and his energetic young staff brought billions of dollars of business home to the United States, transforming a lackluster Federal agency into a whirlwind of productive activity. We take a moment now to say thank you, Secretary BROWN, for being both a dreamer and a doer. Your candle has not been extinguished; its light continues to burn.

Our deepest sympathy goes to his loving family—his wife, Alma and children Michael and Tracey and to the families of all of those dedicated Americans who died on that fateful mission.

We will miss RON. He was a true American. He was an American who said that we can do it. He opened the eyes of this world to what can be done with dedication. Thank you very much for your service.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay my solemn and deep respects for Mr. BROWN, who was an outstanding chairman of a major political party, the Democrat Party, and an outstanding Secretary of Commerce. He was someone who was extraordinarily energetic. I never met with him when he was not upbeat and excited and very dynamic. I wish to express my condolences to his wife, Alma, and to his two magnificent children, Michael and Tracy.

This resolution also honors the others who died in this tragic plane crash in the former Yugoslavia, and I want to pay particular respect to Robert Donovan, who was the president and chairman of ABB, and, a resident of Fairfield, CT. I also want to pay respect to his magnificent wife Peg, and his two children, Kara and Kevin. I learned a lot from meeting with them after the death of their husband and father about the resilience of a great American family and how proud he could be of his family. I want to pay respect for his service to West Point and to his country. He was a true great American patriot.

At this time I also want to pay my respect to Claudio Elia, who was president and chairman of Air and Water Technology. He was a recent citizen of the United States, and I am told by his wife Susan and his children Mark and Christine that their father would have taken extraordinary joy, pleasure, and admiration—they would have been so proud to have heard the President of the United States call him and the others who went on this dangerous mission great Amer-

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ican patriots. I was in awe of this family, the Elia family, in terms of my conversation and dialog with them, on how they dealt with the death of their husband and father.

My respects to Mr. BROWN and to these two great families.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, let me thank my friend from Michigan for managing this bill for my dear friend RON BROWN.

One of the questions that I have found most difficult to answer was what made RON BROWN so different. I have to admit that I do not really have the answer, but one of the things that I think that made him different was the depth of which he loved this country and the fact that the country gave him an opportunity to show just how good he was.

When you think about that, you have to take a look at the history of our country, where we were and where we are going, and was RON BROWN not the right guy at the right time.

Everything that we have been taught in this country in our history deals with our relationship with England and with Europe. But now that they have their Common Market, we have to find other places to sell our goods: Central America, South America, Africa, China, all of these markets. And we have to do it in a way that we are not so hung up with our European connection as much as we are with our human being connection, and that was what RON BROWN was all about.

RON BROWN saw despair. He saw the need for economic development. He knew what a job would do for a person in terms of family values and dignity and planning a family and having a place to live. When he went to these countries, he did not just see a place to sell airplanes. He saw the pain and the misery and the opportunity to help build their economy, build friendships and, of course, while doing that, to create the jobs and the dignity and the disposable income that would be necessary for trade.

That is why when I have had the opportunity and the honor to travel with him, that he never just stayed with the big shots. He always went out there with the beneficiaries, the poor, those that sometimes seemed to be without hope. Even in South Africa, where he went to Soweto and spent more time than I would normally spend to see the people in Soweto, to sing their national anthem in his honor and his presence, meant that he did more than just sell goods to these people. He was selling the United States of America.

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I hope those that have targeted the Commerce Department would realize that RON BROWN electrified everybody in Commerce. They love their country and they love what they are going. Whenever RON BROWN went overseas, our embassies turned overnight into being satellites of the Commerce Department, and our business people, instead of seeing staid diplomats and Ambassadors, they saw those people that were there making deals for them.

I hope as this Congress moves forward and we have to go to the North American free trade countries and we have to go to China and Japan, that we really give other Americans the opportunities and change the complexion literally of the State Department, as Commerce has changed, and give America a better chance to show how good we really are.

Mr. FRANKS of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read a letter that I sent to Alma Brown, Michael, and Tracy and the other members of the Brown family:

It is with great sorrow that I write this letter of condolence to all the members of your extended family. Losing a family member is always difficult, particularly when it is someone who has been so vibrant and been so wonderful to this country, as well as one who would have such a great future that was taken away from him so abruptly.

Secretary BROWN dedicated his life to his country and, ultimately, died in service of it. There is no greater love that one can have for one's country than to die for it.

Even though he died at a relatively young age, Secretary BROWN's accomplishments were far greater than most people ever achieve at any age.

I realize the feelings of grief that you must feel at this tragic time. However, the love of your family and the warmth and sincerity of neighbors, friends and the many people of our great country who are mourning the loss of Secretary BROWN, will help sustain you in the days to come.

I know that Secretary BROWN's memory will be cherished by the many people whose lives he touched and affected.

My prayers are also being sent, Mr. Speaker, to the other passengers who died in the crash, including the two families from my State of Connecticut.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on April 3 of this year, 33 bright and shining stars of America lost their lives on a mission for their Government. Whether they came from the private sector, the armed services, or public service as RON BROWN and his colleagues from Commerce, they were all serving America and serving as a shining example to us, all of the best that is within us.

I, and a number of my colleagues, went to Dover Air Force Base to welcome back the 33 caskets containing those bodies. Their souls, of course, had gone to God. But as we paid trib-

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ute to them as human beings and expressed our sorrow along with their families at their leaving, we listened to the President's eulogy which was appropriate and, I thought, compelling. He said that these 33 lives show us the best of America, and indeed they did. And as this resolution does, the President named each and every one of those 33.

RON BROWN was, as he was to so many, my friend. I particularly remember an incident where we were going to Los Angeles to speak, and he had arrived at Dulles on an airplane, and I had gone there from here, and he had a very short connection. We got on the plane and we were flying to Los Angeles, and he had to speak that night at 5 o'clock and, lo and behold, his bags had not followed him and he was in casual clothes.

Now, RON BROWN was not one to speak in casual clothes, as we will recall. Luckily, I had two suits in my bag, so we went in the men's room at the Denver Airport, and there we were, a black man and white man exchanging suits and dressing to speak that night. I am sure a lot of people said, "What's going on here?" RON BROWN spoke that night, and he said, "I'm RON BROWN, but this is Steny Hoyer's suit." He was so elegant, I am sure that he thought my suit was not quite up to his standards.

RON BROWN contributed greatly to this country in so many different ways. Yes, he was as shining an example of what a Secretary of Commerce ought to be as any in history, but he was much more than that. He was, as so many of my colleagues have indicated, a representation of what America is all about and what its best instincts produce.

RON BROWN was indeed a happy warrior. He was the embodiment of the joy of politics. RON BROWN, for all the young people of America, ought to be an example that there are no barriers too high, no mountains too hard to climb that should preclude you from accomplishing all that your character and your energy and your commitment will allow you to accomplish.

The President of the United States, as he closed the eulogy in Dover on April 6, said this:

> Today we bring their bodies back home to America, but their souls are surely at home with God. We welcome them home. We miss them. We ask God to be with them and their families.

The President said that we ought to pray that God bless America. And God did bless America. He did so through the lives of these 33 shining examples of the best of America.

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Mr. Speaker, I include the remarks of the President on April 6 at this point in the Record.

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AND BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM J. DEDINGER, DEPUTY CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS, AT CEREMONY HONORING THE AMERICANS WHO ACCOMPANIED SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RON BROWN

BRIGADIER GENERAL DEDINGER

Let us pray. Almighty God, source of all comfort and consolation, we ask your blessing as we receive the victims of this tragic accident. Though we walk through the valley of death and grief, we fear no evil, for you are with us with your comfort and consolation. You always prepare a table of refreshment for us, and surely your goodness and mercy will uphold us in our grief and sorrow in these days.

Help us always to remember these public servants, ever mindful of their willingness to share their talents and wisdom, not only with their own nation, but also with people seeking to recover from the ravages of war. May their example renew our personal vision of public service. Lord, give us this day a new hope, as we feel despair; new light, as we sense darkness; deeper compassion, as we experience loss. May this hope, this light, this compassion heal the brokenness of our hearts and minds.

This we ask in you holy name. Amen.

THE PRESIDENT

My fellow Americans, today we come to a place that has seen too many sad, silent homecomings. For this is where we in America bring home our own—those who have given their lives in the service of their country.

The 33 fine Americans we meet today, on their last journey home, ended their lives on a hard mountain a long way from home. But in a way they never left America. On their mission of peace and hope, they carried with them America's spirit, what our greatest martyr. Abraham Lincoln, called "the last, best hope of earth." Our loved ones and friends loved their country and they loved serving their country. They believed that America, through their efforts, could help to restore a broken land, help to heal a people of their hatreds, help to bring a better tomorrow through honest work and shared enterprise. They know what their country had given them and they gave it back with a force, an energy, an optimism that every one of us can be proud of.

They were outstanding business leaders who gave their employees and their customers their very best. They were brave members of our military, dedicated to preserving our freedom and advancing America's cause.

There was a brilliant correspondent, committed to helping Americans better understand this complicated new world we live in. And there were public servants, some of them still in the fresh springtime of their years, who gave nothing less than everything they had, because they believed in the nobility of public service.

And there was a noble Secretary of Commerce who never saw a mountain he couldn't climb or a river he couldn't build a bridge across.

All of them were so full of possibility. Even as we grieve for what their lives might have been, let us celebrate what their lives were, for their public achievements and their private victories of love and kindness and devotion are things that no one—no one—could do anything but treasure.

These 33 lives show us the best of America. They are a stern rebuke to the cynicism that is all too familiar today. For as family after family after

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family told the Vice President and Hillary and me today, their loved ones were proud of what they were doing, they believed in what they were doing, they believed in this country, they believed we could make a difference. How silly they make cynicism seem. And, more important, they were a glowing testimonial to the power of individuals who improved their own lives and elevate the lives of others and make a better future for others. These 33 people loved America enough to use what is best about it in their own lives, to try to help solve a problem a long, long way from home.

At the first of this interminable week, RON BROWN came to the White House to visit with me and the Vice President and a few others. And at the end of the visit he was bubbling with enthusiasm about this mission. And he went through all the people from the Commerce Department who were going. And then he went through every single business leader that was going. And he said, you know, I've taken so many of these missions to advance America's economic interest and to generate jobs for Americans; these business people are going on this mission because they want to use the power of the American economy to save the peace in the Balkans.

That is a noble thing. Nearly 5,000 miles from home, they went to help people build their own homes and roads, to turn on the lights in cities darkened by war, to restore the everyday interchange of people working and living together with something to Look forward to and a dream to raise their own children by. You know, we can say a lot of things, because these people were many things to those who loved them. But I say to all of you, to every American, they were all patriots, whether soldiers or civil servants or committed citizens, they were patriots.

In their memory and in their honor, let us rededicate our lives to our country and to our fellow citizens; in their memory and in their honor, let us resolve to continue their mission of peace and healing and progress. We must not let their mission fail. And we will not let their mission fail.

The sun is going down on this day. The next time it rises it will be Easter morning, a day that marks the passage from loss and despair to hope and redemption, a day that more than any other reminds us that life is more than what we know, life is more than what we can understand, life is more than, sometimes, even we can bear. But life is also eternal. For each of these 33 of our fellow Americans and the two fine Croatians that fell with them, their day on Earth was too short, but for our country men and women we must remember that what they did while the sun was out will last with us forever.

If I may now, I would like to read the names of all of them, in honor of their lives, their service and their families: Staff Sergeant Gerald Aldrich, RONALD BROWN, Duane Christian, Barry Conrad, Paul Cushman III, Adam Darling, Captain Ashley James Davis, Gail Dobert, Robert Donovan, Claudio Elia, Staff Sergeant Robert Farrington, Jr., David Ford, Carol Hamilton, Kathryn Hoffman, Lee Jackson, Stephen Kaminski, Kathryn Kellogg, Technical Sergeant Shelly Kelly, James Lewek, Frank Maier, Charles Meissner, William Morton, Walter Murphy, Lawrence Payne, Nathaniel Nash, Leonard Pieroni, Captain Timothy Schafer, John Scoville, I. Donald Terner, P. Stuart Tholan, Technical Sergeant Cheryl Ann Turnage, Naomi Warbasse, Robert Al Whittaker.

Today we bring their bodies back home to America, but their souls are surely at home with God. We welcome them home. We miss them. We ask God to be with them and their families.

God bless you all, and God bless our beloved nation. Amen.

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Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I did not have the honor of personally knowing RON BROWN, but I knew him by reputation and by watching him work with flair and gusto in a very important job. He was a great role model for everybody. He was indeed a marvel.

One searches tragedies for some meaning or for some glimmer of good. Out of RON BROWN's tragic end and out of the deaths of his passengers, it seems to me we can take comfort in the fact that he died as a public servant and elevated the category of public service through his sacrifice and through his example. And those of us who are very concerned about the low estate and esteem that public service has in people's minds, it seems to me can take some consolation.

God bless RON BROWN and his family and all of those on the plane.

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to support the resolution that is before the House today in tribute to Secretary RON BROWN and other Americans who met their untimely death.

RON BROWN, and I really associate myself first with all of the remarks that have been made so far on this resolution before the House, and we all were saddened with the death of RON BROWN and others, for this Nation to know that RON BROWN was a good public servant, that RON BROWN not only served his Nation well, but I was a neighbor of RON BROWN's. That is true for Alma and Tracy, along with Mike and the two grandchildren.

Being a neighbor, I guess for the past 15 years here in the D.C. area, to know RON BROWN and his family, and to see and to watch how he was able to develop such a great family and a good support system for that family, and he was a good neighbor. RON kept the neighborhood upbeat. He was one who was always available and had time for young people.

I can say that, because I have three sons myself, and my three sons have been somewhat raised in the presence of RON BROWN, and to know of his leadership and to know of his character and to know of his smartness. He was extremely bright while he was there at the law firm here in the District.

He went on to become the chairman of the Democratic National Committee. Then I was on the plane with him going to my hometown in Memphis back in 1992, the end of 1992, when he was called by the President-elect Clinton to be offered a Cabinet slot in the administration. We had that 2-

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hour flight. He left Memphis and went to the Little Rock area.

But to hear him and listen to him, and to know he was about serving this Nation, and to see RON BROWN as a corporate giant, leading corporate American into other ventures throughout the world, and to create jobs and to bring huge dollar amounts into this country, as a neighbor and as a friend and as a Member of this body, I would say that he made a great contribution to mankind, he made a great contribution to America, and RON BROWN will be missed.We are certainly praying for the family and other family members of the other deceased persons.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for giving me the opportunity to speak.

I was over at my office and I heard this, and I wanted to be here. Twelve years ago, fresh out of law school, I worked with RON BROWN as an international trade lawyer. At the time I was doing volunteer work for then Vice President Bush. So clearly we were on opposite sides of the political aisle. Yet RON reached out to me and befriended me, and for the past 12 years that friendship continued.

Most recently at home on a Sunday he called me to talk about preserving the international trade functions at the Department of Commerce, a function that he exercised as well as any Secretary of Commerce in history, I think better than any Secretary of Commerce in history.

As RON was so good at doing, he reached out to me again and found common ground, in this case our mutual back problems we were experiencing. Unfortunately, my back surgery kept me away from his funeral last week.

Toby Roth said he called him his favorite Republican, and apparently he called some other Republicans that. He never called me that, but he did call me his friend, and I cherish that, and will cherish that forever.

Ms. McKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution, and I would like to thank the Democratic leader and the Speaker for bringing this measure to the floor today.

First, I wish to extend my condolences to the Brown family and to the families of all those who went down on that fateful flight. Their loss is our loss, and America mourns the passing of some of our best and brightest.

Mr. Speaker, I personally admired RON BROWN as a role model and as a public servant. Moreover, his work touched

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the lives of my constituents who benefited from his vision of improving the lives of working families through investments and exports.

RON BROWN exemplified everything we as Democrats believe in and stand for. His belief in the human spirit and the American dream permeated every aspect of his life. His unwavering compassion and concern for the less fortunate was the moral compass by which he guided his work. As Democrats, we have lost one of our party's finest.

Mr. Speaker, it is not often that I get to meet the likes of a RON BROWN. Moreover, I am proud to have known him and appreciate what he has done for my constituents, for my party, and for my country.

A young woman from Atlanta was also on that plane, Kathryn Hoffman. My condolences are extended to her family and to her friends.

I was recently asked by a journalist about the loss of RON BROWN, a black leader. I corrected that journalist. RON BROWN was an American leader.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, all of those of us who were friends of RON BROWN certainly have their own personal stories, and I have mine, but I will not take the time to dwell in personal stories.

I simply wanted to be one of the Members who rose in support of this resolution and to express my condolences to the Brown family and the families of all the other brave Americans who lost their lives in this tragic accident.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, history will remember RON BROWN as one of the most dynamic, creative and brilliant leaders to ever serve in a Presidential Cabinet.

These characteristics stand out strong and clear in the many articles reviewing his career that were published after the plane crash that took his life and the lives of the staff Members and business leaders accompanying him on that fatal trip to the former Yugoslavia.

One national magazine, Jet, featured a number of photographs of RON BROWN at work. They showed RON BROWN in China, in Japan, in South Africa, in Egypt, in Saudi Arabia, in Israel, in Gaza, in Russia, in Germany, in Chile, in Indonesia, and in Bosnia, just hours before the crash on the mountain top.

He seemed to be everywhere during those few busy years he served as Secretary of Commerce, the first African-American to hold that office, even coming to the Second District

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of Georgia to deliver the commencement address at Albany State College.

In a span of less than 3 years, he made 15 trade missions to more than 25 countries. These trips produced a record 80 billion dollars' worth of new business contracts for U.S. made goods and services. His work in foreign trade led to a 26-percent increase in U.S. exports. But he also worked to enhance minority business enterprise in America and abroad.

Vice President Gore called him the greatest Commerce Secretary in history. But it was not just political allies who recognized his extraordinary ability. Senator Dole described him as a tireless advocate for American business and a gifted leader.

Born in Washington, DC, and raised in Harlem, RON BROWN was gifted at everything he did, as a student at Middlebury College and St. John's University, as an Army officer in Germany and Korea, as an official and social worker with the National Urban League, as a senatorial aide and chief counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee, as chairman of the Democratic National Committee, as an attorney in a leading law firm, and as Secretary of Commerce, and as a friend.

Many of the articles about RON BROWN's career referred to him as a trailblazer. This was certainly true, and the trails he blazed brought jobs and a more secure economy for all Americans. He will be sorely missed.

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution and thank the gentleman for bringing it forth. We have lost a dear friend.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the outpouring of feeling after RON BROWN's death was unique. It was a tribute to RON, to his capacity for friendship, to his verve, his zest for life, his intelligence, his caring. It was also a tribute to RON BROWN's America.

RON BROWN's life showed that there are almost no limits to opportunity in America. You have to work for it. But we often talk about the limitlessness of opportunity, It is not always quite true. RON tried so hard to make it true.

Like so many other dear friends of RON BROWN, I have mourned his death. I miss of him every day.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN, who was a good friend of many years, and I appeared on a program about 3 weeks into his position as Secretary of Commerce, and I was somewhat nervous for my friend, because the

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breadth and depth of areas covered by the Commerce Department are so vast. Within 3 weeks he had mastered the area of high-technology licensing and exports to a degree which most secretaries had not at the completion of their term, his interest length was such and his intensity and commitment to the areas he was in charge of. He knew his job, he executed it with dignity and grace and with an energy that ought to inspire everyone in both the public and private sector.

He fought for the economic strength of this country from every working man and woman's point of view. He wanted to make sure there were jobs so that each American would have the kind of opportunity he had made for himself.

He was a friend, he was incredibly capable. I cannot imagine that there is anyone who will serve in that capacity who will have the energy and intellect that RON BROWN had.

Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN was a very personal friend of mine. I had an opportunity to meet him on a Presidential campaign in 1988, where he and I shared many platforms together. There is not another American that I have ever met in my lifetime who has worked as hard, who has had such a strong commitment to country, than RON BROWN.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before the House today to say that RON BROWN was indeed a scholar, a leader, and a role model, for people all across this country.

The last time RON BROWN and I had an opportunity to sit down and talk was actually in the Fourth Congressional District. I called him at the Department of Commerce and said, Mr. Secretary, I want you to come to Louisiana and talk about economic development. And right off the cuff he just said, I will be there. And in about 30 minutes, he called back and said, I will be there in about 3 weeks.

So I want to thank the Ron Brown family. I also want to give a special tribute to a family from Louisiana. The pilot of that plane was from my home State of Louisiana, Ashley Davis. To his wife and to his two little children, we want to say that we offer our condolences to them and to all of the families of those who lost their lives in this tragic accident. To them we say God bless you, and we will pray for you.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think it is possible for everyone to fully comprehend what a loss the Nation will suffer without the late Commerce Secretary RON H. BROWN. Not only was he a champion for the domestic and international develop-

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ment of American business, but also, and more importantly, his extraordinary character was an invaluable asset to the U.S. Government. Every project he touched was approached with a tireless devotion and a profound understanding of the initiative's impact on the Nation's economy. He led by example, urging others to work as partners instead of competitors to maximize opportunities.

Truly, this man was in the business of building bridges and reinforcing existing relationships to ensure opportunities for advancement of large and small business interests alike. Under his leadership, all facets of the Commerce Department flourished and enjoyed the benefits of innovative policies. He was instrumental in developing a comprehensive and coordinated plan for bringing together the many elements of the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration; he sought to improve patent and trademark protection of U.S. interests in intellectual property; he worked diligently for telecommunications reform to create a competitive marketplace and to illuminate how technology can alleviate geographic barriers and enhance education; he instituted a long-term plan to assist the New England fishing industry—the list goes on and on.

A man of firsts, RON BROWN was the first African-American chairman of the Democratic National Committee and the first African-American to hold the office of U.S. Secretary of Commerce. He worked tirelessly to promote the Commerce Department's mission of long-term economic growth—to him we owe a debt of gratitude for our Nation's prosperity. At a time when diversity seems to be a dividing force in this country, RON BROWN demonstrated that diversity is our Nation's greatest asset. It is in this spirit that I offer these words of tribute.

During this time of remembrance, I would like to pay tribute to an Air Force pilot who lost his life serving our country, Capt. Ashley J. Davis. Captain Davis was from my hometown, Baton Rouge, LA. A victim of the tragic plane crash which ended the lives of 33 Americans who were serving their country, Captain Davis' mission was to pilot the dignitaries who visited Europe. He was chosen for the job just 18 months ago, over 38 other pilots. I offer my condolences to Captain Davis' family. He is survived by his wife Debra, and two children. A man of great spirit and patriotism, I know his family and friends will miss him. The Air Force has also suffered a great loss in his untimely death during his dedicated service to our country. Today, I extend

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my prayers to this family as well as the families of all the persons who lost their lives in Croatia.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate former Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN.

Throughout the past several days I have heard the accomplishments of RON BROWN extolled by my colleagues. Americans everywhere, and especially those who were close to RON are deeply affected by this tragedy. RON was much more than a great chairman of the Democratic Party and Secretary of Commerce, he was a true pioneer and an inspirational human being.

I feel extremely fortunate to have known RON as a personal friend. RON began to serve as chair of the Democratic Party around the time I became chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. RON exhibited unwavering optimism in the face of adversity and inspired others to do the same. Through his tireless efforts, RON BROWN restored the Democratic Party to greatness and brought a Democrat back to the White House.

RON was the type of person who consistently exceeded people's expectations. As Commerce Secretary, RON single-handedly defined his role. He succeeded in promoting American business and boosting exports to new heights.

RON BROWN was a pioneer in every sense of the word. He spent his life overcoming obstacles and opening up new doors for others to follow. His death occurred while he was cultivating the seeds of economic growth and creating greater opportunities for a country ravaged by war.

RON BROWN will be long remembered for the tremendous service he provided to his country. However, I will miss him as a close friend.

Adam Darling, a 29-year-old Commerce Department employee was also among those who perished in the crash. Darling had worked at the Department since 1993 and had helped plan the trip to the region. A former Davis, CA resident and graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Darling had a promising future ahead of him. My deepest sympathy goes out to Adam's family.

Tim Schaefer, a Sacramento native, was among the six Air Force crew members who perished in the accident. Schaefer, the plane's copilot, had earned a degree in mechanical engineering from California State University, Sacramento. Also among the crew was Capt. Ashley J. Davis. Both men had been stationed at Beale AFB. I salute these members of the

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armed services who paid the ultimate price to serve their country.

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor RON BROWN, the United States Secretary of Commerce who was killed in a tragic accident on April 3, 1996. He and 35 other victims died when their plane went down on a stormy evening in Croatia. He was serving as a diplomat in the war-torn area, analyzing the economy and what actions needed to be taken in the former Yugoslavia in order to spur economic growth to secure the peace.

RON BROWN was indeed an asset to the United States. He was one of the ambitious, special people who is capable of performing multiple roles in their lives while at the same time succeeding in all arenas and remaining true to their ideology.

RON BROWN was a vocal and successful civil rights advocate, political strategist, corporate lawyer, and propagator of American business interests.

He tirelessly campaigned to make the interests of American businesses a foreign policy goal. He certainly deserves credit and thanks for market expansion.

It is because of his success in multiple arenas and in the international community that the United States and the world mourn together. Today we should all take a moment to remember the career and the man we lost.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, on April 3, 1996 the United States lost a leader. Secretary of Commerce RONALD H. BROWN inspired us all with his ability to bring together people from different backgrounds, beliefs, and cultures to find and achieve a goal for the common good.

He inspired us by his commitment to finding opportunities for U.S. businesses overseas, recognizing that our country's trade deficit is harmful to our domestic economy and the jobs Americans want and need.

Because of his leadership, many California technology firms have increased their sales to foreign countries, which has increased employment and a rebounding California economy. According to the Joint Venture's Index of Silicon Valley, 46,000 jobs have been added to our region since 1992. The semiconductor industry, which has endured years of job loss due to a trade deficit with Japan, showed a gain of 4,300 jobs between 1994 and 1995. Business confidence of Santa Clara County companies reached an all-time high of 73 percent in 1995.

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Secretary BROWN advocated effectively for economic and employment improvements in Silicon Valley, and this is just part of his legacy. Members of Congress, the administration, business leaders, and citizens must work to preserve this legacy of proactive work on behalf of the people of our country.

America will miss his leadership. I will miss his friendship of almost two decades. Secretary BROWN gave his life while serving his country. God rest his good soul.

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN and the 32 other Americans who lost their lives when their plane crash near Dubrovnik, Croatia, on April 3, 1996.

Throughout his tenure as Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN successfully worked on behalf of American companies and their workers in opening doors to the global market. For many companies in my home State of Washington, Secretary BROWN was instrumental in promoting our products and cultivating new and/or improved business relationships with our international neighbors.

The most important role of any Commerce Secretary is the promotion of American companies and the workers they employ. RON BROWN will forever be remembered as being a success at this task.

The people who died aboard that plane gave the ultimate sacrifice in the name of democracy and a global free market. Prosperity and economic hope are essential in bringing long-term peace and security to that region of the world. RON BROWN and the other individuals on that plane knew this and recognized their role in spreading our Nation's democratic and free-market beliefs around the globe.

My heart goes out to each and every family member of those who died in that tragic crash. In this time of great sadness, these families should know that as Americans their loved ones will be missed, as patriots they will never be forgotten.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, "Fanfare to the Common Man" was played triumphantly at the funeral of the late Commerce Secretary, RONALD H. BROWN. His family could have played some horn tooting type music, in view of the facts that Mr. BROWN was truly a successful, high stakes Washington player and an overachiever in many respects. However, they know RON would not have wanted it any other way.

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RON BROWN did not see himself as a Democratic power broker or jet setter or trailblazer like we did. He saw himself as a middle-class kid who grew up in Harlem that loved the basic things in life: family, friends, work, and country. He was passionate about each. He was also passionately devoted to ensuring that everyone got an opportunity, a chance to do better. He believed in opportunity so much that he insisted that his Commerce Department staff memorize a one-sentence mission statement. It reads: "The mission of the Department of Commerce is to ensure economic opportunity for every American." We should all agree that this is still a noble cause.

Mr. BROWN set several honorable examples for people from different walks in life. He encouraged young people to strive and reach for the gold. And indeed, he practiced what he preached, he had several raising stars on that ill-fated plane with him. He encouraged CEO's and business leaders to lend their expertise for the improvement of cities in our country and in foreign lands. On that plane were business leaders from across the country. RON BROWN always did what he could to provide an opportunity for everyone, everywhere.

We each will remember RONALD BROWN, in our own way, but collectively we will remember him as a great, inspiring American.

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to RON BROWN and to express my deep sorrow and sincerest condolences to his wonderful family. RON BROWN was my friend, and he was a great American.

As Secretary of the Commerce Department, RON BROWN played an instrument role in implementing the administration's economic plan that has created 8.4 million jobs nationwide since taking office. He was a major force behind job creation efforts and the chief architect of high-technology initiatives to provide greater employment opportunities for working Americans.

Previously, RON BROWN served as chairman of the Democratic National Committee. He was the first African-American in history to head a major national political party. At the DNC, RON BROWN rebuilt the party and laid the groundwork for the Democrats to win back the White House after losing three straight national elections.

Last summer, RON BROWN traveled to my congressional district to attend the closing ceremony of the Special Olympics in New Haven. We spent the glorious Connecticut morn-

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ing touring events and had a great time with those wonderful Special Olympians who shared RON's never-give-up spirit.

Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN lived the American dream and served as an inspirational role model for America's youth. Our country has lost a great leader.

I also want to convey my condolences to the friends and families of Robert Donovan, the chief executive officer of ABB, Inc., headquartered in Norwalk, CT, and Claudio Elia, the chairman and chief executive officer of Air and Water Technologies Corp. in Branchburg, NJ, who lived in Greenwich, CT. In addition, the Nation lost many fine, dedicated people in this tragedy who gave their lives in an attempt to heal a nation and a world ravaged by war. Connecticut and the Nation mourn the loss.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join my colleagues in tribute to a truly remarkable man, the late Honorable RON BROWN. RON BROWN was a prominent black American who dedicated his life to building a better world for all people. Blessed with many talents and opportunities, RON used them wisely and he shared his gifts generously.

RON BROWN was a compassionate man who thrived on challenge. He blazed new trails and often was the first black American in his field. RON was the first black member of his college fraternity, the first black counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee, the first black chairman of the Democratic Party, and the first black Secretary of the Department of Commerce.

RON had a charming manner and a graceful style. He showed a deftness for overcoming the odds and doing some impossible things. When many experts and political pundits said it could not be done, RON rejuvenated the Democratic Party and spearheaded the campaign that elected Bill Clinton President, and when RON did these things he made it look easy.

RON BROWN had the courage of convictions that inspired others to join in his crusades. He shared his vision and his faith in a brighter future. He was a force for unification of diverse groups and the resolution of conflict among them. His last mission was dedicated to rebuilding a war torn land and I am sure he would have made a great contribution to the rebuilding of Bosnia if only he had lived a little longer.

RON lived his life sowing the seeds of peace and hope. He left this world way too soon, but he left it better than he found it. We will long feel the force of RON BROWN's smiling

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spirit and long celebrate the legacy of good will he left behind.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a very special man, RONALD H. BROWN. Most Americans will remember him as the Secretary of Commerce. However, he was much more. He was the personification of the concept of a bridgebuilder.

In his role as the Secretary of Commerce, RON constantly promoted American trade. His zeal was premised upon the notion that if the commerce of the United States thrived it would directly translate to increased economic vitality for our Nation. RON, who never forgot where he came from, knew that his efforts would result in jobs for the common man.

As chairman of the Democratic National Committee, RON BROWN set the stage for a resurgence of the Democratic Party. This is a resounding testament to his ability, for it was under his leadership that the Democratic Party was able to elect Bill Clinton as President. RON accomplished this task on the heels of three consecutive Presidential defeats of Democratic candidates.

His memory deserves more than the mere recognition of his official position. For his title was but a small reflection of what he was. Drive, tenacity, compassion, and loyalty were his trademarks. Most of us hope to attain all of these attributes. Few of us attain them with the proper balance. And even fewer attain these attributes and are able to parlay them into avenues for even greater achievement. RONALD H. BROWN was one of these rare individuals.

Whitney Young once said, "We can't * * * sit and wait for somebody else. We must go ahead—alone if necessary." RON BROWN was a trailblazer and a visionary. He never waited for opportunities, he created them. Because of this, all American people have benefited.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, RON BROWN was a renaissance politician, a jack of all trades who mastered them all. He was a mentor for seasoned professional politicians and he was qualified to tutor most of us. RON used his considerable influence and charm to become an extraordinary fundraiser for the Democratic Party. From the complex job of raising money to the details of election day engineering, RON performed with great enthusiasm.

I first met RON BROWN in Chicago while campaigning for Harold Washington for mayor of Chicago. Former Majority

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Whip Bill Gray, RON, and I were on a campaign swing through the public housing projects on Chicago's Southside. At that time, RON was working with a well-known, prestigious, and powerful law firm in Washington. However, on that day, he was simply RON the loyal friend, campaigning for a fellow Democrat. We went into huge, tall, cold concrete buildings and walked on floors which seemed to be completely out of this world.

The deterioration and garbage inside the halls were unbelievable even to a poor boy like me whose father had never earned more than the minimum wage. I had lived in some of the poorest neighborhoods of Memphis and worked in some of the poorest neighborhoods in New York, but never had I seen such despair. The only glimmer of light we saw in those highrise urban tunnels were the Harold Washington posters that the residents waved at us when they saw our familiar signs. We had connected with the most oppressed among us. As my eyes met RON's he broke into his signature smile: "This is what politics has got to be all about," he said as we plunged into the crowd of outstretched hands and marched through the halls reminding folks that tomorrow was the day to go out and elect the first African-American mayor of Chicago.

RON BROWN was the unifying force behind the most successful and conflict-free convention the Democrats have had in nearly two decades. RON was a star who kept his poise, kept peace among the many party factions, and made the Democratic National Committee an effective force to be reckoned with in politics. RON BROWN was a masterful strategist who began his tenure as party chairman with several special election victories despite great obstacles. He was a great communicator and a great cheerleader who also understood the nuts and bolts of winning campaigns.

Seldom in America does one man so gracefully transcend the racial chasm. RONALD H. BROWN did, and in his journey, he deeply touched the heart and soul of a nation. As our Secretary of Commerce, he was our corporate Ambassador to the world. As the chairman of the splintered, fractious Democratic Party, he was the glue that held it together, and in so doing, delivered the White House and became the most beloved chairman in history.

RON BROWN was undaunted and unfazed by challenges. Being a first was not unusual for him. He was the first African-American in his college fraternity, the first African-American counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee, and

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the list goes on. RON was a trailblazer and an eternal optimist. He saw no mountain that couldn't be climbed or moved or conquered.

The Nation has lost a great leader and statesman. I join RON's many colleagues and friends not in mourning his death, but in celebrating his life, his accomplishments, his style, and his spirit. RONALD H. BROWN will be missed, but never forgotten.

Mr. McDADE. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues from both sides of the aisle today in paying tribute to former Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN and the 34 others who lost their lives in the tragic plane crash on April 3 in Croatia.

I had the privilege of personally knowing RON BROWN. I respected and liked him as a dedicated public servant, an individual of the highest caliber, and a man of great intellectual ability. A man of his abilities and experience, who possessed such tremendous personal characteristics, will be greatly missed.

RON BROWN leaves behind a legacy of achievement in the military, political, government, and business arenas that few people can match. He led an extraordinary life and we are all saddened by the loss of this talented, exceptional, and energetic man.

My sympathy and condolences go to his wife and two children and to all of the families of those who died in this tragic accident. As Americans, we all mourn the loss of life and note the sacrifice of these individuals who died in the service to their country.

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues, Mr. Gephardt and Ms. Meek, in support of the resolution in tribute to Secretary of Commerce RON BROWN and the 32 other patriotic Americans, including several from my State of Massachusetts, who lost their lives on St. John's Hill outside of Dubrovnik, Croatia.

RON BROWN was truly a living American hero, and his loss will be sorely missed—and my heart goes out to his lovely wife Alma and his loving children, Michael and Tracy. I will miss RON dearly. He was a colleague and a friend of more than 20 years, and his loss is a personal one.

In an era where cynicism too often wins out over optimism, where fear too often conquers hope, and where the art of politics is seen by most in a less-than-admirable light,

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RON BROWN showed that public service is indeed an honorable profession.

Whether in his service to his country in the U.S. Army, as a leader in the civil rights movement, as a public and private sector lawyer, as a political party professional, or as an advocate of business and job creation for all Americans, RON BROWN was a leader, a visionary, and a dreamer of what America could and should be. But most importantly, was a passionate advocate for expanding equal opportunity to all Americans.

In a world with too few heroes, we have lost a true American hero.

RON BROWN was truly a man who viewed politics as the art of the possible. RON BROWN's legacy will far outlast most of us—his unique and enviable ability to bring people together to find a common goal.

You had to know RON BROWN on a personal level to understand his unique ability—his intelligence, his boundless energy, his strong will, his resilience, his ability to grasp complex ideas and to advocate them in a way that always brought people together.

But you also had to appreciate how RON BROWN took on each and every opportunity with a spring in his step, a twinkle in his eye, and a smile on his face. It's been said before, but RON BROWN was Will Rogers in reverse: you never met anyone who didn't like RON BROWN.

RON BROWN had a passion for achievement that you rarely see in individuals, and he was an extraordinarily gifted man. I will always consider myself fortunate to have known RON BROWN as a friend.

He will indeed be remembered as a patriot and a friend, and we will miss him dearly.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is a sad responsibility to rise to join with my colleagues in paying tribute to an outstanding public servant who has been lost to us all too prematurely and in support of House Resolution 406.

Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN, throughout his many years of public service—and let there be no mistake that he did indeed contribute many years of public service—was well known for his outstanding personality, his determined professionalism, and perhaps, most importantly of all, his charming sense of humor which won him the admiration of political allies and adversaries alike.

RON BROWN, before entering the public limelight, was well known as political mover and shaker behind the scenes here

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on Capitol Hill. While serving on the staff of Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, he learned the importance of compassion in legislation, the importance of compromise, and the importance of consensus.

As Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN was an inspiration to us all. He genuinely cared about the business community of this Nation, and understood that a strong economy is the cornerstone of national strength.

It was in pursuit of expanding trade opportunities in that part of the world which used to be called Yugoslavia that RON gave his life. The tragic and untimely death of RON BROWN is a reminder that those who devote their lives to public service are in just as much jeopardy as are those who volunteer for the battlefield.

The fact that 33 young public servants also gave their lives with RON BROWN only underscores his ability to inspire others, especially young people, to public service. These devoted young people deserve our admiration.

It is with deep regret that I learned that one of those 33 victims was a constituent in my 20th Congressional District of New York. Lee Jackson, a 37-year-old native of the town of Greenburgh in Westchester County, was the son of Luther Jackson, Jr., a highly respected journalism professor at Columbia University, and Mrs. Nettie Lee Jackson, a long time community activist.

Lee was inspired to go into public service by Secretary BROWN, under whom he served in the Department of Commerce. As we extend our condolences to the Jackson family—and to the families of the other victims—the bereaved families should be assured that many Americans share their loss.

RON BROWN, and his courageous coworkers, will long be remembered and will long be missed.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, it was with great sadness that I learned of the tragic accident that took the life of RON BROWN and 34 dynamic young Americans who were on a journey of hope to a dangerous part of the world.

I had never had the pleasure to meet RON BROWN until I came to Washington last year, but I knew long before that, that he was a crusader, an energetic advocate, and a dedicated public servant. In politics he was a more than worthy opponent to his Republican counterparts, and in Government he was clearly a most valued member of the President's Cabinet and an effective Ambassador for America around the world.

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Our country was well served by RON BROWN's enthusiasm, competence, and determination. His work as a member of the Cabinet earned him well-deserved praise, especially from the Nation's business community.

My heart and prayers go out to RON BROWN's family at this difficult time, and also to the families of all those who lost their lives on this mission of hope. They all shared in that great American gift of optimism and that great American belief that we can make the future better than today. They went to the Balkans to share that great American gift with a people whose history has stolen their hope and their optimism and their dreams for their children.

Our greatest tribute to these dedicated Americans would be to renew their journey of hope and to share their great dream of a better future with those who suffer around the world.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American, the late Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN. I am pleased to be a part of this resolution for tributes to distinguished leaders of our great Nation. RON BROWN's life work is a true American success story. It is that American agenda opportunity that I alluded to when I was sworn in; that gives an opportunity to every American, that hope that is embodied in our creed. They will soar to high of this Cosmos.

The loss of the Secretary of Commerce is tragic which is underscored by his commitment to jobs, social justice, and economic security. During the times that we met at several official occasions, I found him to be a charming, warm, intelligent, and always a gentleman. I have fond memories of my discussions with RON BROWN.

I remember watching the news in the immediate aftermath of the civil unrest in Los Angeles in 1992 following the Rodney King beating trial verdict, when he met with the angry and frustrated youth of south central Los Angeles. He and the President played basketball, demonstrating his ability to relate intergenerationally and across the socio-economic spectrum. That was perhaps his greatest attribute. He understood that we must work to help others, and he did that.

RON BROWN perished in Bosnia trying to acquaint a delegation of business people with the market conditions there and to bring peace to a war-torn region. Speaks to his humanitarian efforts and as a parallel—he also worked to bring jobs to south central Los Angeles and improve the lives of

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the people, and finally bring peace to people who have desired it for so long. RON BROWN knew the value of a job to people and to a community. He worked to improve people's lives by bringing jobs to those who wanted to work.

I want to offer my condolences to Alma Brown, a woman of courage and strength, the Brown family and the families of the people whose lives were lost that day.

I am pleased to participate in this tribute to a wonderful American.

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to the late Commerce Secretary, RON BROWN, and his colleagues who lost their lives while serving our country in Bosnia. Secretary RON BROWN, through his eloquence and determination, contributed greatly to our Nation. Even before his days at the Commerce Department, RON BROWN's capability and many successes advanced racial equality in America. His commitment to fostering relations between foreign governments and U.S. business is evident in America recovering its leadership role in world trade.

Mr. Speaker, one can never be prepared for such a sad and unexpected event. Secretary BROWN and his colleagues brought hopes of prosperity to a war-torn region. Those of us from Long Island were especially saddened to find that Gail Dobert of the Commerce Department was among those who lost their lives in this tragic end to a mission of peace. We have witnessed a great loss, not only to friends and family, but to the Nation. I join with my colleagues today in offering my deepest sympathy.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, earlier today there was a resolution that was passed by this Congress honoring former Secretary RON BROWN. I was unable to attend that because I was in a hearing of a subcommittee on which I am the ranking member, but I did want to do this then, and I take the time now to do it.

Mr. Speaker, one or 2 days after the tragic death of RON BROWN, I was traveling to an event in my district and listening to KNX news station. Dave Ross, reporting for CBS news radio, came on the air and gave what I consider to be a tremendous eulogy for RON BROWN.

I would like to share it with the Members of the House.

Mr. Ross entitled his tribute, "death of a salesman."

A tragedy freezes time. Events you would otherwise ignore become significant.

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Pictures of a Cabinet official eating breakfast in a tent end up on the front page. And the story of a trade mission which otherwise couldn't compete with the FBI's latest unabomber suspect or the standoff in Montana becomes the center of attention.

Before now the only time you heard of RON BROWN was when some new piece of evidence surfaced in his Justice Department investigation.

He was suspected of spending too much on travel and using international junkets to reward campaign contributors.

Some junket. Breakfast in a tent and travel in a plane so poorly equipped no passenger airline could legally fly it. But a salesman can't stop to wonder whether the plane is safe or what his critics are saying—there's a product to move.

Instead of gun boat diplomacy, BROWN's philosophy was MacDonalds diplomacy. If you want to spread democracy, sell American products. Sell a way of life where people spend their time making money instead of making enemies.

The old Yugoslavia, which had a healthy economy, then killed it, seemed to defy that philosophy. But a good salesman keeps trying.

My boss used to have a plaque on his desk which said, nothing happens until something is sold. It was there to remind us that those people in the sales department, the one's who got their hands dirty closing deals, were the people who kept our paychecks from bouncing.

Trade missions, and I've attended a few, are pretty boring. Business executives talk about exchange rates, ownership rights, local taxes. It's nothing newsworthy. It just creates thousands of jobs.

A toast then, to the salesman. Traveling on a shoe shine and a smile. Sometimes, on a wing and a prayer.

Thank you, Mr. Ross. I know that the family of Mr. BROWN thanks you as well.

Mr. DORNAN. I want to take care of three housekeeping things here. One is the crash of RON BROWN's Air Force aircraft on my birthday, April 3. We had a unanimous vote for Mr. BROWN, Secretary BROWN, expressing our deep sorrow at losing for the first time in the line of duty a Cabinet officer in over almost a century and a half.

I said yesterday that I thought the majority of the crew was the crew that had flown me and five other Members, led by Sonny Callahan of Alabama, to Tuzla and Sarajevo and Hungary, two of the bases in Hungary and to Zagreb, Croatia, and to our major air base, Aviano, in Italy. I was mercifully wrong, not for the four other crewmen that died, but of the six crewmen on that airplane, the pilot was the same as our pilot, Ashley J. Davis; that is a man's Ashley as in Ashley Wilkes. Ashley was the co-commander on our flight, on that C–43, used to be called a T–43, a civilian 737, and I was correct that T. Sgt. Shelly A. Kelly, who was the principal cabin steward for all of us in the congressional section up front and got to know her at Aviano, going through the PX to get some shaving gear. She told me a story about how

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on each trip she buys two bottles of wine, her husband is also assigned to Ramstein Air Base in Germany, and that he would do the same when he was on a cross-country, they would drink one in celebration of reuniting with their two children, and then they would save one. And she said, "We have quite a collection of wine from around the world".

Well, Shelly Kelly died serving her country, as did Capt. Ashley Davis, and I am going to fly flags on the Capitol next week for them, get every one of the Congressmen who were on CODEL Callahan, and fly flags for the other four crew members who were on the ill-fated Secretary RON BROWN delegation.

I will just briefly give their names now. On our aircraft on March 1, 2, 3, and again on my birthday, April 3, when 35 people were killed: 35-year-old Capt. Ashley J. Davis of Baton Rouge, LA, also married with two children; again, T. Sgt. Kelly, Shelly A. Kelly, 36, Zanesville, OH, husband, two children; and the other four crew members, Timothy Schafer, captain, 33 years of age, just outside my own district, Costa Mesa, CA, 33 I said. T.Sgt. Cheryl Turnage 37, Lakehurst, NJ; Sgt. Robert Farrington, 34, Briarfield, AL; and the youngest, 29-year-old S. Sgt. Gerald B. Adlrich, from Louisiana—excuse me, Louisville, IL; all six of them assigned to Ramstein.

Much has been talked about across the country, justifiably so, about Mr. BROWN's service to country, captain in Europe and in Korea, and all of the CEO's who will be so grievously missed by their families and their children.

FRIDAY, *April 19, 1996.*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, 33 Americans were taken from us far too early in the plane that crashed April 3 near Dubrovnik. This morning, we paid tribute to our good friend, Secretary RON BROWN. At this time, I want to commemorate one of those brave souls traveling with the Secretary, Mr. David L. Ford.

David Ford was one of 12 American business executives accompanying Secretary BROWN on a mission with the most noble goal of helping the people of Bosnia and Croatia to rebuild their war-ravaged countries. An executive with Guardian Industries, headquartered in Michigan, David was to donate 23 metric tons of flat glass to Sarajevo, enough to

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produce about 8,000 windows for use in rebuilding the Bosnia capital. After the trade mission ended in tragedy, the glass was delivered to Sarajevo as planned and donated to the people by the U.S. Embassy.

David Ford's career at Guardian began in 1971, and he spent time at its facilities around the country, including several years at the Guardian plant in Carleton, MI, in my congressional district. He helped lead his company's expansion into the European market, and at the time he was taken from us he headed Guardian's European operations.

We will remember David Ford as a successful businessman, but more importantly, his wife and two children will remember him as a loving husband and devoted father. He was a deeply religious man, who before his passing was able to provide some desperately needed relief to the people of Sarajevo. There, his final effort will be honored by a plaque.

I know that my colleagues join me in sending our thoughts and prayers to his family.

THURSDAY, *April 25, 1996.*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer some thoughts on the tragic passing of Commerce Secretary RON BROWN. I would first like to convey my sincere condolences to his family: his wife Alma, and his children Tracey and Michael.

As I survey his life it is difficult not to be impressed by the richness and breadth of RON BROWN's accomplishments. It is the quintessential American story. He rose from modest beginnings in Harlem to the pinnacles of law, politics and government. Secretary BROWN's life was an affirmation that in America a man of imagination, talent and determination could succeed.

His joy in serving as Secretary of Commerce was infectious. His dedication to helping young Americans aspire and succeed was genuine. And his commitment to serve his country was a constant throughout his life.

His smile, hopefulness and generosity will be missed.

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Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, tragedy never occurs softly. It has not been 2 months since that CT–43 airplane crashed on the outskirts of Dubrovnik, Croatia, simultaneously reintroducing us to all that is painful in this world, and all of its greatest promise. This was a national calamity, touching our highest leaders, reaching into every industry, every community, leaving an indelible imprint on the parchment that is our collective soul. Youth lost is painful. Youth lost in the service of a noble cause, while no less a shame, is at the same time liberating. By remembering those that are never to return is to give their lives meaning beyond their death. To hold their standard in front of us is the only fitting way to mourn their loss. It is the least we can do.

While rarely as dramatic as death, life occurs with equal regularity. March 10, 1967 was no exception, bringing Gerald "Jerry" Aldrich II into this world. A large baby at 10 pounds, he had an equal appetite for knowledge. Jerry was reading by kindergarten and, auguring the future, was already disassembling and reassembling his train engines, just to see how they worked. A quiet yet thoughtful young man, he knew the sting of loss intimately. His father succumbed to cancer in the spring of 1983 while Jerry was still at North Clay High School. Two years later he graduated in the top 10 of his class, and bypassed a science scholarship to enlist in the U.S. Air Force where he was trained as an aircraft mechanic.

"Jake," as his military friends knew him, enjoyed his new career. He completed his initial training at Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio, TX, and soon moved to Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas. His next assignment took him to England. The year was 1991, and Jake served as the crew chief aboard an MC130E Combat Talon I aircraft out of Royal Air Force Base Alconbury. In July, Jake was promoted to staff sergeant. Germany was his next destination, first to Rhein-Main Base in Frankfort, and finally joining the 76th at Ramstein Base. While abroad, he courageously served in Operation Desert Storm.

It was in Germany that Jake met his wife, Petra Shoemaker. They were married on January 11, 1991, in Germany, and also celebrated with an American ceremony that summer. This loving union was blessed with two sons, Timothy, three and Joshua, almost two. Jake was a devoted family man who spent every possible moment with his wife and

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children. They are joined in their grief by Jerry's mother, Hazel Wattles, of Louisville, brother, Mike Aldrich of Oak Harbor, WA, and sisters, Carolyn McKnelly and Sherry Roley of Effingham, IL, as well as the rest of his extended family.

Mr. Speaker, words often sound hollow in the face of such gravity, but those of his sister, Sherry, resonate. She remembers that Jerry was able to lead a life full of opportunity and new experiences. He saw both good and bad, and met many influential people in the many countries he visited. Yet he remained a down to earth person who lived for his family, work, and country. As she reminds us, let us never forget the six Air Force crew members who gave their lives on this seemingly uneventful flight. Let us never forget any other service person who has fought for our country and the freedom it represents. S. Sgt. Gerald Aldrich was laid to rest on April 19, 1996. He had an Honor Guard military funeral with family members and friends present in Frankfurt, Germany. I charge us all to raise his standard high, so that we may remember not only the circumstances of his death, but a life valiantly lived.

TUESDAY, *June 18, 1996.*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise on the third anniversary of the day on which I took the oath of office 3 years ago in this Chamber to replace then-Congressman Leon Panetta, who had gone to work in the White House as head of OMB.

Standing in the well before me, I thanked the California State legislature, which I had left the night before, for the good work they were doing in guiding the State of California. At the same time I paid tribute to my mother, who had died of cancer while I was in the Peace Corps; and to my sister, who was killed while visiting me in the Peace Corps.

In the gallery at the time was my father, Fred Farr, and my sister, Francesca Farr. Also in the gallery from my district was Rev. Darrell Darling and his son Adam Darling, who grew up in Santa Cruz, part of the district I now represent.

Tonight, on the third anniversary, I want to pay tribute to that beautiful young man, Adam Darling, who lost his life in the plane crash with Secretary RON BROWN in Bosnia.

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Adam Darling died doing precisely what he wanted: serving his country while working to make the world a better place. He was an eternal optimist. Adam had once offered to ride his bike across this country from his home State of California to Washington, DC for then-Governor Bill Clinton because he felt that he could make a difference in the 1992 presidential race just by riding a bicycle across the Nation. After the election he ended up in Washington working for the Commerce Department.

When I arrived to be sworn into Congress, Adam was there to meet me. He brought his father, Rev. Darrell Darling, with him from Santa Cruz all the way here to Washington, DC. According to his father, Adam Darling was a leader among his peers, his friends, his family and in his work. His leadership grew from a keen and uncluttered mind, a character free of shame, given or received, and thoroughly generous in spirit.

He was very realistic about both public policy and public service and the limitations and temptations of both. Adam's realism never was cynical. "When you decide to make a difference where there is risk, you cannot calculate the cost or be guaranteed delivery from pain or loss. Bosnia is a land of grief and turmoil and none of us are immune from it." Those were the words of his father upon learning of his son's death.

Adam was working for the Commerce Department when I arrived. He served on the staff of the press office for several months before becoming a personal assistant to the Deputy Secretary for 2 years. Adam was also instrumental in bringing state-of-the-art science to the central coast and to the country. Just 1 year ago he helped organize the first-ever link between the classrooms across America and marine biologists working in the Monterey Bay.

RON BROWN had asked Adam to handle press relations and advance planning for the economic development mission in Bosnia. According to Adam's family, Adam saw it as an opportunity to make a significant contribution to the peace effort where it was severely needed.

Rather than working hard to gain personal attention, Adam worked hard for the sheer pleasure of doing well and the satisfaction of knowing he had helped make someone else's life a little more livable.

Adam saw life as an opportunity to serve the world, telling his family at the age of 5 that he would be President of the United States someday; a young boy made his commitment to bettering the country at any cost. During the few years

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that he was afforded, Adam worked with the dedication and commitment of a President and accomplished more for the good of humankind during his lifetime than many even attempt in 100 years.

The loss of Adam Darling and 34 others in Bosnia will be sorely felt by all and will remain in our hearts as a memorial to all who pay the highest cost possible in order to keep the world by serving their country. I want to thank the Darlings for being here on this day of my anniversary of being sworn into Congress, and I want to pay tribute to Adam Darling who was here to greet me when I first arrived, and wish that he was still here today.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me this time to pay tribute to this great young American.

FRIDAY, *August 2, 1996.*

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3560) to designate the Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, NY, as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building," and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Hastert). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I will not object, and I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland [Mr. Gilchrest] for an explanation.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, the bill designates the Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York City as the Ronald H. Brown Federal Building.

RONALD H. BROWN was the first African-American Secretary of Commerce where he was influential in promoting U.S. trade abroad. He was a champion for expanded markets for U.S. goods and services abroad and opportunities at home.

RONALD H. BROWN was a civil rights advocate with a distinguished record of service and commitment to his country. It is unfortunate that he lost his life in the Balkans on April 3, 1996.

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I urge my colleagues to support this fitting tribute to this distinguished American. We all here hope today that even though this tragic loss has denied the family of Mr. BROWN's presence, as they walk past the courthouse and see his name there, some of the friendly presence that he left with us will be felt by them.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Shuster] could not be here for this, but he concurs strongly with the naming of this Federal building after the distinguished life and service of Mr. BROWN.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. Oberstar].

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I thank the gentleman from Maryland for bringing this resolution to the House floor.

I think it is very appropriate and fitting for us to name a building in New York in Secretary BROWN's hometown for him to carry on the name and the memory of the very distinguished service that he provided to this country in so many arenas, but particularly as a most distinguished Secretary of Commerce whose focus was jobs, tourism, economic growth, expansion of trade, protecting American interests at home and abroad. He was a truly great American, and naming of this building is a modest way in which we can perpetuate his memory.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from New York [Mr. Rangel], the sponsor of this bill, for the work that he has done to bring it up in such a timely fashion. I want to thank Mr. Gilchrest and the majority for being considerate of Mr. Rangel and our concerns.

I also have great concerns that Mr. BROWN's legacy should be reflected here with a presence in Washington and would like to place on notice to our committee that we will look into those regards.

I would also like to say that RON BROWN did something else that was quite unusual. He helped to put the Democrat party together and to elect a Democrat President. And I believe without RON BROWN, the Democrats in the White House would not quite be there.

In addition to that, I echo the words of our distinguished ranking member, Mr. Oberstar. I think RON BROWN was a

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fighter. He was concerned with people. He was always willing to take our calls and work with us on projects.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand today to designate the Federal building on Broadway in New York City, as does its sponsor, Mr. Rangel, and designate that building as the Ronald H. Brown Federal Building. It is absolutely deserving.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection and I urge support of H.R. 3560.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 3560

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) RONALD H. BROWN, the first African-American Secretary of Commerce, was an extraordinary statesman and an effective and influential force in promoting United States trade abroad;

(2) RONALD H. BROWN efficaciously championed expanded markets for United States goods and services abroad, and jobs and opportunities at home;

(3) RONALD H. BROWN was a passionate civil rights advocate with a distinguished record of service and commitment to his country and community; and

(4) RONALD H. BROWN lost his life in exceptional service to his country on April 3, 1996, in the Balkans.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building".

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 2 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building".

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. GILCHREST

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. Gilchrest:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building".

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Mr. GILCHREST (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment in the nature of a substitute be considered as read and printed in the Record.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GILCHREST. This amendment, Mr. Speaker, simply strikes the finding from the bill. This is to conform the bill to the style used by the committee.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. Gilchrest].

The amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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# Condolences and Tributes

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# Ronald H. Brown, 30th U.S. Secretary of Commerce

[From Business America, April 1996]

RON BROWN used the power of the Commerce Department to find ways to give opportunity to ordinary Americans, to generate jobs for the American economy and to build better futures for American citizens. With those words, President Clinton eulogized RONALD H. BROWN, his longtime friend and confidant, a passionate civil rights advocate, a keen political strategist, and one of America's most effective Secretaries of Commerce.

Nominated by President-elect Clinton on December 12, 1992, Secretary BROWN was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on January 21, 1993, and sworn into office as the 30th U.S. Secretary of Commerce on January 22.

A lawyer, a skillful negotiator, a pragmatic bridge builder, and past highly successful chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Secretary BROWN strongly believed in the promise of America and aggressively advanced policies and programs to accelerate the Nation's economic growth and create new jobs and opportunities for all the American people.

Under his leadership, the Commerce Department became the powerhouse envisioned by President Clinton. Secretary BROWN promoted U.S. exports, U.S. technologies, entrepreneurship, and the economic development of distressed communities throughout the Nation.

He led trade development missions to five continents, touting the competitiveness of U.S. goods and services. During his tenure, U.S. exports reached a record high, America regained its title as the world's most productive economy, and exports and technology were key contributors to the millions of new jobs created during the first 3 years of President Clinton's administration.

"I have the great honor of serving my Nation and President at a time of profound change and growing hope—a moment when my position as U.S. Secretary of Commerce allows me to serve America's families and industries by serving the cause of peace and prosperity around the world," said Secretary BROWN on his business development missions to South Africa, the Middle East, Northern Ireland, and other areas seeking to rebuild economies and create a stable foundation for peace.

BROWN was a forceful advocate for the Commerce Department, its mission to ensure economic opportunity for all Americans and provide a voice for business in the Cabinet, and its dedicated staff.

Secretary BROWN served on President Clinton's National Economic Council, Domestic Policy Council, Task Force on National Health Care Reform and Council on Sustainable Development. He chaired the 19-agency Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee and the National Information Infrastructure Task Force, President Clinton's initiative to build a national information superhighway.

Secretary BROWN also co-chaired the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade, the U.S.-Russia Business Development Committee and the U.S.-Israel Science and Technology Commission.

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Formerly a partner in the Washington, DC law firm Patton, Boggs, and Blow, Secretary BROWN was a member of the New York Bar, the District of Columbia Bar and the United States Supreme Court Bar. He served as chief counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee under the chairmanship of Senator Edward M. Kennedy. For 12 years he championed civil rights as deputy executive director, general counsel, and vice president for Washington operations for the National Urban League. Secretary BROWN was the first chairman of the board for the University of the District of Columbia and legislative chairman of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

The first African-American Secretary of Commerce, BROWN was born in Washington, DC, and grew up in New York City. He graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont. After serving for 4 years in the Army in both Germany and Korea, he earned a law degree from St. John's University, which he attended at night, while working as a welfare caseworker for the city of New York.

Secretary BROWN served on the board of trustees for Middlebury College and was chairman of the Senior Advisory Committee at Harvard's John F. Kennedy Institute of Politics. He also was an elected member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Secretary BROWN resided in Washington, DC, with his wife Alma, a media executive. Their son Michael and daughter Tracy are lawyers.

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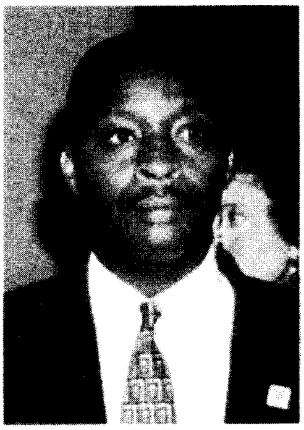
# Other Commerce Department Officials

DUANE CHRISTIAN, SECURITY OFFICER



Duane was Secretary BROWN's chief security officer, who traveled with him on many of the Secretary's overseas and domestic trips. Duane was solidly prepared for this position of trust, after spending a decade on the Department's security force, carrying out his vital mandate of protecting the physical well-being of Commerce secretaries and their staffs. Before coming to the Commerce Department in 1985, he worked as a background investigator in the career civil service at the Office of Personnel Management. Duane attended DeMatha Catholic High School in Maryland, and graduated from Howard University. He loved sports, especially football, and had been a teacher and coach at Ballou High School before coming to Commerce. He leaves behind his wife, Sheila, and their three children.

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ADAM N. DARLING, CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT,
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

President Clinton, in his comments at the Commerce Department, said that among those Commerce employees on the plane, was a young man who wanted to ride his bicycle across the country handing out campaign literature to elect the Clinton/Gore ticket in 1992. That young man was Adam Darling, hardworking, loyal, and dedicated special assistant to Commerce's Deputy Secretary. Before working for Deputy Secretary David Barram, Adam served as Deputy Public Affairs Director for Commerce's International Trade Administration. Though young, his political accomplishments were many. Adam worked on many facets of the 1992 Clinton for President campaign. A proud graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, he lived and worked in England and Germany, and traveled extensively throughout Asia during his career.

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GAIL E. DOBERT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ACTING DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF BUSINESS LIAISON

Gail tirelessly worked as an advocate for U.S. businesses, and their expanding role in the global economy. Prior to her post at the Commerce Department, she served as an integral member of RON BROWN's advance and fundraising team at the Democratic National Committee. Before that, Gail worked for 5 years as a senior legislative assistant for former Pennsylvania Democratic Representative Gus Yatron. A native Long Islander, Gail participated in a summer jobs program in which she designed programs to aid economically disadvantaged youth seeking employment opportunities in New York City. Throughout her career she supported the cause of women's equality and opportunity. She graduated in 1984 from Bucknell University and studied at the London Polytechnic Institute in England.

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CAROL L. HAMILTON, PRESS SECRETARY AND ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Carol Hamilton was one of Secretary BROWN's closest advisers. As his press secretary, she traveled at his side, ensuring that the important work of the Department was featured prominently in the media. Before serving Commerce, she was the press secretary for the Clinton/Gore statewide effort in New York, where years before she also worked for New Yorkers for Jesse Jackson in 1988. Prior to these efforts, she held the post of vice president for Public Affairs at Planned Parenthood of New York City and founded and managed her own full service communications agency. Carol and her staff of five developed and executed several key public affairs campaigns for national and social policy issues. She worked in a variety of private sector companies, including the Chase Manhattan Bank, Howard J. Rubenstein Associates, Inc., and Kekst and Co. An advocate for African-American issues, most notably she was a special correspondent for *Black News We Speak* at the 1988 Democratic National Convention. A graduate of Boston College and native of New York City, in her spare time, she pursued diverse interests, such as competitive swimming, silver smithing, and auto restoration.

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KATHRYN E. HOFFMAN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY

Kathryn Hoffman was a trusted aide to Secretary RON BROWN and member of the Management Team of the Department of Commerce. Kathryn was instrumental in helping the Secretary to effect his vision for the Department—its mission of promoting international trade, civilian technology, and economic development. Prior to serving Commerce, Kathryn was the Assistant Director of the Office of Public Liaison for the Presidential Inaugural Committee, producing the first African-American Inaugural Gala and Leadership Forum. During the Clinton/Gore Campaign, she served as Deputy Political Director in California. Her professional career included jobs with Sony Pictures Entertainment, Inc. in Los Angeles, *Time* in New York, and the staffs of U.S. Senator Joseph Biden from Delaware and State Senator Julian Bond from Georgia. A Wellesley College honors graduate who had also spent a year studying at Spelman College in Atlanta as a visiting student, Kathryn was a valued colleague.

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STEPHEN C. KAMINSKI, SENIOR COMMERCIAL SERVICE OFFICER,
U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICE

Stephen was a valued civil servant with a long and distinguished career in Commerce's Commercial Service, serving in overseas posts in Dusseldorf, Hamburg, Tokyo, and Vienna, as well as in Washington, DC. During his time in Tokyo, Stephen received the Department's Gold Medal Award for his work in ensuring U.S. companies' access to Japanese major projects markets. Most recently, as the senior commercial officer in Austria, Stephen was accorded the increased responsibility of developing the Department's strategy for Croatia and Bosnia. He first joined the Department of Commerce in 1975 with the Maritime Administration, serving as an international economist. A native of Baltimore, MD, Stephen was a graduate of Georgetown University's prestigious School of Foreign Service. He leaves his wife, Kathleen, and their 12-year-old daughter, Christina.

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KATHRYN E. KELLOGG, CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT, OFFICE OF BUSINESS LIAISON

"Kathy" Kellogg became an advocate for the U.S. business community in markets abroad when she joined the Commerce Department at the start of the Clinton Administration in 1993. She participated in numerous overseas trade missions championing U.S. economic interests abroad. Kathy worked on the Clinton/Gore campaign, as well as the Presidential Inaugural Committee. She served on the staff of Senator John D. Rockefeller for 3 years, and held several positions in the government of her home state of California. In 1988, she worked to "get out the vote" for Dukakis/Bentsen for President. A graduate of Biola University in La Mirada, CA, Kathy gave 100 percent always to all of her pursuits.

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CHARLES F. MEISSNER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY

"Chuck" Meissner was responsible for international commercial policy development in the Department's International Trade Administration. Chuck's effectiveness ranged from his chairmanship of the Commerce Department's U.S./Mexico Border Economic Task Force to his leadership for the Secretary of Economic Development Initiatives in Northern Ireland and its border counties. As the key policy adviser to the Secretary on this mission, Chuck concentrated the Department's efforts and resources to promote economic stability to this war-torn region. He spent the 20 years prior to his appointment to the Commerce Department in the fields of international financial, monetary, and trade policy, in both the private and public sectors. He began his government career in 1971, at the Treasury Department's Office of International Affairs as the Japan Desk Officer and Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs. Next, he spent many years working on the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, as an economist and as the staff director for its Foreign Assistance Subcommittee. From 1977 to 1983, Chuck held several senior positions at the U.S. Department of State, including Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Finance and Development in the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, and Ambassador/U.S. Special Negotiator for Economic Matters, in which he negotiated all U.S. Government international debt rescheduling with the Paris Club. He represented the United States on the Economic Committee of NATO and served as the U.S. negotiator on North-South issues in the United Nations. Chuck had many distinguished accomplishments in the banking industry as well, first at Chemical Bank and then during a most impressive tenure at the World Bank. A native of Wisconsin, Chuck was a three-time graduate of the University of Wisconsin. He served in the Vietnam War as a Captain in the U.S. Army in 1969 and 1970, and received a number of decorations. A resident of Maryland, he leaves his wife, Doris, the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and two children.

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WILLIAM MORTON, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

"Bill" Morton served as one of Secretary BROWN's most trusted aides for more than 7 years, most recently at the Department of Commerce, and before that, at the Democratic National Committee. He was responsible for coordinating all aspects of the Secretary's extensive domestic and international travel, helping develop, manage, and implement Secretary BROWN's trade missions and conferences. In his earlier position in the Department as Assistant Director for Operations and Regional Management at the Minority Business Development Agency, he was responsible for the oversight and operations of five regional offices and four district offices, as well as the MBDA staff in Washington, DC. Before serving at Commerce, Bill served as executive assistant to then-chairman RON BROWN of the Democratic National Committee for 4 years and worked in the Presidential campaigns of Jesse Jackson and Gary Hart. A graduate in International Politics from Georgetown University, Bill was a Colorado native. He consistently helped to shape the purpose, tone, message, and logistics for much of RON BROWN's public career and was a constant and recognized presence at his side.

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LAWRENCE M. PAYNE, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, OFFICE OF DOMESTIC OPERATIONS, U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICE

Just before serving with Secretary BROWN at the Commerce Department, "Lawry" Payne was the owner and operator of an independent chain of homemade gourmet ice cream and yogurt shops in his home state of Massachusetts and its neighbor, New Hampshire. Lawry came to the Department with an extensive background in both the public and private sectors. He spent 6 years on the staff of former Senator Paul Tsongas, first as a legislative assistant working on a variety of trade and foreign policy issues, then helping to advance Tsongas' bid for the Presidency in 1992, as he had for former Governor Michael Dukakis during his run for President in 1988. Preceding this, Lawry spent several years on Wall Street, where he focused on public finance, and mergers and acquisitions, while working for two investment firms, Shearson Lehman Brothers Inc. and Quadrex Securities. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and masters in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School. An avid bicyclist and budding photographer, Lawry also enjoyed squash, and relished collecting artifacts during his frequent travels around the globe.

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NAOMI P. WARBASSE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTER (CEEBIC)

Naomi Warbasse served as the deputy director of the Central and Eastern Europe Business Information Center (CEEBIC), managing domestic staff and contractors located in 11 countries, as well as overseeing CEEBIC's two publications, its Internet Home Page, automated fax document retrieval system, Small Business Support Facility, and specialized in Poland and Bosnia programs. CEEBIC is a clearinghouse for information on U.S. Government programs and market information, and a provider of business counseling to U.S. companies interested in exporting to or investing in Central and Eastern European countries. Naomi also served the International Trade Administration as desk officer for Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. She worked on numerous special projects at Commerce, including the creation of an automated fax retrieval service for the Uruguay Round, White House conferences for trade and investment in Central and Eastern Europe and in Ireland, and the Fourth West-East Conference of Ministers of Economy, Industry and Trade of the G–7 and Reforming Countries. Honing expertise in international relations, she received her master's degree from George Washington University and her bachelor's degree from Johns Hopkins University. She received a Department of Education Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship to study Czech. In addition to her proficiency in Czech, Naomi was fluent in German.

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# Other Agencies

LEE F. JACKSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (EBRD), U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

Lee was recently appointed to serve the Treasury Department's European Bank for Reconstruction and Development as its Executive Director, a position in which he represented the U.S. Government, EBRD's largest shareholder, on the board of directors, and successfully advocated significant institutional change at EBRD. During his tenure, the Bank significantly increased investment activity while reducing administrative costs, at the same time broadening program implementation to reach small- and medium-sized businesses and increase investments that support environmental infrastructure and energy efficiency in various parts of the world, most notably, throughout the former Soviet Union. Prior to joining the EBRD, he served as treasurer of the City of Boston, where he was responsible for collecting and investing $1.3 billion of annual revenue and financing a $1.1 billion capital plan. Before government service, he worked in a number of investment firms in San Francisco and in his home state of New York, including First Boston, Salomon Brothers, and Kidder, Peabody. After earning a bachelor's degree cum laude in economics from Williams College and a masters in Business Administration from Stanford University, he began his career as an economist at the U.S. Department of Energy.

JAMES M. LEWEK, ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION EXPERT, INTERAGENCY BALKAN TASK FORCE, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

"Jim" Lewek was born in Buffalo, NY. He received a Ph.D. in economics from Vanderbilt University. An analyst in the CIA's Office of European Analysis, he was assigned to the Interagency Balkan Task Force as an economic reconstruction expert. He worked for more than 20 years at the CIA, analyzing international economic issues and providing analytic support to U.S. policy makers. For 5 years, he was the team chief of the overnight production staff of the daily intelligence publication that the CIA produces for the President. Jim was married, with one son and one daughter.

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# Corporate Executives

BARRY L. CONRAD, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE BARRINGTON GROUP, MIAMI

Mr. Conrad was president of worldwide operations and sales for Burger King before leaving in October 1994 to start his own hotel and restaurant firm, the Barrington Group. He had been chief executive for Trusthouse Forte Hotels for 5 years. He also led Quality Inns from 1982 to 1986. He had a degree from the University of Maryland. He was married and had three children.

PAUL CUSHMAN III, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF RIGGS INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORP., WASHINGTON, DC

Mr. Cushman joined Riggs in 1983 as a commercial loan trainee. He became a senior vice president in 1989 and was appointed chairman of the bank's international and embassy banking operations in 1993. He was single and lived in the District.

ROBERT E. DONOVAN, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF ABB INC., NORWALK, CT

Mr. Donovan headed the U.S. arm of the Zurich-based ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd., a global manufacturer of power-generating equipment. A 1963 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and a Vietnam veteran with the Army Corps of Engineers, Donovan earned advanced degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Fairleigh-Dickinson University. He was married and had two children.

CLAUDIO ELIA, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF AIR & WATER TECHNOLOGIES CORP., BRANCHBURG, NJ

Mr. Elia was tapped in 1994 to run the company, which builds and manages air and water pollution control equipment. Born in Italy, he started his business career in 1968 at the Boston Consulting Group and also worked at General Electric Co. He was married and had two children.

DAVID FORD, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF INTERGUARD CORP., THE LUXEMBOURG SUBSIDIARY OF GUARDIAN INDUSTRIES, AUBURN HILLS, MI

Mr. Ford was born in Washington and had worked at Guardian, a flat glass manufacturer, for more than 25 years, the last 15 in its Luxembourg office. He was to donate 23 metric tons of glass to a Sarajevo hospital. The glass has been delivered and a plaque commemorating Mr. Ford will be displayed in the hospital. He was married and had two children.

FRANK MAIER, PRESIDENT OF ENSERCH INTERNATIONAL LTD., DALLAS

Mr. Maier was tapped this year to head the international arm of Enserch Corp., a natural gas company, and was responsible for developing international power projects. Originally from New York, Mr. Maier graduated

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from Manhattan College and received a master's degree in business from Loyola. He was married and had two children.

WALTER J. MURPHY, VICE PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL SALES AT AT&T SUBMARINE SYSTEMS, MORRISTOWN, NJ

Mr. Murphy joined AT&T in 1970 and had just begun selling undersea fiber optic connections abroad. Born in Glens Falls, NY, he received a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh and a master's degree from Pace University. He lived in Fanwood, NJ, was married, and had three sons.

LEONARD J. PIERONI, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF PARSONS CORP., PASADENA, CA

Mr. Pieroni joined the international engineering firm Parsons in 1972, and was named to the top job in 1990. His firm worked on reconstruction in Kuwait after the Persian Gulf War. He was married and had two grown children.

JOHN SCOVILLE, CHAIRMAN OF HARZA ENGINEERING CO., CHICAGO

Mr. Scoville, an engineer by training who had worked on projects in 17 countries, headed the international consulting engineering firm Harza, which specializes in building dams and hydroelectric plants. It has 700 employees worldwide. He was married, with four children and four grandchildren.

I. DONALD TERNER, PRESIDENT OF BRIDGE HOUSING CORP., SAN FRANCISCO

Mr. Terner was well known as a successful builder of low-income housing. A Harvard University graduate with a doctorate in urban and regional economics, he worked as a California housing official under then-Governor Jerry Brown and taught at Harvard University and the University of California's architecture school. He launched Bridge Housing in 1981. Mr. Terner was married and had four children.

P. STUART THOLAN, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF BECHTEL ENTERPRISES, SAN FRANCISCO

Mr. Tholan was based in London and headed the Bechtel unit overseeing Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Southwest Asia. He had spent 33 years at Bechtel. He oversaw Bechtel's work in reconstructing Kuwait's oil production facilities after the Persian Gulf War. A Philadelphia native, Mr. Tholan graduated from Penn State University. He was married and had two grown children.

ROBERT A. WHITTAKER, VICE PRESIDENT OF FOSTER WHEELER CORP., CLINTON, NJ

Mr. Whittaker also served as chairman and chief executive of Foster Wheeler Energy International Inc. He joined the company in December 1992 and worked to expand Foster Wheeler's operations abroad, particularly in China and Pacific Rim countries. Before joining Foster Wheeler, Mr. Whittaker had held numerous managerial positions with General Electric. He held a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from the State University of New York Maritime College and earned his MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He was also a U.S. merchant marine licensed engineering

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officer and had served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. He was married with two grown children.

## MEDIA

### NATHANIEL C. NASH, NEW YORK TIMES FRANKFURT BUREAU CHIEF

Before moving to Frankfurt to cover European economies in 1994, Mr. Nash was chief of the Times' Buenos Aires bureau for 3 years. He reported on Capitol Hill in 1990 and before that worked in the paper's financial section. He joined the Times in 1973 as a copy aide. A native of Lawrence, MA, Mr. Nash received a bachelor's degree from Harvard in 1973. He was the first Times reporter to be killed while covering a story since Word War II. He was married and had three children.

## CREW

### CAPTAIN ASHLEY J. DAVIS, PILOT

Captain Davis joined the Air Force in 1986 and had been assigned to Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany since August 1994. Captain Davis, of Baton Rouge, was a graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University. He was married and had two children.

### CAPTAIN TIMOTHY W. SCHAFER, CO-PILOT

Captain Schafer was a graduate of California State University at Sacramento who joined the Air Force in 1988. He had been assigned to Ramstein since November 1995. Captain Schafer, of Costa Mesa, CA, was married.

### STAFF SGT. GERALD ALDRICH, CREW CHIEF AND FLIGHT MECHANIC

He joined the Air Force in 1985 and had been at Ramstein since 1994. Sgt. Aldrich, of Louisville, KY, was married and had two children.

### STAFF SGT. ROBERT FARRINGTON JR., STEWARD

Sgt. Farrington, of Brierfield, NJ, was single. He joined the Air Force in 1986.

### TECHNICAL SGT. SHELLY A. KELLY, STEWARD

Sgt. Kelly, of Zanesville, OH, was married and had two children. She joined the Air Force in 1983 and had been at Ramstein since 1994.

### TECHNICAL SGT. CHERYL A. TURNAGE, STEWARD

Sgt. Turnage, of Lakehurst, NJ, was single. She joined the Air Force in 1979 and had been at Ramstein since 1989.

## CROATIANS

Niksa Antonini, Photographer.
Dragica Lendic Bebek, Interpreter.

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# Ronald H. Brown, the Commerce Department's Powerhouse

RONALD BROWN made the Commerce Department what it was meant to be—an instrument for realizing the potential of every American by generating good jobs for the American economy. As Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN fulfilled President Clinton's promise, giving Commerce a powerful role in revitalizing the American economy. But he went beyond that, to forge public-private partnerships, helping create millions of American jobs. Since January 1993, RON BROWN worked tirelessly, shoulder-to-shoulder with American business, to eliminate barriers and open new markets for American businesses around the world.

During his 3 years as Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN:

Led the transformation of America into an export superpower, leading the creation of the first-ever National Export Strategy to help U.S. companies—small, medium, and large—realize their export potential; translating that strategy into results by winning over $80 billion of foreign deals for U.S. business, supporting hundreds of thousands of high-paying American jobs; and leading trade missions with small and large American businesses to the world's big emerging markets, to our traditional economic allies, as well as to new markets across the globe that need commercial development to overcome years of conflict;

As the Nation's first African-American Secretary of Commerce, demonstrated again and again that America's diversity is America's strength, by fighting for resources to help minority businesses expand, by promoting diversity at the Department of Commerce, and by solidifying the trade ties between a diverse America and new, emerging markets in South Africa, the Middle East, Ireland, Latin America, Asia, and Central Europe;

Championed the role of civilian technology as a critical ingredient of U.S. success in the global marketplace by entering into more than 220 public-private partnerships through the Advanced Technology Program, joining more than $1.5 billion of federal and private funds in the development of new, high-risk civilian technologies to ensure that America remains the world's technology leader; by expanding the Nation's network of manufacturing extension centers from 7 to 60; and by streamlining export controls, freeing over $32 billion in exports from unnecessary regulation;

Spurred the growth of the emerging information superhighway, while ensuring that it reaches schools and hospitals, cities and farms, haves and have-nots alike, by leading the Administration's Information Infrastructure Task Force, and by joining with more than 200 communities to provide more than $160 million of Federal, State, local, and private funds through the new Telecommunications Information Infrastructure Assistance Program (TIIAP);

Promoted sustainable development, encouraging both economic growth and environmental protection by rebuilding depleted fisheries, boosting the export of environmental technologies and modernizing our Nation's weather service.

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RON BROWN, through his inspiration, action, and vision, underscored again and again that the mission of the Department of Commerce is to ensure and enhance economic opportunity for all Americans. That was the goal he set for himself and his Department and—as the President has said—the goal he never stopped working to achieve.

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# Highlights of Secretary Brown's Business Development Missions

*Saudi Arabia—June 1993*—Secretary BROWN visited Saudi Arabia, where he advocated for $10 billion in contracts. He was the first Commerce Department Secretary to visit Saudi Arabia since 1982.

*South Africa—December 1993*—Secretary BROWN led an historic trade and investment mission to South Africa with 31 U.S. businesses, laying the groundwork for economic ties with post-apartheid South Africa.

*Mexico—December 1993*—Secretary BROWN led 39 minority firms in a matchmaker trade mission to Mexico City, where $14.4 million in sales resulted from contacts made during the trip.

*Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt, Israel, West Bank, and Gaza—January 1994*—Secretary BROWN led an interagency delegation and advocated for $13.8 billion in projects, about $10 billion of which were signed. Secretary BROWN was the first Commerce Department Secretary to visit Jordan, and the only one to visit Israel and Egypt in 15 years.

*Russia—March 1994*—Secretary BROWN led a delegation of 29 CEOs of U.S. firms and government officials from 12 agencies, by request of President Clinton. The Secretary witnessed the signing of numerous contracts in excess of $400 million.

*Germany—June 1994*—Secretary BROWN officially reopened the American Consulate office in Dusseldorf.

*Poland—May 1994*—Secretary BROWN opened the Commerce Department's Foreign Commercial Office in Warsaw, Poland.

*Brazil, Argentina, and Chile—June 1994*—Secretary BROWN led a mission with 22 U.S. CEOs, resulting in the signing of $1.4 billion in contracts, while advocating for an additional $9.8 billion in projects.

*China—August 1994*—Secretary BROWN led a Presidential Trade Mission, including 25 U.S. CEOs, and U.S. Government officials from many agencies. Agreements totaling $6 billion were signed, with an additional $1.6 billion signed afterwards. Secretary BROWN advocated for an additional $23.7 billion in projects.

*Indonesia and Malaysia—August 1994*—Secretary BROWN led a mission and witnessed signings of agreements totaling $6 billion. He advocated for an additional $9.2 billion.

*Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland—December 1994*—Secretary BROWN led a Presidential Development Mission to Ireland, with 10 U.S. CEOs, two Members of Congress, and representatives from the White House and other agencies. The mission encouraged the peace process through commercial engagement.

*Russia and Belgium—January 1995*—Secretary BROWN signed a joint statement on taxes with Russia, and formed a group to expand cooperation between the United States and Russia. In Belgium, he initiated the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialogue, a major initiative to introduce business priorities into government policy.

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*India—January 1995*—Secretary BROWN led a mission with 25 U.S. CEOs and witnessed agreements totaling $7 billion. He advocated for an additional $7.3 billion in projects.

*Israel, West Bank, Gaza, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, and UAE—February 1995*—Secretary BROWN led a trade and investment mission, witnessing $200 million in agreements, and advocating for an additional $23.9 billion. He was the first Clinton administration trade official to visit Kuwait, and the first Commerce Secretary to visit Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

*Belgium and Spain—February 1995*—Secretary BROWN led a business development mission and the U.S. private and public delegation to the first G–7 Telecom Ministerial meeting.

*Brazil, Argentina, and Chile—March 1995*—Secretary BROWN led a mission with U.S. CEOs to South America, witnessing agreements totaling $180 million, and advocating for an additional $15 billion.

*Senegal—May 1995*—Secretary BROWN witnessed the signing of an MOU for an irrigation project, valued at $5 million.

*China—October 1995*—Secretary BROWN advocated for $20 billion in projects during the trip.

*Spain—November 1995*—Secretary BROWN led U.S. businesses on a dialogue between business and government, making recommendations to reduce trade barriers and increase business with Europe.

*Northern Ireland—November 1995*—Secretary BROWN signed several initiatives to promote the peace through economic development and cooperation.

*Japan—November 1995*—Secretary BROWN attended an APEC Ministerial meeting with three other Clinton Cabinet members—Christopher, Pena, and Kantor.

*Africa—February 1996*—Secretary BROWN led a mission to five Sub-Sahara African countries with American CEOs, witnessed $500 million in agreements, and advocated for an additional $6.2 billion. He was the first Commerce Secretary to visit Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, and Botswana.

*Colombia, Panama, and Nicaragua—March 1996*—Secretary BROWN furthered economic integration, and laid the groundwork for the Free Trade Area.

These successful transactions reflect significant progress achieved by Commerce Secretary RON BROWN, working in partnership with other U.S. Government agencies and companies in the private sector. These transactions included contracts, business agreements, joint-venture arrangements, Memoranda of Understanding, financing agreements, etc.

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# Accomplishments of the International Trade Administration Under Secretary Brown

Secretary BROWN advocated for $80 billion in projects during his tenure, supporting hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs. Some of his successes include:

Westinghouse participated in a Presidential Business Development and Trade Mission in China, led by Secretary BROWN in August 1994. While there, Westinghouse signed a contract to provide two 350-megawatt steam turbine generators, valued at $140 million. Secretary BROWN stated "[This] proves we can overcome any obstacles that stand in the way of progress and partnership. A partnership in peace, in power, and in a future that is bright with the prospects of cooperation and commitment."

During his visit to Korea in September 1994, Secretary BROWN met with Kim Chulsu, Korea's Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy. During the meeting, he hand-delivered his own letter in support of the two American firms bidding for a $100 million satellite project. Three days after the Secretary's meeting, the South Korean Government announced that it had awarded the contract to TRW. The TRW spokesperson commented that, "The Secretary played an important role in this win."

Hughes Network Systems accompanied Secretary BROWN to India in January 1995. While there, Hughes signed an agreement for a new $700 million satellite project, and also won a $5 million contract with the Indian Ministry of Telecommunications, to build and operate a telecommunications system to provide communication services to dispersed locales. Jack Shaw of Hughes commented "For the first time in my 30-year career, the U.S. Government and business are working as a partnership to make American business the most competitive in the world."

Ellicott Machine Corp. International, a small Maryland firm, accompanied Secretary BROWN to Indonesia in November 1994. While there, Ellicott won a $21.5 million agreement to supply dredging equipment to Indonesia, and the Secretary witnessed the signing of the deal.

Enron accompanied Secretary BROWN to India in January 1995. Immediately prior to the Secretary's visit, Enron signed a $1.1 billion contract for offshore oil and gas production.

Pitney Bowes participated in a Presidential Business Development and Trade Mission in China, led by Secretary BROWN in August 1994. While there, Pitney Bowes signed a $20 million agreement to provide postal meters and related equipment to the Zhongyu Postal Code.

In November 1995, Black & Veatch International was awarded a $21.9 million contract to provide engineering and consulting services for the Rio Reconquista sanitation and flood control project in Argentina. Visits to Argentina by Secretary BROWN helped secure the project, worth $300 million.

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PROMOTING U.S. EXPORTS THROUGH SECRETARIAL TRADE MISSIONS

Under the leadership of Secretary BROWN, who worked tirelessly on behalf of American firms, U.S. merchandise exports increased 26 percent from 1993 to 1995.

While serving as Secretary of Commerce, Secretary BROWN did more than any other Commerce Secretary to promote U.S. business interests abroad. He participated in 19 trade missions to more than 25 countries. These missions involved officials representing more than 200 U.S. companies of all sizes who either traveled with the Secretary as part of a delegation or met with him in the host countries.

SOUTH AFRICA/AFRICA ACHIEVEMENTS

Secretary BROWN was a pivotal player in the development and articulation of the Clinton administration's policy toward South Africa. Even as South Africa was courageously entering the final delicate stages of its negotiated transition, President Clinton asked RON BROWN to lead a trade and investment mission to that country in November 1993. With the goals of a multiracial democracy and market-driven economy, BROWN fashioned a high profile South Africa initiative that continues to guide the Department's activities—an initiative that has seen nearly 130 U.S. firms invest in that market and two-way trade rapidly recover.

The Secretary this year played a key role in giving substance to the President's trade and development policy toward Africa with the historic 5-country commercial development mission to Africa that concluded on February 25. Both his presence and his message were historic—only one other Commerce Secretary had ever visited Africa, but BROWN was the first to visit four of the countries on this trip. Emblematic of the Administration's commitment to Africa, the Secretary was the highest U.S. Government official to visit that continent since the 1950's. The follow-up to that trip—the implementation of that commitment—will continue as part of BROWN's historic and committed legacy.

SECRETARY BROWN AND THE NATIONAL EXPORT STRATEGY

In 1992, President Clinton asked Secretary BROWN to chair the interagency Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee, tasking him to develop a long-term strategic plan to ensure that the Federal Government was using its resources to help U.S. firms compete in the global marketplace. In response, Secretary BROWN created the National Export Strategy—our Nation's first blueprint to increase jobs for American workers through exports. Working closely with his colleagues at the Departments of State, Treasury, Energy, Transportation, the Export-Import Bank, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the Trade and Development Agency, and others, BROWN headed the Administration's trade promotion team.

As a result of his leadership, America is well on its way toward achieving President Clinton's goal of increasing U.S. exports to $1.2 trillion by the year 2000. He worked to establish a nationwide network to help small businesses, and a governmentwide network to advocate on behalf of American companies competing overseas. He worked vigorously to remove outdated government-imposed obstacles to exporting and he was deeply committed to the success of small- and medium-sized firms—ensuring that the Government was doing all that it could to help them compete and win in the global economy. He strongly believed in the competitiveness of American busi-

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nesses, and his vision was to address their key concerns, such as questionable foreign competitive practices.

JAPAN ACHIEVEMENTS

During Secretary BROWN's tenure, U.S. exports to Japan increased by one-third. Last year alone, U.S. exports rose by 20 percent, while the U.S. trade deficit with Japan declined by 10 percent. Much of this success can be attributed to a series of market access agreements concluded with Japan in which Secretary BROWN played a major role, including:

The U.S.-Japan Auto Agreement helped sales of U.S. cars in Japan grow by 30 percent in 1995, increased the number of Big Three dealerships in Japan, and resulted in expanded sales of American auto parts.

Major U.S. success in sales of medical products, including a 60 percent increase in exports in the past 3 years, and the signing by Secretary BROWN of a Medical Technologies Framework Arrangement. Since the agreement was signed in 1994, U.S. exports of medical instruments have grown about 25 percent, exceeding $1.5 billion in 1995.

Secretary BROWN signed the 1994 U.S.-Japan Public Works Agreement, resulting in millions of dollars in contracts to U.S. architectural, construction, design, and engineering firms.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

Secretary BROWN worked tirelessly to champion the role of civilian technology and technological innovation as the means to ensure American job creation, economic prosperity and a higher standard of living for all Americans through technological innovation.

The same philosophy of bringing the peacetime tools of economic development to a war zone that took Secretary BROWN to Bosnia was not the first time he demonstrated that leadership. The same blueprint was already underway in the Middle East with the 1993 formation of the U.S.-Israel Science and Technology Commission. As the U.S. chairman, the Secretary challenged the American private sector to work with Israel, Palestine and Egypt to achieve the goals of economic growth and regional peace. The Commission is a unique bi-national program seeking to promote economic and technological collaboration between the two countries to create technology-based jobs for the 21st century.

Secretary BROWN also led the transformation of the Advanced Technology Program (ATP) from a pilot effort to the centerpiece of the Clinton administration's civilian technology strategy. Under Secretary BROWN, 220 awards were made to support industry-proposed and industry-led, cost-shared projects to develop high-risk civilian technologies that promise significant commercial payoffs and widespread benefits for the American economy. The awards involved 579 firms, 196 of which are small businesses. The total Federal investment in these projects is $783 million; another $802 million has been committed by the private sector.

Secretary BROWN also dramatically expanded manufacturing extension services available to small- and medium-sized firms through the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, a nationwide network of locally operated and NIST co-funded extension centers offering hands-on technology and business assistance to the Nation's 381,000 smaller manufacturers. Through Secretary BROWN's leadership, the number of centers in the network increased from 7 to 60, with over 200 offices nationwide.

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Under Secretary BROWN's leadership, funding for NIST's laboratories were given a major boost, enabling NIST to provide the often invisible, but absolutely essential measurement infrastructure needed for modern society to flourish economically. NIST's laboratory programs have increased the number of productive partnerships with U.S. industry. Through the Secretary's leadership, NIST has begun construction of a new world-class advanced chemical science laboratory and designed a new advanced technology laboratory to replace existing decaying, outdated labs.

Under Secretary BROWN's leadership, NTIS has been transformed from an old-fashioned seller of paper reports to a modern provider of electronic products and services. The Secretary instinctively understood that technology is bringing about dramatic changes in the way people acquire and use information and he urged NTIS to be innovative.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE BUREAU OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

When Secretary RON BROWN arrived at the Commerce Department in 1993, he inherited an export control system designed to counter the threats posed by the cold war. Through his leadership and understanding of the new security and economic threats facing the country, he transformed an outdated export control system, which merely frustrated U.S. businesses and future U.S. exports, into an efficient and effective system which balanced the need to promote U.S. exports with the growing threat of the spread of weapons of mass destruction. His personal commitment to numerous reforms increased U.S. jobs and returned the United States to the position of being the world's No. 1 exporting country. These better-focused export controls also enable the Nation to better counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Some of the highlights of Secretary BROWN's tenure during the past 3 years include:

Increased U.S. exports and U.S. jobs by releasing approximately $42 billion worth of computer and telecommunications equipment from outdated export licensing requirements.

Decreased burdens on U.S. businesses by implementing major reductions in licensing loads—from 50,000 per year when RON BROWN began his role as the Secretary of Commerce, to less than 10,000 licenses per year today. In order for U.S. businesses to compete effectively and efficiently in this global economy, he reformed the interagency license review process, and concurrently strengthened this same review process to reflect new concerns in the proliferation areas.

Championed the small- and medium-sized U.S. exporter by reforming the Export Administration Regulations to make them easy to use by first-time exporters and by simplifying their provision. He was the first Secretary to be able to accomplish this feat in over 40 years.

Assisted U.S. defense firms in both converting to commercial products and in exporting their products overseas.

Strengthened enforcement of export controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weaponry; in working to dismantle the Arab boycott, RON BROWN contributed greatly to the Middle East peace process.

In encouraging, and vigorously working for U.S. exports and balancing U.S. national security, RON BROWN has made this world safer for all our people and one in which U.S. exporters and the U.S. workers can better compete.

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## ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

Under the direction of Secretary BROWN the Economic Development Administration (EDA) worked to enhance local communities' ability to achieve their long-term competitive economic potential through the strategic investment of economic development assistance, bringing local leadership together with community and business leadership to create jobs and build a strong economic foundation for the future. Particular focus has been on revitalizing those communities impacted by defense downsizing, industrial and economic distress, or the depletion of natural resources.

It is through the programs of the Economic Development Administration that Secretary BROWN's goal of making change an ally of America's distressed communities, bringing local leadership together with community and business leadership for the good of the community, was effectively realized.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

Secretary BROWN saw the nation's statistical system as a vital component of a larger partnership between government and business, an aspect of the nation's commercial infrastructure, and a service provided by Government to aid in sound business decisionmaking as part of the process of economic growth and job creation.

Secretary BROWN oversaw a fundamental redirection of the nation's leading statistical agencies, by setting new priorities, establishing redefined and clearer missions, and championing the effort to secure adequate resources.

He presided over the re-engineering of the decennial Census. The planning for the Census in the year 2000 is for a national Census that is faster, cheaper, and more accurate. New technology will speed processing of the Census while reducing human error. The most modern statistical techniques will ensure the most accurate Census ever. At the same time, the design of the Census will mean savings of a billion dollars over taking the Census the same way as in the past.

He led the first comprehensive review of the quality of our economic statistics in 40 years. Secretary BROWN defended at every instance the integrity, independence, and objectivity of the statistical agencies, establishing these as their first priority. Secretary BROWN consistently approved new programs that would improve the quality of economic measurements regardless of their short-term effects.

He brought the statistical agencies into the Information Age, introducing them to the Internet, providing independent capitalization for STAT-USA, introducing cutting-edge technology into CPS and other Census surveys. Under his leadership, Commerce statistical agencies are now an active player in the information superhighway, pioneering in the use of the Internet to distribute statistical data far faster than in printed reports. The Bureau's Internet site, designed for easy access by a wide range of data users, now averages 70,000 contacts a day.

Under Secretary BROWN's leadership, ESA has made major strides in reducing the amount of paperwork—and hence, time—asked of its respondents in the gathering of data. The important monthly Current Population Survey has moved to electronic data gathering, doing away with paper forms entirely. Telephone- and computer-assisted surveys have become increasingly important tools in gathering information from people and businesses across the Nation.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

As the nation's first African American Secretary of Commerce, RON BROWN demonstrated again and again that diversity is America's advantage in the world economy. Under his tenure, minority businesses grew in quantity, size and sophistication and increased the quality of their contribution to our nation's economy.

Under RON BROWN's leadership, the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) reinvented the way it does business—improving the technical and management assistance services traditionally provided to startup companies by the Agency while better serving a new generation of existing "ready-to-grow" companies.

Secretary BROWN also directed the Agency to help assure that minority Americans have the tools to participate in the American economy, not just as workers but as entrepreneurs. The Agency developed the following major national initiatives to create these tools:

1. *International Trade*—The Agency has co-sponsored 12 international trade missions that introduced 194 minority businesses to existing and emerging markets in 16 countries and regions including South Africa, Mexico, Canada, the Caribbean Islands, and South America. In 1995 alone, participants project that their export sales from these missions exceeded $100 million;

2. *Capital Formation*—The Agency has entered into numerous agreements with financial institutions including NationsBank, the Money Store, AMWEST, Chemical Bank, and Bank of America to provide increased access to capital for minority businesses. The Agency is also pioneering pilot programs in equity and venture capital which are sorely lacking among minority businesses;

3. *Minority Advocacy*—The Agency has taken a leadership role with the Affirmative Action debate, especially with its impact on minority business initiatives. Secretary BROWN's leadership on behalf of the Administration proved to be the key factor for the "mend not end" solution proposed by the Clinton administration and for the increased understanding of the vital role minority business can and will play in our economy.

The legacy left by Secretary RON BROWN for minority business is the importance of preparing to become a competitive participant in domestic and international markets. The assurance of participation in the economic mainstream of this Nation represented for Secretary BROWN the attainment of true social equity for all Americans. Secretary BROWN profoundly understood that if America is to retain its competitive position in the global economy it must fully utilize all of its entrepreneurial talent. His vision brought minority businesses to the economic table of American business as true and full partners.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

Secretary BROWN's vision and leadership included his understanding that economic growth must be accompanied by a healthy and protected environment. His vision helped people understand the vital link between our economy and our environment, and the important role the Department of Commerce—and NOAA—play in making that connection.

As a member of the President's Council on Sustainable Development, the Secretary took a visible and public role in crafting far-reaching policy rec-

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ommendations to ensure that future economic growth does not occur at the expense of environmental stewardship and social justice.

The Secretary acted boldly and decisively to help rebuild depleted fish stocks—as when NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service found it necessary to close New England groundfish fisheries. Secretary BROWN recognized the impact such closures would have on fishing families in these communities and developed a first of its kind assistance package for fishing families.

The Secretary also had the vision to realize that the longterm health of New England's fisheries depended on reducing the number of boats fishing there. He instituted a pilot boat buyback program to reduce fishing capacity, to be followed by a full-scale buyout initiative designed to reduce capacity by nearly 25 percent.

Additionally, the Secretary recognized the need to provide assistance for salmon fishers in the Pacific Northwest. He successfully implemented a fishing permit buyback and jobs programs to provide environment-related employment to fishers displaced by the decline in salmon stocks.

In total, these programs initiated by Secretary BROWN provided nearly $100 million in assistance to fishing families from coast to coast.

Secretary BROWN championed NOAA's National Weather Service modernization that has resulted in a significant increase in warning lead times for severe weather. He listened carefully to the concerns of Members of Congress and requested an independent study to examine the adequacy of NEXRAD radar coverage and associated weather services.

Based upon the experts' recommendations, the Secretary decided that a "mid-course correction" in the National Weather Service modernization was needed. These adjustments include the addition of several NEXRAD radars and another Weather Forecast Office in order to provide vital weather and flood warnings, forecasts, and advisories for the protection of life and property.

Secretary BROWN was an untiring advocate for the incorporation of environmental technology into mainstream business. He was the first Secretary of Commerce to inaugurate a series of roundtable meetings with CEOs of major corporations to discuss the role of these technologies. He was particularly interested in ensuring that vital environmental information, such as climate change data, was available to the insurance industry for incorporation in their business practices. He also encouraged science-based solutions for the many challenges faced by the Commerce Department and NOAA, and encouraged NOAA's many preeminent scientists to contribute their knowledge and skills toward achieving these solutions.

RON BROWN was one of the first to recognize the need for right-sizing Government. He was a leader in the Clinton administration effort to ensure that streamlining accomplished the goals of efficiency without sacrificing effectiveness. An excellent example of his leadership in this arena is the convergence of the nation's civilian and military polar satellites, operated by NOAA's National Environmental Satellite Data Information Service. The combination of these systems is estimated to save up to $1 billion over the lifetime of the program.

The Secretary's personal interest in NOAA and its employees was evident in the visits he made to NOAA facilities and the constant line of communication he established with employees. His enthusiasm and vigor were evident in all his undertakings.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

Commerce Secretary BROWN was a champion for the work and programs of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Under his leadership, NTIA worked to empower communities and help all people realize their fullest potential through the use of telecommunications and information technologies.

Secretary BROWN led the Administration's vision for a National Information Infrastructure (NII), serving as the chair of the interagency Information Infrastructure Task Force. He worked diligently to achieve the NII vision—ensuring that all Americans would have access to the benefits of the Information Age. He also worked diligently for telecommunications reform, to create a truly competitive telecommunications marketplace.

While pursuing the NII vision, Secretary BROWN never lost sight of the importance of getting telecommunications technologies into underserved rural and low-income urban areas. Just last year, Secretary BROWN launched the first public education campaign to encourage all Americans to "Get Connected" to the Information Age.

Secretary BROWN was committed to the goals and continued existence of the Administration's NII grant program, which is administered by the Commerce Department's NTIA. He took several occasions to underscore this commitment to ensuring that we don't create a nation divided among information haves and have-nots. He personally awarded the 209 NII grants at two press conferences during which he expressed his sincere admiration for those endeavoring to demonstrate the power of telecommunications technology to improve lives.

Secretary BROWN took a particular interest in projects involving children. On several occasions, Secretary BROWN visited schools that have received NII grant funds from NTIA. During visits to the Ralph Bunche Elementary School in Harlem, Roper Middle School in northeast Washington, DC, and Mt. Vernon Community School in Alexandria, VA, he touched the lives of hundreds of children—urging them to use computers to learn and to improve their lives.

Secretary BROWN realized that the NII initiative was part of the emerging Global Information Infrastructure. During his domestic and international travels, he often took time to demonstrate how telecommunications and information technologies can dramatically change and improve lives. In Santiago, Chile last year, he participated in a tele-medicine demonstration that involved linking doctors in Chile with a patient in Texas—showing how technology can bridge geographic barriers and make it possible for all people to benefit from the best medical care available.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

Secretary BROWN understood the critical importance of protecting intellectual property worldwide—and led the charge to seek improvements that expanded and strengthened the protection of U.S. interests in intellectual property domestically and internationally.

Secretary BROWN enhanced the recognition and importance of the American inventor with the establishment of the American Innovator Award.

Under his leadership, the Patent and Trademark Office played a lead role in the negotiations of the Agreement on the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (the Trips Agreement), a fundamental agreement that will

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raise the standards of protection given copyrights, trademarks, patents, industrial designs, semiconductor chip layout designs, and trade secrets in all of the countries that become members of the World Trade Organization.

Secretary BROWN saw to it that the Japanese market became more accessible to American inventors. Under Secretary BROWN's leadership, the Commerce Department signed an agreement with Japan ensuring that the Japanese Patent Office grants exclusive patent rights to U.S. applicants in a timely manner. The PTO plays a key role in monitoring the implementation of this agreement.

The Secretary saw the importance of developing standards for intellectual property on the Internet. "Rules for the road" for intellectual property and the National Information Infrastructure (NII) were established with the release of the Lehman Report by the Secretary in September 1995.

A streamlined and customer-responsive government was one of the Secretary's key goals. As part of his strategy, the PTO was selected as one of the government's first performance-based agencies, and was restructured and reorganized to reduce patent and trademark dependency and become a more customer-focused agency.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE U.S. TRAVEL AND TOURISM ADMINISTRATION UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

RON BROWN's contributions to the U.S. travel and tourism industry were innumerable. His interest in travel and tourism was as personal as it was professional. Reared at the Hotel Theresa, Secretary BROWN understood firsthand the power and potential of travel and tourism . . . and significantly raised the awareness of the considerable job-creating influence the industry affords.

The Secretary helped the industry develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan that is bringing together all of its diverse elements—hotel chains, travel agents, airlines, rental car companies, and the rest. He established the industry as an economic priority within the Clinton administration and was the force that delivered the first-ever White House Conference on Travel and Tourism in October 1995.

In July 1995, BROWN released the first coordinated strategy for U.S. tourism development to harness government resources to meet tourism's economic potential. Under his direction, the Tourism Policy Council brings together 13 Federal agencies and Amtrak in a concerted effort to grow jobs and increase exports, not government.

Secretary RON BROWN made multicultural tourism a top priority and saw it as a way to build new tourism products for our country and to expand opportunities within the industry for all Americans.

As a prelude to the Summit of the Americas in 1994, Secretary BROWN hosted tourism ministers from 30 countries in the Western Hemisphere at a meeting in Orlando, FL to stress the important role travel and tourism will play in the integration of regional economies. He urged the ministers to work not as competitors but as partners to maximize emerging opportunities.

Secretary BROWN also fought hard to create a specific data collection classification to more accurately account for travel and tourism's significant contributions to the American economy.

RON BROWN's tireless devotion to travel-related issues brought the industry the respect it never before enjoyed.

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# President Clinton's Remarks at Ron Brown's Funeral

Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans, citizens of the world who have come here, to Alma and Tracey and Monica and Tammy, to Chip and to Ron's mother and the other members of the family who are here, this has been a long week for all of us who loved RON BROWN, cared for his work, cherished the brilliant young people who worked with him, honored the business executives who took the mission of peace to Bosnia and the members of our United States military who were taking them on that mission.

But this has been the longest week for the Brown family. You have grieved and wept. You have comforted others whose loved ones were lost. You have remembered and smiled, and last evening you got to celebrate and laugh at the life that you shared each in your own way with RON.

I begin by saying to all of you on behalf of all of us, we thank you for the strength you have given to others, even as you have borne your own grief. For we can see RON in your eyes and hear him in your voices and feel his strength in yours. Indeed, I was confident as I heard Michael speak that from heaven RON had written the words.

So today and in all of our tomorrows as we remember and love him, we will remember and love you. We hope on this day amidst all the grief you will also feel gratitude for his magnificent life, determination to carry on his legacy and keep it alive, and the peace of God which takes us to a place beyond all our understanding.

The Bible tells us though we weep through the night, joy will come in the morning. RON BROWN's incredible life force brought us all joy in the morning. No dark night could ever defeat him. And as we remember him, may we always be able to recover his joy. For this man loved life and all the things in it. He loved the big things—his family, his friends, his country, his work, his African-American heritage. He loved the difference he was making in the world, this new and exciting world after the Cold War. And he loved life's little things—the Redskins, and basketball, and golf even when it was bad, and McDonald's, and clothes.

And I'm telling you, folks, he would have loved this deal today.

I mean, here we are for RON BROWN in the National Cathedral with full military honors, filled with the distinguished citizenry of this country and leaders from around the world, in a tribute to him. And as I look around, I see that all of us are dressed almost as well as he would be today.

But let us remember also that he loved success, but not so much he wanted to succeed at the wrong things or in the wrong way. And he always remembered that worldly success doesn't take us too very far from all the rest of our fellow human beings who don't enjoy as much of it. That accounts for why he was always so kind to people without regard to their station in life. RON BROWN enjoyed a lot of success. He proved you could do well and do good. He also proved you could do good and have a good time. And he also proved that you could do all that and at the same time still take time to help other people.

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With his passion and determination, his loves and his joys, his going beyond the stereotypes of his time, he lived a truly American life.

He lived his life for America, and when the time came, he was found laying down his life for America.

What a life it was, with his remarkable enthusiasm that infected everything it did. As long as I live, I will remember the time RON BROWN and I were walking the streets of the neighborhood in Los Angeles, and we went to this sporting goods store that had been owned by people who were trying to help young folks stay out of gangs.

And in the back of the sporting goods store there was a basketball court. And all these little kids had gathered around and they asked RON and they asked me if we'd like to play basketball. So we divided up sides; he took a few kids, I took a few kids. All of sudden he forgot who was President and how he got his day job.

He was totally caught up in the drama of the game. This was an important trip we took. But afterward, whenever anyone asked him about that trip, all he could remember to say was, "The President was in my face from 20 feet out, but when I shot, nothing but net."

RON BROWN was very clever. Even as a young boy, at the Hotel Theresa, 'Little Brown,' as Joe Lewis called him, was always trying to think of what else could be done. He met all kinds of celebrities, as has been widely chronicled—men like Louis Armstrong and Sugar Ray Robinson and women like Lena Horne and Dinah Washington. And he did what most kids do, even today—he got their autographs. But unlike most kids, he sold them to his friends. According to Michael, he sold two to a page, 5 bucks a pop until Joe Lewis found out and shut down his act. But it was too late, he was well on his way to becoming the Secretary of Commerce.

He was daring. We all know that. He was daring when he announced he wanted to be the chairman of the Democratic Party after we had lost three Presidential elections. And no one thought he had a chance to win. Then when he won, he announced that in 1992, the world's oldest political party would win the White House again—and nobody thought he was right, including the Governor of a small southern State.

But as with so many other things, he was right, and the rest of us were wrong.

On a personal note, I want to say to my friend, just one last time, thank you. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't be here.

RON BROWN was a true leader, and he knew that in his mind that meant you could never show doubt, even if you had to kind of make it up as you went along.

I later learned this story about his acceptance of the job I offered him. I sent for RON, he came to see me, and I said, "You know, this is a big new world out there, and you ought to be Secretary of Commerce. You could change the future of America and millions of other people around the world. You can make a real difference." And he said, "That sounds good. I want to think about it."

I later learned that he walked out and went to see our mutual friend Harold Ickes and said, "Harold, what does the Secretary of Commerce do?" By the time he arrived, he knew. He knew better than anyone else. He came on like a force of nature.

Yesterday I received a letter from one of the many business executives that RON BROWN helped to open new markets around the world. He's on our Export Council, and he said in this letter, "You know, Mr. President, RON

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BROWN really is the finest Secretary of Commerce the United States ever had."

He also remembered what it was he was leading toward. RON BROWN made his staff memorize a one-sentence mission statement about their job at Commerce. Here it is: "The mission of the Department of Commerce is to ensure economic opportunity for every American." That was RON. He wanted to give other people a chance to live a good life and live the American dream. He wanted to do it in a way that helped people around the world to lift their aspirations. He went after it with everything he had.

He used to say to me if what we have to do means getting the Government out of the way, let's lead the charge; and if what we have to do means working together to find some new solution, let's lead the charge—but let's get it done, let's fulfill the mission.

He also never forgot that there are always some people who are left behind. I want to tell you this story because to me it captures so much the essence of what made him very special.

When we first came into office, we only had about a month to put our first budget together. And we knew we had to do some pretty tough things to get the deficit way down. Day after day, the Cabinet would gather in the Roosevelt Room and RON was always there. And on one of those days we talked about the need not only to cut the budget but to do some really symbolic things that would show the American people we were different and we stood for the right things. And we were all, frankly, being just a little sanctimonious and looking for symbolic gestures.

And so we were talking about the need to cut the perks that had previously been provided to top officials—things like chefs and the Secretary's dining room and chauffeurs for a lot of high-ranking officials. And we talked about them, frankly, all of us—nonchalantly and fairly sanctimoniously. Until RON turned to me and said, "You know, these cuts are the right thing to do Mr. President. It is the right thing to do. But I'd just like to remind people that there are really human beings in those jobs as chefs and chauffeurs. A lot of those folks are my age. Many are black men. Most of them never had the opportunities you and I did. So let's go on and do the right things and make the cuts, but let's not forget about those people and let's try to help them go on with their lives in dignity."

No one else said that but RON BROWN. He could see where we had to go, he knew it was the right thing to do, but he had enough peripheral vision to know how other people were being affected.

The last thing I'd like to say about his remarkable public life is that while he was often determined to be first, he was equally determined that he would never be the last. And so he exerted more extraordinary effort than virtually anybody I've ever known to develop the talents of other people, to reach out to the young, to give them a chance to serve. How much of the weeping we have done this last week because there were so many brilliant, young people on that plane with him, from different backgrounds and different racial groups.

Why? Because RON BROWN could see in them the promise of a new tomorrow. And he knew they needed someone to reach down and give them the opportunity to serve. And I hope that is something that none of us will ever forget, for his legacy burns brightly not only in the lives of his wife and children and other family members, but also all of those brilliant young men and women, many of whom are with us today, who walked through the doors that he opened and crossed over the bridges that he built.

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I received a lot of letters and calls, like many of you have, since RON died. I got this letter from Michael Armstrong, the chairman of Hughes Electronics, who was one of the people RON worked with, and I wanted to read this to you because so often we think government operates in a vacuum.

Listen to this:

"While the demands of business and pressures of the Commerce Department and the politics of Washington can often mask the spirit and character of the dedicated people who try so hard to make a difference for America, the business at hand, the pressures on the department and the politics of the moment never dimmed the smile, the energy, the commitment and the leadership of the man who made such a big difference in the direction and destiny of our country.

"He led his party to the Presidency. He led the Commerce Department with imagination and distinction. He led American business to new global opportunity. He led his race as an unassuming but forceful role model. He led us all in being what he believed in. He was truly a leader.

"RON BROWN—a trailblazer, a builder, a patriot; a husband, a father; a wonderful friend; and a great American."

Let us remember these things about RON. Let us always have our joy in the morning. Let us be determined to carry on his legacy. Let us always be vigilant, as he was, in fighting against any shred of racism and prejudice. Let us always be vigilant, as he was, in remembering that we cannot lift ourselves up by tearing other people down, that we have to go forward together.

Let us always remember, as he did, that Alexis de Tocqueville was right when he said so many years ago, "America is great because America is good." He knew we had to keep working and striving to be better.

In his last sermon from the pulpit, Martin Luther King asked God to grant us all a chance to be participants in the newness and magnificent development of America. That is the cause for which RON BROWN gave his life and the cause for which he gave up his life.

In his letter to the Galatians, St. Paul said, "Let us not grow weary in doing good. Or, in due season, we shall reap if we do not lose heart."

Our friend never grew weary; he never lost heart. He did so much good, and he is now reaping his reward. He left us sooner than we wanted him to leave, but what a legacy of love and life he left behind.

Now, he's in a place where he doesn't even have to worry about how good he looks; he always will look good. He's in a place where there's always joy in the morning. He's in a place where every good quality he ever had has been rendered perfect. He's in a place he deserves to be, because of the way he lived and what he left to those of us who loved him.

Let there always be joy in the morning for RON BROWN.

Amen.

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# A Moment of Sharing

REMARKS BY JIM DESLER, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ITA

How does one start discussing and sharing the impact my friends' lives had on me personally, on this Department as a whole and on this country.

It has to start with the man we all knew. I worked for RON BROWN for the past 6 years, and his qualities, vision and personality have been well documented. What amazed me about him was his ability to create a world of hope and optimism wherever he went. I was privileged to see it in the Middle East when he met with Yasser Arafat, the late Yitzak Rabin, Egyptian President Mubarek, and the Saudi King. I saw it in China in meetings with President Jiang Zemin and other top officials, and how he captivated his counterpart, the normally tough and humorless Madam Wu Yi.

His was a charisma and drive that transcended language and cultural barriers. He was able to control these meetings with his characteristic grace, elegance and focus that filled the room with optimism—that made all participants, even adversaries, open to all possibilities. This was RON BROWN's world.

One of my most poignant memories of the Secretary was in Ireland. We had just completed 2 grueling days with President Clinton and after a morning of speeches, interviews and events, the Secretary had 5 hours of downtime before he was off to South Africa for another important mission. As we stood in the hotel lobby, the Secretary asked the group assembled what was next on the schedule. After being given several less than appealing options, he turned to me and asked, "Jimmy, what are we going to do?" I replied, "Mr. Secretary, we're going to an Irish pub."

And there, in the heart of white, Catholic Dublin City, Ireland, in a dingy Irish tavern named Kitty O'Shea's, this neat, immaculately dressed black man transformed the bar into RON BROWN's world. I swear, after the second Guinness, the Secretary was speaking with an Irish brogue and conversed with the locals like a regular patron.

We are all part of RON BROWN's world—a world of hope and optimism, a world of possibilities. And those who lost their lives were not only part of this world, but helped create it.

There was the communicator.

With an infectious laugh and a focused determination, Carol Hamilton understood how the media worked and how to convey our activities and achievements into strategically placed stories that not only helped the Department, but enabled the American public to understand the importance of our mission. Also working full-time keeping the wolves (the press) at bay, Carol did not move through life, she dominated it.

There was the adviser.

With good sense and political savvy, Kathryn Hoffman was able to transform a shared vision into a practical course that fit in with the needs and capabilities of the organization. No easy task, but Kathryn accomplished it with thorough professionalism and an admirable style.

There was the planner.

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All the details, the logistics, the nuts and bolts that created this world were made possible by Bill Morton. With a determination tempered by kindness and cooperation, Bill was the most selfless person I have ever worked with. If he was carrying six bags in the airport, and you were only carrying two, he would always offer to give you a hand. I will sorely miss his loyalty and friendship.

There was the implementor.

Whether it be for the White House or for the Secretary, Lawry Payne would suspend his busy schedule and be ready, at a moment's notice, to help out. This is planning in Washington, and there is the effort to make sure those plans are implemented on the ground. That's what Lawry brought—an ability to bring substantive initiatives together with a workable and productive schedule. Lawry was masterful at bringing the different elements of a trip together, with his affable personality and friendly demeanor. He was the man who got things done.

There was the idealist.

From a cynical and detached generation came Adam Darling. A man who, with steady determination, would participate in any cause that provided hope. Dedicated to improving lives, particularly in America's cities, Adam's kindness and generosity were not confined to our borders, as is evident in his participation in this mission.

There was the protector.

Duane Christian was so much more than a security officer. Just one look at him and you knew that all arrangements had been taken care of—that we were all secure. But unlike the stereotype of a security officer, Duane was flexible and could work around obstacles and solve problems. Blessed with a pleasant demeanor and engaging personality, Duane was a joy to be around.

There was the facilitator.

These trips were made possible by the miraculous work of the Office of Business Liaison, and nobody worked harder or was more productive than Gail Dobert. Gail would stride into meetings, carrying briefing binders and numerous folders, and be the only one with all the answers. Thoroughly professional and focused, Gail never let the pressure of deadlines or demands get to her—she was reliably consistent and a real team player who always made things happen.

There was the happy pragmatist.

While planning at this Department often seemed to exist in a dream world, Kathy Kellogg always brought reason and practicality to the table. For someone so young, she was a forceful and effective advocate for the interest of the business delegation—and a key to the success of these trips. But with this stridency came a smile and sparkle in her eyes that filled a room with joy.

There was the upstart.

Young but talented and assured, Naomi Warbasse was a flower in the process of full bloom. She was just hitting her stride—no longer a silent observer, but an active and productive participant who earned her seat at the table—who was to be a force to be reckoned with.

The careerist.

But so much more can be said of Steve Kaminski. The person on the ground who knew the players, understood the issues and was able to transform this practical knowledge into the world of hope and possibility. A dedicated public servant, Steve represented all the career people whose life work is the foundation upon which we succeed.

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And there was the overseer.

To Chuck Meissner, these trips were so much more than commercial missions—they were missions of hope. In the Balkans and in Northern Ireland, Chuck was the central figure in developing practical programs that would create peace and prosperity through economic growth. The missions never ended once the trip was complete; Chuck would always be there for follow-up visits to make certain that success and progress would take root.

All of these talented, creative and giving people were contributors to RON BROWN's world. All dedicated their lives to this shared vision—to this shared world.

And what is RON BROWN's world? It is a world where hope springs eternal, where possibilities are endless, where progress is made and where things get done.

It is a world where the dream of Martin Luther King is fulfilled, where the promise of John and Robert Kennedy is met, where racial barriers are shattered and where we all stride with a bounce in our step and a smile on our face that says not only are we fighting the good fight, but we are winning.

RON BROWN's world did not end on that mountainside outside of Dubrovnik. It lives in each and every one of us. We must keep this world alive in our hearts, in our memories, in our work and in our accomplishments. Not because it is what each of these twelve would have wanted, but because it is what they would have demanded.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION,
WASHINGTON, DC 20230,
*April 9, 1996.*

Dear District Export Council Member:

We have lost the most effective Commerce Secretary this country has ever seen. His legacy is a rich and varied one. I do not need to tell you that Secretary BROWN believed creating jobs through exporting was key to our national economic security. The Secretary knew that District Export Councils (DECs) were on the front line of this fight. The Secretary maintained that the U.S. Government should be aggressive on behalf of U.S. business interests overseas. A small consolation is that RON BROWN and his traveling colleagues died doing what he thoroughly enjoyed and believed in.

No other Commerce Secretary had a closer relationship to his DECs. RON BROWN praised the individual commitment and collective contribution you make as DEC members. I know he was looking forward to participating in the upcoming National DEC Conference in Cleveland—as he has with all of your annual conferences since becoming Secretary. Under RON BROWN's leadership, the 51 DECs nationwide have earned a reputation of excellence in support of the U.S. exporter and the Commerce Department mission. As Secretary BROWN stated, "Working together, we [Commerce and the DECs] have expanded the value and breadth of the export programs available to American business, and I look forward to continuing that productive relationship for many years to come." To honor his passing, I ask you to continue realizing the visible legacy left by Secretary BROWN.

Many of you also worked with two members of the Commercial Service family we lost in this tragedy: Lawrence Payne and Stephen C. Kaminski. My Special Assistant Lawrence "Lawry" Payne, was participating in the Secretary's economic reconstruction mission to Bosnia to help realize a vision for peace through economic development. Since 1993, Lawry carried out key program priorities of the Administration—translating vision into day-to-day operations. Stephen C. Kaminski, Senior Commercial Service Officer in Vienna, Austria, had a long and distinguished career in the Commercial Service. During his tour in Tokyo, Stephen received the Department's Gold Medal Award for his work in ensuring U.S. companies' access to Japanese markets. Most recently, Stephen worked to develop the Department's strategy for trade with Croatia and Bosnia.

Along with all of the dedicated men and women lost in this mission, Lawry and Stephen are missed. As we continue healing the wounds of this tragedy, we must look to the future and work to ensure what Secretary BROWN started is finished. I ask you, as one of the 1,600 DEC members nationwide, to reflect on your accomplishments over the past 3 years, and to dedicate your continued hard work to the memory of the victims of the April 3rd crash.

Sincerely,

DANIEL J. MCLAUGHLIN,
*Deputy Assistant Secretary,*
*The Commercial Service.*

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# Newspaper Articles and Editorials

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[From the New York Times, April 3, 1996]

A ROLE AS NATION'S CHIEF SALESMAN ABROAD

(By Richard W. Stevenson)

WASHINGTON, April 3—Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN was in the Balkans in his self-assigned role as the nation's salesman in chief, seeking profitable opportunities for American businesses abroad and making the case that economic power should be a cornerstone of American foreign policy.

It was a generally successful strategy that allowed Mr. BROWN to portray himself as a champion of American business interests the world over, and provided him a potent defense against Republicans in Congress who sought to eliminate his department on the grounds that it cost too much and gave Government too active a role in the economy.

But at times, the strategy also put Mr. BROWN in conflict with the State Department, which sometimes took a dim view of his faith in economic power as a lever on other issues, especially in China.

His trip to Bosnia and Croatia was intended to introduce a dozen big American companies to opportunities likely to grow out of the $5 billion international plan being drawn up to repair power plants, water treatment facilities, oil and gas pipelines, buildings, roads and bridges in the Balkans.

With an eye to protecting American jobs, Mr. BROWN also planned to press the Croatian Government to reconsider its decision last month to buy 18 jetliners from the European Airbus consortium, and to buy the planes instead from the Boeing Company of Seattle.

The head of Boeing's aircraft group, Ronald Woodward, was among those accompanying Mr. BROWN on part of his trip, although he was not on the Boeing-built plane that crashed with Mr. BROWN and 32 other people on board.

Acting as a door-opener for corporations and using American clout to their benefit became Mr. BROWN's hallmark.

Within the Administration, he was the prime supporter of adopting a role long played by other big industrial nations on behalf of their companies, that of using political influence to help corporations win public contracts or the right to invest, especially in fast-growing emerging markets in Asia and Latin America.

But Mr. BROWN's vision of his job went beyond helping American business. In China Mr. BROWN championed the much-debated idea that "commercial engagement" would influence Beijing on human rights and nuclear proliferation, among other issues.

From South Africa to Northern Ireland and the Middle East, Mr. BROWN asserted that helping American business contribute to economic reform and growth would help foster peace, social stability and democracy.

Speaking about Bosnia on Tuesday in Paris, Mr. BROWN said, "Peace and stability will only be assured through economic development."

C. Fred Bergsten, the director of the Institute for International Economics, a research group in Washington, said Mr. BROWN had given the Commerce Department a more influential role in foreign policy than any time except perhaps during the Nixon administration, when the United States adopted a policy of increasing its trade with the Soviet Union.

"Under the policies that RON BROWN pursued, no one felt that the economic payoff would come immediately or would keep anyone from shooting at each other this year," Mr. Bergsten said. "But it was seen as an impor-

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tant factor in the long run in keeping these troubled spots from festering and coming back to haunt you again and again while at the same time having a payoff for American business."

Mr. BROWN's policies won him widespread support in the business community, which traditionally viewed Democratic administrations with suspicion. A few critics accused Mr. BROWN of giving preference to companies that supported the Democratic Party when he put together delegations to visit foreign countries, a suggestion he denied.

The business community applauded Mr. BROWN's focus on helping provide entree for American companies to fast-growing developing markets, where the competition among industrial nations and their industries is particularly intense but where permission to invest and conduct trade requires political backing as well as business acumen.

"He appreciated the need for the Federal Government to play a very aggressive role in breaking down formal and informal trade barriers abroad," said Rob Liberatore, the vice president for Washington affairs at the Chrysler Corporation, whose chief executive, Robert Eaton, has traveled with Mr. BROWN to China in an attempt to establish a foothold in that market. "It's a refreshing change in the U.S. Government because everyone else in the world does it, and it makes a difference."

Business executives said Mr. BROWN worked hard to put them in contact with high-level officials in foreign governments, to clear away red tape, and to impress foreign governments that the United States was putting its political influence to work on behalf of its business interests.

"This Administration, mostly driven by the initiatives of RON BROWN, has been focused on making American industry a more successful source of high-technology business to the world than in the past," said Bernard Schwartz, the chairman of the Loral Corporation, a military electronics and telecommunications company.

"I'm sure the President will continue the policy," said Mr. Schwartz, who is a big financial supporter of the Democratic Party. "But a large part of the success of the policy has been attributable to BROWN, and I hope the President will be able to find a replacement who will be as forceful and effective as BROWN was.

[From USA Today, April 4, 1996]

PARTING GIFT TO TROOPS: A LITTLE TASTE OF HOME

(By Richard Benedetto)

RON BROWN was a guy known for his love of hardball politics and skill in closing a tough business deal.

But his last act on behalf of his government was to bring a little bit of home Wednesday to U.S. troops at Camp Alicia, near Tuzla, in northeastern Bosnia.

He surprised soldiers with hundreds of McDonald's hamburgers and videos of pro and college basketball and football games.

"We know how tough it is being away from home," he said after lunching with the troops. "Being a former Army man myself, I know what being away from home is like."

Grainy film aired on TV showed BROWN, an Army captain in Korea and Germany in the 1960s, sipping coffee and posing for pictures with camouflage-clad soldiers serving with NATO peacekeeping forces.

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He seemed to be having a grand old time. So did the GIs.

The merriment captured by the camera made it that much more difficult to believe that only an hour or so later the globe-trotting Commerce Secretary's plane would slam into a rocky hillside near Dubrovnik, Croatia. All 33 aboard were believed killed.

BROWN had gone to the former Yugoslavia on a trade mission. He brought along top executives from nearly a dozen U.S. companies to lay the groundwork for American firms to participate in the war-torn region's reconstruction.

Earlier in the day, BROWN and U.S. business leaders discussed infrastructure projects with mayors of Tuzla and Zvornik. BROWN, wearing a plaid shirt rather than his trademark French cuffs, stressed the need for regional cooperation.

"I'm really exhilarated by what we've seen," he said afterward. "This is really a historic visit, moving from peacekeeping . . . to being in the vanguard of the effort to reconstruct and to develop Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"We know that as peace takes hold, ordinary citizens expect significant change in their lives. They want their standard of living improved. They want economic opportunity for themselves and their children."

He and his party then trudged across snow-covered mud and headed for their fateful plane ride.

[From the Washington Post, April 4, 1996]

A LOT OF US HAD FRIENDS ON THIS MISSION

(By Judith Evans)

COMMERCE EMPLOYEES REACT WITH SHOCK, GRIEF TO DEATHS OF SECRETARY BROWN AND COLLEAGUES

Shocked and grieving employees at the Commerce Department yesterday described Secretary RON BROWN as an inspirational leader who motivated them to promote business opportunities even when congressional pressure mounted to abolish the Department.

Nearly 500 employees crammed into the agency's auditorium in mid-afternoon to listen as President Clinton paid tribute to BROWN, whose plane crashed outside Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Clinton, who arrived at the Department after a visit to BROWN's family in upper Northwest, said: "RON BROWN walked and ran and flew through life. And he was a magnificent life force. And those of us who love him will always be grateful for his friendship and warmth."

Clinton also brought a message from BROWN's wife, Alma: "She said, 'Tell them RON was proud of them, fought for them and believed in them. And tell them that you're going to do that now.'"

Some employees cried or buried their heads in their hands as the President spoke. Several employees hugged each other in an effort to ease the pain that lingered the rest of the day.

"Everybody is in a daze," said Mary Jenkins, who has worked at the department for 33 years and is an international trade specialist. "He was such a people person, always offering support to employees."

Richard Brace, an economist for the department's Economic Statistical Administration, said employees shocked by the news couldn't work and the offices "were quiet and solemn."

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Erran F. Persley, an international trade specialist, said he was asked to go on the Bosnian mission, but instead decided to wait for a trip to Japan. "The whole tone of the building has changed . . ." he said. "A lot of us had friends on this mission."

Persley and other employees also mourned the loss of their colleagues. Charles F. Meissner, assistant secretary for international trade, William Morton, deputy assistant secretary for international trade, and press secretary Carol Hamilton were reportedly on the plane with BROWN, among other department staffers.

"We called them our friends. They were young and bright with their whole future ahead of them," said Mike Myron, a trade specialist in the department's Advocacy Center.

Minyon Moore, national political director for the Democratic National Committee, said Morton and Hamilton were members of a new generation of African American political activists born from the marriage of the Democratic Party and Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition.

A solemn gathering of a different kind was taking place at the red-brick town home of the Browns on Unicorn Lane NW near Rock Creek Park. By early afternoon, neighbors, family, personal and political friends had begun the grieving process by remembering BROWN. Many of his friends stayed several hours. Some wiped away tears or carried crumpled white tissues as they came and went.

"There is a lot of reminiscing going on," said Roscoe Dellums, a neighbor and wife of Representative Ronald V. Dellums (D–CA). "People are piecing together the legacy of the man."

"People were remembering RON and laughing about RON," said Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton (D–DC). "They were full of memories," said Norton, who has been friends with the Browns since they were young parents living in New York.

Norton said Alma Brown was "holding up very well" given the circumstances. The people who came by to console Alma Brown and their children included everybody from BROWN's "basketball buddies to the President of the United States," Norton said.

Mayor Marion Barry and his wife Cora, also visited for about half an hour. Barry emerged in a somber state and briefly talked about his 25 year friendship with BROWN.

"RON was not just the Commerce Secretary to me. He was a close friend. He was a good friend," Barry said.

The department will be led by acting Commerce Secretary Mary Good, who was undersecretary for technology.

[From the New York Times, April 4, 1996]

PLANE CRASH IN CROATIA SILENCES A BIG PLAYER IN CAPITAL DEBATES

(By David E. Sanger)

WASHINGTON, April 4—When RONALD H. BROWN died on a hillside near Dubrovnik, Croatia, on Wednesday, he was in the thick of three battles here that touched the divergent roles he played in Washington.

The first was a continuing struggle within the Administration—sometimes still heated 3 years after it began—over the degree to which the nation's commercial interests should drive its foreign policy agenda.

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As Commerce Secretary Mr. BROWN often argued fiercely for what he called "commercial diplomacy," the use of America's clout abroad to create jobs at home, a stark counterpoint to the "high diplomacy" of the cold war. But there was always resistance, and many wonder whether, without Mr. BROWN's high-profile circuiting of the globe, that approach will prove a permanent legacy of the Clinton administration, or whether it could slowly dissolve.

The second battle was to save the Commerce Department itself from a Republican-dominated Congress that viewed it as a ripe target for disassembly or outright abolition. With his trademark passion, Mr. BROWN called this "unilateral disarmament" in the face of Japanese and European competition, and was winning the argument. But without him, many in the Administration said today, the battle will be harder.

And the third battle centered on Mr. BROWN's true passion in life: politics. His death deprives the Clinton administration of its most visible black Cabinet member and its bridge to black voters, even though some prominent blacks were concerned that Mr. BROWN was a bit too much of an insider too interested in compromise. And at the weekly strategy sessions in the White House, Mr. BROWN was just beginning to try again to work the magic that he performed as chairman of the Democratic National Committee: To energize both the left wing of the party, which has often been disillusioned by the Clinton administration, and the conservative, largely white middle class that has its own, very different reservations.

"You just don't find people who have feet planted so firmly in different camps the way RON did, and who can bridge such yawning chasms," said Mickey Kantor, who worked side-by-side with Mr. BROWN managing the 1992 campaign, and then again negotiating the intricacies of a new world of international trade as the United States trade representative. "There are some things in this world you just can't replace," he said.

In the weeks before his death, Mr. BROWN was playing down his behind-the-scenes role in preparations for the coming campaign, in part because the financial dealings that were under investigation until his death effectively precluded him from any formal role in the campaign. But it was hardly a secret that he had begun showing up at the small, weekly meetings at the White House of the President's closest political advisers.

"I'm really not a political strategist these days," the former chairman of the Democratic National Committee, said a few weeks ago, with the broad smile he used to suggest that he didn't believe a word of what he just uttered, and didn't expect anyone else to, either.

"This is a man who had the campaign in his blood," Carl R. Wagner, a Washington consultant and one of Mr. BROWN's closest confidantes, said today. "And just as he knew that the problem in 1992 was how to focus entirely on the economy, this year he knew that the question was how to energize a re-election campaign and how to get people out of the stands. That's what he was worrying about."

But for Mr. BROWN, the campaign and his job at the Commerce Department merged into one. And that was particularly evident in the symbolism of his 15 trips abroad with corporate executives, many of whom would never think of voting for a Democrat for President.

For Mr. BROWN, the trade mission was the message, and the message was that the United States would no longer divorce its relationships around the world from the creation of jobs for Americans.

"We are the bridge between domestic and foreign policy," he said of the Commerce Department in December. "And what that means is that commer-

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cial interests are now on an equal par with security in the world of foreign policy."

But it was never quite that simple, as Mr. BROWN acknowledged in his more candid moments. While Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Defense Secretary William J. Perry and Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin all uttered similar sentiments when the discussion was abstract, their institutions often fought back when the issue boiled down to hard cases.

During last year's face-off with Japan over automobile trade, the Pentagon and some in the State Department feared that threatening trade sanctions against an ally was an invitation to disaster.

And when President Clinton goes to Tokyo later this month, it will be to emphasize the security relationship between the two countries and the common threats they face. Of course there will be the usual menu of trade complaints—restrictions on American air routes across the Pacific and on the distribution of Kodak film—but they are being carefully managed so that they do not overwhelm the message of alliance.

And on China, Mr. BROWN would readily acknowledge that the United States had far broader interests than simply selling airplanes or telephone systems.

But often he argued for toning down or delaying criticism of Beijing that might be likely to result in nothing but retaliation against American business interest.

It was a pragmatic, jobs-in-America-first attitude. In the mid-levels of the State Department and the Pentagon, Mr. BROWN's position was frequently characterized as mercantilist and some feared it would undercut America's moral authority around the world. Mr. BROWN and his defenders portrayed themselves as realists in the ongoing argument.

"There are a thousand issues that can arise in a post-cold war world—human rights, the environment, corruption, overseas military bases—that if they are handled wrong will create great handicaps for the American economy," said Jeffrey Garten, his undersecretary for nearly 3 years. "And I think that if the result of his death is that the scales tip back to the way it was when the Clinton administration came into office, that would be a setback."

Both Mr. Kantor and Laura D'Andrea Tyson, the head of the National Economic Council, said today that would not happen. "There are larger forces at work here and the reality is that no nation can back away from making these kinds of concerns as important as 'high diplomacy,'" Ms. Tyson said today. "But I'm sure it won't be a smooth path in that direction, and I don't know of anyone who can articulate the need for this kind of change in public the way RON could."

Congress discovered that power of articulation this fall, as the Republicans heated up their campaign to slice the Commerce Department to shreds, spreading its vital functions all over the Government and eliminating anything that was left. Mr. BROWN, colleagues recall, did not at first consider their threat to be serious. He later decided he was wrong, and began a full-force campaign in which he enlisted corporate executives he knew from his travels to press their Republican friends to back off.

"There wasn't much support for his position," one colleague recalled today. "So he created the ground swell himself."

Surprised at the reach of Mr. BROWN's Rolodex and the success of his gentle arm-twisting, the Republicans backed off. But without him in charge, they have another chance as the 1997 budget is debated.

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Meanwhile, even the White House was a bit stunned today by the outpouring of condolences and cables from foreign leaders. Many of them had been on the receiving end of that mix of smooth charm and stiff persuasion he used to close a deal for American goods.

"They had seen American diplomats before," one of Mr. Clinton's economic advisers said today. "They had seen canny politicians, and African-Americans with power. They had seen businessmen with order books in their hands. But they had never seen all of that in one package."

[From the Associated Press, April 4, 1996]

RONALD H. BROWN

(Editorial)

Wednesday's remarks by President Clinton about Commerce Secretary RON BROWN, whose Air Force jetliner crashed near Dubrovnik, Croatia: Ladies and gentlemen, the Vice President and the First Lady and the members of the Cabinet and I wanted to come here to be with the employees of the Commerce Department at this very difficult hour.

Hillary and I have just come from RON BROWN's home, visiting with Alma and Michael and their family and friends who are there, and we wanted to come and spend a few moments with you.

As all of you know, the plane carrying Secretary BROWN and his delegation, including a number of your colleagues, business leaders and members of the United States military, went down today near Dubrovnik in Croatia. We do not know for sure what happened there.

But I wanted to come here today—it is almost Passover for American Jews, I know a lot of you will want to be leaving soon—just to have the chance to say a few words to you.

The first thing I want to say is, before I left I asked Alma, I said, Alma, what do you want me to say when I go to the Commerce Department? She said, tell them RON was proud of them, that he liked them, that he believed in them and that he fought for the Commerce Department, and tell them that you're going to do that now.

I've known RON BROWN a long time. I was always amazed at the way he was continually reaching out trying to bridge the differences between people, always trying to get the best out of people, always believing that we could do more than we have done. In a way this job was sort of ready-made for him at this moment in history. And he loved it very much.

Most of the time RON BROWN spent using the power of the Commerce Department to find ways to give opportunity to ordinary Americans, to generate jobs for the American economy and build better futures for American citizens.

But when we met earlier this week right before he left for the Balkans he was so excited because he thought that along with these business leaders and the other very able people from the Commerce Department on this mission that they would be able to use the power of the American economy to help the peace take hold in the Balkans, to help people in that troubled place have the kind of decent, honorable and wonderfully ordinary lives that we Americans too often take for granted.

And he was so excited by it. If you saw any of the clips the television had been showing—showing today, about his meetings yesterday, you could—you could see that.

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And I just want to say, on a very personal note, that I hope all Americans today will be grateful for what all the people who were on that plane did, for the military personnel, for the business leaders, who didn't have to go on that mission, who did it not out of a sense of their own profit, but out of a sense of what they could do to help America bring peace.

To all the wonderful people in the Commerce Department that were on that plane, some of them very young, one of them who came to our campaign in 1992, thinking the most important thing he could do was to ride a bicycle across the country, asking people to vote for the Vice President and me, wound up a trusted employee at the Commerce Department; and to all of their loved ones and their families and their friends, I want to say I am very grateful for their lives and their service.

I also want to say just one last thing about RON BROWN. He was one of the best advisers and ablest people I ever knew. And he was very, very good at everything he ever did.

Whether he was the Commerce Secretary or a civil rights leader or something else, he was always out there just giving it his all. And he always believed that his mission in life was to put people's dreams within their reach if they were willing to work for it and believe in themselves.

When we were over at his home a few moments ago, Alexis Herman, who, as you know, used to work with RON at the Democratic Committee, and they've been friends a long time, told me that his favorite scripture verse was that wonderful verse from Isaiah: "They who wait upon the Lord shall have their strength renewed. They shall mount up with wings as eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and faint not."

Well, RON BROWN walked and ran and flew through life, and he was a magnificent life force. And those of us who loved him will always be grateful for his friendship and his warmth, but every American should be grateful that at a very difficult moment in our nation's history, he made this Commerce Department what it was meant to be, an instrument for realizing the potential of every American.

For all of you who played a role in that, I ask for your prayers for Secretary BROWN and his family, for your colleagues and their families, for the business leaders and their families, and for our beloved military officers and their families. And I ask you always, always to be fiercely proud for what you have done, and very grateful for the opportunity to have done it.

I'd like to ask now that we bow for a moment of silence. (Period of silence.) Amen.

[From the New York Times, April 5, 1996]

HARLEM REMEMBERS THE HEART THAT NEVER LEFT

(By Rachel L. Swarns)

In Washington, RON BROWN will be mourned as the master politician who helped propel Bill Clinton to the Presidency, as the savvy salesman who hawked American goods abroad and as the barrier bounder who soared to national prominence as the first black chairman of the Democratic National Committee and as the nation's first black Secretary of Commerce.

But in Harlem, he will be remembered as the skinny little boy who grew up in an apartment atop the Hotel Theresa, New York's premier black hotel in the 1950's, and begged autographs from New York's black glitterati. He will be remembered as the young lawyer who ran an Urban League youth

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program in the 1970's, counseling poor children in classrooms and on the basketball court. And he will be remembered as the Washington bigwig who schmoozed with foreign ministers and chief executives but still managed to slip home for salmon cakes and fried chicken at Sylvia's restaurant.

RON BROWN may have made his mark in Washington, but his old friends say his heart never left Harlem.

"We have a saying in the black community: 'Don't ever get so big that you forget where home is,'" said Percy Sutton, a former Manhattan borough president and chairman of the Queens Cable Television System who has known Mr. BROWN since he was a boy. "RON BROWN never forgot. And we loved him for that."

Mr. BROWN was killed along with 32 others when the military plane carrying them to a business conference in Croatia crashed into a mountain during a violent storm on Wednesday.

While acknowledging the ethical questions that periodically dogged Mr. BROWN's efforts to straddle the line between public service and private enterprise, those who knew him from his early days had nothing but praise for him yesterday, eulogizing him as a man who soared to great heights without ever losing touch with his roots.

Mr. BROWN was born in Washington, DC, but he grew up in Harlem, where his father worked as the manager of the Theresa Hotel. It was in New York that he quickly learned to straddle two worlds.

At home he lived in the heart of black New York. The singer Dinah Washington lived in the apartment across the hall and a dizzying array of stars stayed in the hotel rooms below, bringing with them their furs, their fame and their luxury cars.

At school, he studied in overwhelmingly white classrooms, in a series of exclusive academies including Hunter College Elementary School and the Rhodes and Walden prep schools. At Middlebury College in Vermont, he became the first black to join a white fraternity.

But after earning his law degree at St. John's University in Queens in 1970, Mr. BROWN returned to Harlem, where he ran an Urban League program for underprivileged young people.

"He could communicate with those kids," said Andrew Adair, an attorney who worked with Mr. BROWN at the Urban League in the 1970's. "He was one of the guys. He wore the afro. He had a pick in his pocket, but he knew the dictionary, too. He told them: 'You can get out of this mess. I'm going to help you.'"

By the 1990's, after he had moved to Washington and established himself there, working for a time as the head of the local Urban League, as an aide to Senator Edward M. Kennedy, as a political strategist for the Jesse Jackson campaign and the first black partner at Patton, Boggs & Blow, Mr. BROWN's list of friends and colleagues read like a Who's Who of prominent Americans, both black and white.

Among the New Yorkers was Hal Jackson, the Harlem disc jockey who gave Mr. BROWN his first job carrying records and reading public service announcements at the radio station WLIB–AM. "This little devil was so neat," Mr. Jackson recalled. "Even as young as he was then, he would always wear his little shirt and tie and jacket in the studio."

The list also included Mario M. Cuomo, the former Governor of New York, who was also one of Mr. BROWN's law professors at St. John's, who said, "I remember telling him, 'You have the capacity to persuade people you're right, even when you're wrong, which means you'll be a terrific lawyer.'"

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And it also included David N. Dinkins, the long-time friend Mr. BROWN supported during Mr. Dinkin's successful attempt to become the first black mayor of New York City.

"If there was ever a guy who had the capability to walk with kings and queens and not lose the common touch, RON was the guy," Mr. Dinkins said.

When Mr. BROWN became chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he persuaded the then Presidential candidate Bill Clinton to go to Harlem to meet with the editorial board of the Armsterdam News. And he convinced Hillary Rodham Clinton to appear on WLIB.

"He was instrumental in getting them to go where most white politicians would not go," said Wilbert Tatum, publisher of the Amsterdam News. "He helped them understand that the black media was important if they were to win the election."

While Mr. BROWN will be remembered by some as a power broker and globe trotter, Mr. Dinkins said he believes his friend would like most to be recognized for his commitment to his community.

"My guess, knowing RON, is that he would like to be remembered as a kid from Harlem who went on to excel and never forgot where he came from, who didn't forget his roots," Mr. Dinkins said.

[From the San Francisco Examiner, April 5, 1996]

RON BROWN'S CONTRIBUTION

(Editorial)

Commerce Secretary RON BROWN showed endearing enthusiasm for whatever task he undertook, and his campaign to advance U.S. trade and investment around the world was one of them. He thought this contributed to peace. That is why he led a business delegation to the Balkans looking into reconstruction needs in the aftermath of the Bosnian war.

He visited with American peacekeeping troops in Tuzla hours before he and 34 others were killed in the crash of a military plane near Dubrovnik, Croatia. It was the first death of a Cabinet member on an overseas mission. Other victims included Donald Terner of San Francisco, innovative president of Bridge Housing Corp.

BROWN's career was crowded with other distinctions. He was the most prominent African-American in President Clinton's administration. When he won the contested chairmanship of the Democratic National Committee in 1989, he became the first black to head one of the major political parties. His 4-year tenure in that post was a demonstrable success: It led to Clinton's victory in 1992, after the Democrats had lost five of the six previous Presidential elections.

BROWN had the charm to rebound from daunting situations. His work as the Reverend Jesse Jackson's convention manager in 1988 did not, as some friends feared, blight BROWN's mainstream future, partly because he advised Jackson to stay in the Democratic tent for the Dukakis fall campaign. As Commerce Secretary, BROWN did not take cover as congressional Republicans sought to dismantle the department, or as he faced investigation for alleged conflict of interest in his personal finances. He pushed hard his policy of "commercial engagement" with other countries—hard enough to step on State Department toes.

The Balkans weren't the only quasi war zone where BROWN tried to promote peace and the nation's business. He was the first Cabinet member to

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visit Northern Ireland on such a mission in 1994, and did similar work in the Middle East and South Africa.

Clinton spoke movingly about how he will miss BROWN's "life force." So will we.

[From the Washington Post, April 5, 1996]

IT IS SINKING IN TODAY

(By Kevin Merida and Ann Devroy)

A SORROWFUL CITY GRIEVES FOR COMRADES LOST IN PLANE CRASH IN CROATIA

The men and women of official Washington paused from the business of government yesterday to pray and hug and cry and comfort one another in an anguished day of mourning.

From the White House to the Commerce Department, from Capitol Hill to Democratic National Committee headquarters, people joined together to reminisce and pay tribute to Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN and at least 32 others whose plane crashed into a Croatian hillside Wednesday.

The sense of grief seemed especially overwhelming in Washington's power corridors, where BROWN and many of the others were familiar figures, if not good friends, to the political players here.

Throughout the day, tearful scenes were replayed over and over again, all across this usually stiff town.

"It is sinking in today," said Presidential adviser George Stephanopoulos, emerging from a morning prayer service at St. John's Church for those killed in the crash. "And these young people [on the flight], they were all our friends.

He meant the unheralded of the Clinton-Gore political family—people like Adam Darling, a Commerce aide who worked in the infamous 1992 campaign War Room. And Carol Hamilton, the Commerce press secretary who had been the chief campaign spokesman in New York in 1992.

Stephanopoulos just broke down and cried.

The day began sadly at 9 a.m., when President Clinton telephoned Alma Brown and told her that U.S. Army Gen. Michael Canavan, commander of a special military operations team in Croatia, had identified the body of her husband. The identification removed the last, irrational hope among some inside—and outside—the White House that BROWN has escaped death.

Within an hour of the call, sorrowful colleagues and friends of BROWN watched silently from their windows in the White House and Old Executive Office Building as the American flag that flies from the roof of the White House was lowered to half staff. Clinton, in a proclamation honoring BROWN and his fallen colleagues, ordered the flags lowered for 5 days at all government buildings and military facilities and aboard naval vessels.

The grieving will likely reach an emotional climax next week after the bodies of the crash victims are returned to the United States. White House officials and family friends are anticipating a large Washington funeral for BROWN on Tuesday or Wednesday.

White House press secretary Michael McCurry said Clinton spent much of yesterday and the night before on the telephone talking to friends and colleagues of BROWN and reflecting about his life. And then he worked his way "one by one" aides said, talking to wives, husbands, mothers, fathers

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and children of the victims. McCurry said the experience seemed to be "very therapeutic" for the President.

Much of the same sort of reminiscing and consoling went on throughout the White House. The several hundred people who worked in the complex got an e-mail message yesterday inviting them to the prayer service at St. John's. During that hour, the usually frenetic White House effectively stood in quiet.

President and Mrs. Clinton arrived at the Episcopal church by motorcade at 11:22 a.m., long after most of the somber mourners had walked past rows of blossoming cherry trees to enter the sanctuary. H Street NW was blocked by police and passersby gathered around the fringes of Lafayette Square.

Inside, a choir from Lane College in Jackson, TN, belted out spirituals. And when Clinton spoke, recalling that 28 years ago to the day, the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., had been assassinated in Memphis, his voice cracked.

Like those who died on that hillside, he said, King was working for a cause.

"Dr. King said the ultimate measure of a person comes not during moments of comfort and convenience," Clinton said, "but where he or she stands during a time of challenge."

Those who died serving their country and their world, he continued, were "answering a very important challenge of our time. . . . As we grieve for them, we should also thank God for their lives."

As the church bells tolled, the dignitaries filed out—Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D–MA), Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros, attorney Vernon Jordan, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and on and on. The Clintons and Vice President Gore formed a line to greet attendees, hugging and kissing most, exchanging warm words. When it was over, the Presidential party ditched the motorcade, going by foot across the park back to the White House. But some of those who had been in the church lingered on the sidewalks outside. They just couldn't pull themselves together to return to work right away.

"Sometimes, this is a city you think of only in terms of politics," said Shirley Watkins, a deputy assistant secretary of agriculture and one of those lingerers. "Sometimes, you don't think about the heart and soul of things, you're so wrapped up in the daily business. But when something like this happens, you realize how short life is and that you really better get busy and do some things quickly."

Not much got done quickly, if at all, in official Washington yesterday. The White House had planned to make a big deal out of the President's signing of the line-item veto legislation, but decided that was inappropriate. McCurry said Clinton had canceled virtually all of his appointments until next week, leaving priority time open for memorial services for BROWN and the others killed.

In one nod to politics, however, Clinton did attend a private dinner last night for majority Democratic campaign contributors, deciding after some hand-wringing, according to one aide, that "RON BROWN [a voracious fundraiser for Democrats] would have kicked our butts if we hadn't gone."

At Patton Boggs, the high-powered lobbying law firm at which BROWN became the first black partner in 1981, there was a spontaneous tribute. Someone, maybe a secretary, said managing partner Timothy May, put up in the lobby a large framed picture of BROWN wreathed in black. Accompanying the photo were the words: "We mourn the loss of our friend and colleague. RON BROWN, we will miss you very much."

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At DNC headquarters, another stop on BROWN's rise, national party chairman Donald L. Fowler called a staff meeting yesterday morning of various Democratic committees and organizations to recall BROWN's contributions and gather in prayer.

At the Commerce Department, the mood was particularly gloomy—as hundreds gathered for a memorial service under a warming noon sun.

For these people, it wasn't just a well-liked Cabinet secretary who had died, but 11 other friends and colleagues.

It was young Naomi Warbasse, who would have been 25 next week, who people said looked like Princess Grace. It was Duane Christian, a security officer, and Chuck Meissner, who as assistant secretary for international economic policy was the highest ranking Commerce official after BROWN on the trip.

Mary Simon, who works in the U.S. Customs Service, met Christian in 1987. "He did my background check," she said. "We just hit it off. He knew my family, and I knew his. I spoke to him just last Friday—we said we should get together at Red Lobster and have some dinner. Guess we won't be doing that."

Her eyes filled with tears.

The crowd that gathered at noon was large and diverse, not organized with any official Commerce sponsorship but through e-mail messages and bulletin board fliers put up by Graham Whately and friend Errin Persley.

"We're coming together here as a family," said Whately, adding later: "This was for the average working person."

The Reverend Beecher Hicks led the mourners in prayer. "We come together . . . in the dark midnight of the soul," he said. "With tears more rapid than any flowing stream." After Good Friday, there is Easter, he reminded the mourners, and they will one day "meet in a better place."

[From the New York Daily News, April 5, 1996]

PEACE HAS ITS HEROES

(Editorial)

Commerce Secretary RON BROWN, a son of Harlem and the most prominent African-American in the Clinton administration, gave his life trying to bring peace to the war-torn Balkans. In that, he and the other Americans who went down with him over Croatia, died as heroes.

BROWN's mission was thoroughly American: To bring about peace through trade and economic development. A shaken President Clinton put it best:

"Our colleagues in the Commerce Department and the other federal agencies, United States military and the business leaders who died outside Dubrovnik were answering a very important challenge. . . . And as we grieve for them we should thank God for their lives, and that there are still people like them willing to answer the challenge."

BROWN was the nation's chief salesman abroad, a champion of economic power as the cornerstone of American policy. Helping American business contribute to growth overseas was his way of fostering democracy.

He had planned to spend 3 days in Bosnia and Croatia, meeting with American troops, government figures and local business leaders. The purpose: To whet American business appetites for the opportunities likely to spring from a $5 billion international plan to rebuild the shell-shocked region.

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A one-time U.S. soldier, BROWN took deserved pride in his nonmilitary role in trade missions to some of the world's most troubled spots: Northern Ireland, South Africa, the Palestinian territories. He knew that the Balkans mission was fraught with risk. But, as he said the day before the tragedy, "Peace and stability will only be insured through economic development."

Thirty-four others were with BROWN when the plane went down; a mix of government officials, business executives, a New York Times reporter, six crew, one Bosnian and one Croat. All perished. But their mission must not die with them.

Economic development is America's most potent tool for peace. And the only hope for stability in the former Yugoslavia. Achieving it would be a lasting memorial to these fallen heroes.

[From the Boston Globe, April 5, 1996]

RON BROWN'S MISSION

(Editorial)

RON BROWN carried the Democratic Party flag to Wall Street and planted it among the Republican banners there with unmistakable assurance.

An entrepreneur himself, BROWN succeeded where other Democrats had failed because he never saw corporate America as alien territory. In his view, thriving business investments were not only a key path to personal success, which he enjoyed in healthy measure, but also to a strong national economy, political power and even an aggressive foreign policy.

BROWN described his many overseas trade missions as Secretary of Commerce in terms far beyond mere economics. When a plane bearing the words "The United States of America" lands in a foreign city and unloads a Cabinet secretary and a group of corporate CEO's, BROWN said recently, "it conveys the power of this Nation to turn commerce into the infrastructure of democracy."

This was exactly BROWN's mission when his plane went down short of Dubrovnik on Wednesday, a mission made especially critical because of the fragility of the peace process there. The loss of BROWN and of so many business leaders interested in helping to restore a vibrant economy to that war-ravaged land is a serious setback.

BROWN's loss is also a reversal for U.S. trade policy around the world; for instance, with Chinese officials, who rely heavily on personal relationships. BROWN had developed communication links and a level of trust that will not be easily restored.

That a Democrat should have achieved so much in the way of corporate boosterism in so short a period from such a vulnerable position—congressional Republicans once targeted his office for elimination—would have been remarkable in any event. That it was done by a black man from Harlem gives an indication of BROWN's extraordinary life.

He was an insurgent and a breaker of barriers: He worked for Senator Edward Kennedy's challenge against President Carter in 1980 and for Jesse Jackson in 1988; he was the first black chief counsel of a Senate committee, one of the first blacks to be a leading lobbyist and the first black chairman of a national party.

But more than this he was a builder of bridges, one who wanted to get beyond the divisions and move on. He was the chief negotiator of the Jackson-Michael Dukakis coming-together in 1988. He rebuilt the national party

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to give candidate Bill Clinton a strong sendoff in 1992. And as Commerce Secretary he traveled to a thousand corporate boardrooms to reclaim at least a part of the nation's economic engine for his political party. This left some Republicans in the odd position of suggesting that the Democrat was too cozy with big business.

BROWN enjoyed the irony. He was "a magnificent life force," as Clinton said, a man who will be missed by all who knew him, and a great many who didn't.

[From the Houston Chronicle, April 5, 1996]

RON BROWN

(Editorial)

TRAGIC NEWS IN DEATHS OF CABINET OFFICER, HIS PARTY

It is certainly with a shared sense of shock and sadness that Americans greet the deaths of U.S. Commerce Secretary RON BROWN, the other members of his party and the Air Force crew of the plane that crashed killing all aboard near Dubrovnik, Croatia.

The group was on a high-level trade trip that quite correctly was called a mission of hope and opportunity for American business to participate in the economic reconstruction of the war-ravaged former Yugoslavia. President Clinton said they were attempting to "use the power of the American economy to help the peace take hold in the Balkans."

It is indeed tragic that these Americans have lost their lives, but it is noble that they did so in pursuit of such a goal.

BROWN, 54, has been remembered as a tireless, hardworking, dedicated public servant, and that is certainly true. In the rough-and-tumble world of national politics, his prowess as a bridge-builder was renowned. And regardless of political controversy that sometimes surrounded him or of the ideological lenses through which many may have viewed him, BROWN engendered respect across the spectrum.

His many travels abroad on behalf of U.S. business also earned respect around the globe both for him and his country.

He rose admirably from humble beginnings to serve with the National Urban League, to become chief counsel with the Senate Judiciary Committee, to be named chairman of the National Democratic Committee and to be appointed to the Cabinet. In his Democratic Party role, he had a great deal to do with the election of Clinton to the White House.

Americans' heartfelt thanks and soul-felt prayers should go to BROWN's family and those of the 34 others who lost their lives with him.

[From the Washington Post, April 7, 1996]

LET US RESOLVE TO CONTINUE THEIR MISSION OF PEACE AND HEALING

(From the Federal Document Clearing House)

Following are remarks by President Clinton yesterday at a ceremony at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, to honor those killed in a plane crash in Croatia last Wednesday.

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My fellow Americans, today we come to a place that has seen too many sad, silent homecomings, for this is where we in America bring home our own—those who have given their lives in the service of their country.

The 33 fine Americans we meet today, on their last journey home, ended their lives on a hard mountain a long way from home, but in a way they never left America.

On their mission of peace and hope, they carried with them America's spirit—what our greatest martyr, Abraham Lincoln, called the 'last best hope of Earth.'

Our loved ones and friends loved their country, and they loved serving their country. They believed that America, through their efforts, could help to restore a broken land, help to heal a people of their hatreds, honest work and shared enterprise.

They knew what their country had given them, and they gave it back with a force, an energy, an optimism that every one of us can be proud of.

They were outstanding business leaders who gave their employees and their customers their very best. They were brave members of our military, dedicated to preserving our freedom and advancing America's cause.

There was a brilliant correspondent committed to helping Americans better understand this complicated new world we live in. And there were public servants, some of them still in the fresh springtime of their years, who gave nothing less than everything they had because they believed in the nobility of public service.

And there was a noble Secretary of Commerce who never saw a mountain he couldn't climb or a river he couldn't build a bridge across. All of them were so full of possibility, even as we grieve for what their lives might have been, let us celebrate what their lives were.

For their public achievements and their private victories of love and kindness and devotion are things that no one—no one could do anything but treasure.

These 33 lives show us the best of America. They are a stern rebuke to the cynicism that is all too familiar today.

For as family after family told the Vice President and Hillary and me today, their loved ones were proud of what they were doing. They believed in what they were doing. They believed in this country. They believed we could make a difference. How silly they make cynicism seem.

And more important, they were a glowing testimonial to the power of individuals to improve their own lives and elevate the lives of others and make a better future for others.

These 33 people loved America enough to use what is best about it in their own lives to try to help solve a problem a long, long way from home.

At the first of this interminable week, [Commerce Secretary] RON BROWN came to the White House to visit with me and the Vice President and a few others, and at the end of the visit, he was bubbling with enthusiasm about this mission.

And he went through all the people from the Commerce Department who were going, and then he went through every single business leader that was going. And he said, "You know, I've taken so many of these missions to advance America's economic interest and to generate jobs for Americans, these business people are going on this mission because they want to use the power of the American economy to save the peace in the Balkans.

That is a noble thing. Nearly 5,000 miles from home, they went to help people build their own homes and roads, to turn on the lights in cities darkened by war, to restore the everyday interchange of people working and liv-

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ing together with something to look forward to and a dream to raise their own children by.

You know, we can say a lot of things because these people were many things to those who love them. But I say to all of you, to every American, they were all patriots. Whether soldiers or civil servants or committed citizens, they were patriots.

In their memory and in their honor, let us rededicate our lives to our country and to our fellow citizens. In their memory and in their honor, let us resolve to continue their mission of peace and healing and progress.

We must not let their mission fail, and we will not let their mission fail. The sun is going down on this day. The next time it rises, it will be Easter morning—a morning that marks the passage from loss and despair to hope and redemption.

A day that more than any other reminds us that life is more than what we know, life is more than what we can understand, life is more than sometimes even we can bear. But life is also eternal.

For each of these 33 of our fellow Americans and the 2 fine Croatians that fell with them, their day on Earth was too short. But for our countrymen and women, we must remember that what they did while the sun was out will last with us forever.

If I may now, I would like to read the names of all of them in honor of their lives, their service, and their families.

Staff Sergeant Gerald Aldrich, RONALD BROWN, Duane Christian, Barry Conrad, Paul Cushman III, Adam Darling, Captain Ashley James Davis, Gail Dobert, Robert Donovan, Claudio Elia, Staff Sergeant Robert Farrington Jr., David Ford, Carol Hamilton, Kathryn Hoffman, Lee Jackson, Steven Kaminski, Kathryn Kellogg, Technical Sergeant Shelly Kelly, James Lewek, Frank Maier, Charles Meissner, William Morton, Walter Murphy, Lawrence Payne, Nathaniel Nash, Leonard Pieroni, Captain Timothy Schafer, John Scoville, I Donald Terner, P. Stuart Tholan, Technical Sergeant Cheryl Ann Turnage, Naomi Warbasse, Robert Al Whittaker.

Today we bring their bodies back home to America, but their souls are surely at home with God. We welcome them home. We miss them. We ask God to be with them and their families.

God bless you all, and God bless our beloved Nation. Amen.

[From the Los Angeles Times, April 7, 1996]

BROWN MADE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE IN COMMERCE

(By James Flanigan)

"I've been with him on trips to China and India. I've seen him tell government officials point blank: 'Here's an American company offering you the best possible deal. If they don't get the contract, it's because the playing field isn't level.'"

Thus did a U.S. businessman recall RON BROWN, the Secretary of Commerce who died last week in a plane crash in Croatia.

BROWN's toughness was recalled not only as an epitaph but as an object lesson for what the next Commerce Secretary and any future holder of the office must do to be effective in a complex and competitive world.

BROWN made a difference because he understood that government officials must fight to get U.S. companies a fair share of projects and markets in foreign lands. Those increasingly are the source of jobs and investments in the

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United States. And it's important that Americans feel the global system is working fairly.

Official figures stating that exports directly support 13 million U.S. workers or account for one-third of U.S. economic growth understate the reality. International business today is a matrix of contacts in which work overseas begets work at home and vice versa.

Yet until BROWN's time and that of Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the U.S. Government often adopted a stance of indifference to business abroad. Either it didn't fight or didn't have to. During 45 years of the Cold War, a lot of business came to American firms simply because the U.S. armed forces were protecting other countries.

But that advantage receded in recent years. Not only did military prowess offer less leverage, but the world's economies began a historic shift.

Newly industrializing countries became the growth markets, especially as they installed electricity and telephone systems and built factories and office buildings. The countries of Asia, which already account for more U.S. trade than Western Europe, will spend $2 trillion in infrastructure before 2000; Latin America will spend $500 billion.

In such economies—particularly on matters of infrastructure—governments make decisions. And U.S. companies depend more than ever on backing from their own government. "The commercial diplomacy begun by RON BROWN must be accelerated. We cannot afford to backslide in this changing world," says Jeffrey Garten, dean of Yale School of Management, who served with BROWN as Undersecretary of Commerce from 1993 to late 1995.

Many of the companies represented on BROWN's fateful flight last week are in engineering and construction of infrastructure projects—Parsons, Bechtel, Foster Wheeler, ABB, Harza Engineering.

Those companies are good examples of the value of services—really of brainpower as a valuable commodity with tremendous ripple effects in the world economy. The engineering contractor can specify suppliers and call forth support systems from computer analysis to transportation and communications.

The big contractors do half or more of their business overseas, competing against government-backed firms from other countries.

To be sure, the focus is on business, not nationalism, Joseph Jacobs, founder of Jacobs Engineering in Pasadena, recalls receiving help from the British Embassy in Amman, Jordan—after being cold-shouldered by the U.S. Embassy—on a project in which Jacobs had a British partner.

Such indifference has changed, thanks to BROWN and Christopher. "Every U.S. Embassy now has skilled people who really want to help," says Edward Muller, president of Edison Mission Energy, which builds power plants overseas.

Support work in Washington is better, too, since BROWN created a war room at the Commerce Department to track competition for worldwide projects—including the widespread bribes that characterize the shadier side of global competition. U.S. companies are prohibited by law from paying bribes, and that can sometimes be a disadvantage.

BROWN's counter to bribery was typical. He'd do his homework, have his facts and confront the other government's officials. He learned early about business and confronting the unexpected. His parents owned Harlem's famed Hotel Theresa, where Fidel Castro's aides lit open fires in the rooms to cook chickens during an early 1960s visit to the United Nations.

"He had tremendous energy," Muller said. BROWN's successor will have to be energetic, too, and tenacious.

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Paradoxically, given the demands of the times, there continues to be support in Congress for eliminating the Commerce Department as a budget-cutting move and because BROWN's ideas of helping U.S. companies run counter to beliefs of some members of Congress that government shouldn't help business. The controversy is part of an underlying division of opinion as to whether the global economy benefits or threatens U.S. living standards.

But the threat to Commerce ignores the facts of a rapidly changing world—and fears of the global economy are beside the point. A new study by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs predicts that trade between China and Japan alone will account for 28 percent of world commerce in 2015, compared with 13 percent today.

That's not a threat, it's a reality to be dealt with. "Our fastest-growing customers and competitors are the same people," Yale's Garten explains. "The Brazils and Chinas and Indias compete now in low- and medium-technology areas. Ultimately they'll compete and exchange high-tech goods and services with us.

"I'm confident we can do well if we concentrate on educating and helping our work force at home and on commercial diplomacy abroad."

RON BROWN understood that competition is fine with Americans as long as they're convinced we're getting a fair shake in world trade. That's what he worked for. And that's what all his successors at Commerce and other departments will have to understand and work for from now on.

[From the Washington Post, April 7, 1996]

AMID CEREMONY OF TEARS IS A SHARING OF STRENGTH

(By Marianne Kyriakos)

FAMILIES COME TOGETHER FOR MOURNING AND CELEBRATION

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Delaware—"So many hearses."

Between the sobs, the hugs, the tears, the same words came out, over and over again.

"So many hearses."

Even those too young to count the 33 hearses on the airport tarmac understood that a profound tragedy had brought so many people, with so many stories, to this place, this place that was so silent. The birds that flew overhead, in formation, were silent, too, not even the flapping of their wings was heard.

Then the silence was pierced by the sharp wails of 8-year-old Nathaniel Nash, who wore his Boy Scout uniform and wire-rimmed glasses: "I want my daddy! I need my daddy now!"

He didn't know which flag-draped casket held his father—New York Times reporter Nathaniel Nash. No one in the audience of friends and family knew, because many remains have yet to be identified. It didn't matter. They tried to watch, though it was hard at first, as the giant C–17 cargo plane brought its dead.

One by one, silver caskets containing the remains of the Americans killed in Croatia were carried out by somber honor guards.

It was a ceremony in which sadness and strength were shared, mixed really, transfused from one person to another in the long, long hugs between family members, between friends, between strangers, even.

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For Karen Darling, whose son, Adam, perished in the crash, all it took was one glance at the Nash family.

"It's something no child should go through, to lose his daddy," she said after the ceremony. "But watching their mom standing there, it gave me special strength."

She paused; someone else came up to hug her, to tell her what a special person her son was. She was thinking of the Nash children, still, and of her own loss: "We're not going to see them anymore."

Maureen Dobert, mother of Gail, who also died in the crash, drew special strength from a stuffed rabbit with long, floppy ears.

She held the rabbit tightly as the caskets were unloaded, and she asked, "Where's my daughter, is she here yet?"

The Long Island schoolteacher buried her father 1 month ago and her mother 3 months ago.

Now her daughter.

Yesterday, the rabbit seemed to help. It was a reminder of her only daughter's favorite children's book, "Guess How Much I Love You?" And this was Gail's favorite passage: "The little nut-brown hare told the big nut-brown hare, 'I love you all the way to the moon.'" Gail's brother, Ray, recited the passage out loud, to explain just how much he loved his sister, "all the way to the moon."

Right next to the pain, there was an another unmistakable visitor at the ceremony—a sense of celebration.

It was as obvious as the fluffy blue blankets passed around to keep everyone warm in the chilly airplane hangar.

There is mourning, said Michael Payne, brother of crash victim Lawry Payne. "On the other hand, it's an absolutely wonderful feeling. We are just overcome with the outpouring of love. . . . I mean, literally, I want to thank the Nation."

The outpouring came from so many directions—not just from friends, but from the President and First Lady, too, who met privately with each family before the event.

"It was wonderful to have them there, to have them put their arms around us," said Darrell Darling, the father of Adam. "We felt their love."

And they felt a form of happiness, being reminded at every turn of what their lost ones had done, and what others thought of them. There were not just shared tears during the private Presidential meetings. Said Darling, whose son worked on the Clinton Presidential campaign before joining the Commerce Department: "We laughed, too. That's part of our loving."

In the end, as the hearses disappeared into the gathering darkness, and as a few drops of rain began to fall, everyone headed off to come to terms, in their own way, with what had happened.

The Dobert family, along with a number of their daughter's best friends, were going to Rehoboth, DE, where Gail loved to spend summer weekends with friends. Her friends were reminiscing about those weekends, about Gail, how she would lounge in the sun, getting a good tan—and read papers from the Congressional Research Service. After the ceremony, they were planning to go for a walk on the beach, Gail's beach.

The Darling family—Kareen, Darrell and their daughter, Denise—would be surrounded by their son's many comrades who came out here, who wouldn't have thought of not coming. "It's like being with Adam and his friends, with Adam not yet arrived," Darrell said.

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During his speech, President Clinton reminded the audience that when the sun dawned again, it would be Easter. The Darling family heard the President—and was a step ahead of him.

"Adam believed in the Resurrection," Darrell said. "I believe in the Resurrection. The man is alive."

[From the Los Angeles Times, April 7, 1996]

A MAN BEYOND RACE

(By Susan Estrich)

Among the tributes that poured in to Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN last week, few mentioned race relations as the area where his loss would be most greatly felt. Asian leaders wondered where they would next find such a strong ally to balance his friend U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor's hard line on trade. Corporate America mourned the most vigorous advocate for U.S. business ever to serve as Commerce Secretary. In Bosnia, there was concern that his loss might doom prospects for economic development to secure peace.

By the time of his death, BROWN had moved well beyond the issues of black politics that defined his early career. But he never left them behind. In his life, BROWN did what our country must do: He bridged the racial divide.

BROWN spent 12 years at the Urban League before joining Senator Edward M. Kennedy's Presidential campaign in 1979, as a deputy campaign manager. There was also a deputy campaign manager who happened to be a woman, and one who happened to be Latino. If they looked like tokens, it should be said that three tokens were three more than many campaigns had, then or now. Still, there were the deputy campaign managers, and there were the guys who ran the campaign—initially known as the "little white boys." BROWN began as a member of one group, and ended as a member of both. He integrated the white boys. He started out running black politics, and ended up running California and the Democratic National Convention—and still ran black politics, but with more clout. That's how he did it.

He succeeded because he was so good he could not be denied. When he ran for party chairman in 1989, the conventional wisdom was that the last thing the Democratic Party needed was a liberal, black, Kennedy-Jackson loyalist as chair. He would have had a far easier time winning if, like most of his predecessors, he were a white, Washington lawyer.

Some of BROWN's own supporters sold his candidacy to concerned Southerners with one of those "Nixon goes to China" approaches—as if BROWN would someday repudiate his friends on the left or in the black community. Absurd. What he did do was find a way to put a coalition together that included them—and that could elect a President. After he was elected party chairman, BROWN told Democratic National Committee members, "The story of my chairmanship will not be about race, it will be about the races we win." It was. BROWN set out to be the party chairman who recaptured the White House—and was. He was also the first and only black to chair a major party.

After Bill Clinton was elected President, BROWN had choices. "I had a couple of options in the Administration," he told a reporter, "and the one I chose to pursue was the one that I thought would make the most difference as far as removing old ceilings and barriers and stereotypes and obstacles."

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He went to head the Commerce Department. Liberalism can't win, and can't work, if it's perceived as anti-business. In BROWN's version, liberals are the ones who help provide more and better jobs for ordinary Americans, and international trade and exports were his answer. In the man from the Urban League, American business found its most powerful advocate.

To succeed on others terms without losing yourself, without beginning to think you're different from the rest, is no small accomplishment. In a speech last January, BROWN attacked Republicans who were trying to use affirmative action as a wedge issue. "We know the truth," he said, "that discrimination is alive and well in America. What makes me angriest of all is the right wing's sanctimonious embrace of colorblindness and meritocracy to defend the rights of white men. About three decades too late, they've discovered fairness and equal opportunity. Where were these people during our struggle? Do any of you remember Phil Gramm coming along on the Freedom Rides? Was Newt Gingrich going door-to-door to register black voters in Mississippi?" It was how BROWN used his anger, not its absence, that made him different.

RON and I got to be friends in that 1980 Kennedy campaign. We traveled together, went to endless meetings together. I, often the only woman in the room, would watch him, often the only black, looking for clues as to how to maintain balance, how to cross bridges, how to do it with dignity and integrity.

In 1988, Jesse Jackson found out from a reporter, not Governor Michael S. Dukakis, that he had not been chosen as Dukakis' running mate. I was off arranging Senator Lloyd Bentsen's arrival in town when an emergency call came in from RON, who was Jackson's campaign manager. He was furious. Jackson felt he'd been insulted, and that was all he needed to do what many of us feared he wanted to do; tear the convention apart, producing a picture for the Nation of a party that couldn't govern—the sort of convention we'd had in 1980, with race tossed in to make it even worse. I couldn't explain to RON how it was that the phone number he'd given me—and that I'd given the secretary to make sure something like this didn't happen—somehow hadn't gotten dialed. They had called a different number. All I could do was ask for his help. That was it. Don't let it get torn apart. "All right, sweetie," he said to me, "let's see how we can put this back together.

It will be harder without him.

[From the Boston Globe, April 7, 1996]

A DEVASTATING LOSS

(By Thomas Oliphant)

One of the first, devastated mourners to emerge from Thursday's memorial service at St. John's Church was a spectacular, brilliant woman named Melissa Moss.

She made it to where President and Hillary Rodham Clinton were standing near the church steps before she almost literally fell into the President's arms.

Clinton held her a very long time, as did his sobbing wife—a fitting as well as indescribably painful metaphor for the horrifying tragedy of last week's plane crash on a hill outside Dubrovnik in Croatia.

Sometimes an event is so unrelievedly hideous that its dimensions can only be glimpsed from the outside via vignette.

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Melissa Moss was a close adviser to RON BROWN. She was at the core of his intricate relations with America's corporate community, helping implement strategies not just to weave a new, cooperative relationship between government and business, but to run a post-Cold War, economics-based foreign policy as well.

Last Friday was her final day on the job. But for the accident of a career change's timing, she would have been on that airplane.

But there's more. When I met her several years ago, she was a senior staff member of the Democratic Leadership Council, the organization formed in the wake of the 1984 Reagan reelection landslide to nudge (and sometimes push) the party more to the center. Then-Governor Bill Clinton had just finished a stretch as its chairman when he launched his Presidential candidacy.

Moss would then move over to the Democratic National Committee under BROWN's chairmanship. She was an integral part of the fund-raising that helped give Clinton the extra support after his success in the primaries without which he could not have been elected.

This mixture of shared experience, shared grief and immediate irony made the moment at the church too heartbreaking for words, which would at any rate have been superfluous.

This moderate, New Ideas Democrat, moreover, worked with Secretary BROWN in a microcosm of the Clinton coalition. Moss' office was just down a hall from BROWN's press secretary, Carol Hamilton. She had been the campaign's spokesman in New York, but she had known BROWN since he spotted her talent back when she worked for the Reverend Jesse Jackson in the 1988 Presidential campaign. Today, Carol Hamilton is dead.

BROWN and his senior staff also enjoyed the company of a promising, 29-year-old named Adam Darling, who was pure Clinton, having toiled in the famous War Room in Little Rock. Darling's great promise was also cruelly denied on that Croatian hillside.

The BROWN party, though, was not killed on a campaign trip. In addition to the military crew, two Croatians and a highly regarded journalist from The New York Times, the crash also cost the lives of a dozen business executives from highly specialized firms that had been assembled to meet the needs of the war-torn economies of Bosnia and Croatia for infrastructure construction—a huge loss.

One reason BROWN loved his job was that it gave him a chance to apply the stunning skill he developed as a politician to high-stack governance.

Above all, he was an organizer and coalition-builder without equal. In many surface-scratching reactions to his death, RON BROWN was simplistically placed at the places where the often competing forces and institutions of American life meet.

That, however, would make him simply a power-broker and deal-maker; they exist by the dozen around this town.

What set BROWN apart was his commitment and unique ability to put political skills to work for a larger purpose than mere political victory and power. In Bosnia, diplomacy and even peace-keeping troops will not produce a lasting peace; that will only have a chance if a renewed economy is providing reasonable hope for the future.

To help jump-start the development process with risky, outside private investment, financed multilaterally, is a Herculean task. At the time he died, BROWN had assembled nascent operations not only in the Balkans, but also in South Africa, the West Bank and Northern Ireland.

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His death, compounded by the loss of those with him, causes pain beyond description for those of us who were his friends. That is personal.

But the shining example of his life—mocking bigotry, giving progressivism a fresh chance to govern effectively and showing how new ideas can make a difference in a new world—commands, as only he can, that the work go on—which it will.

[From the Washington Post, April 9, 1996]

HOMECOMING AT DOVER

(Editorial)

There are moments when only the President of the United States can speak for the Nation. Last Saturday afternoon at Dover Air Force Base—when 33 flag-draped caskets returned home to a grieving Nation—was just such an occasion. In the presence of family members, friends and Washington officials gathered in the makeshift hangar memorial site to welcome the return of Commerce Secretary RONALD BROWN and his ill-fated trade delegation, Bill Clinton gave perhaps the best speech of his Presidency and one of the finest commemorative remarks by a chief executive in memory.

The men and women who left Washington several days ago for the Balkans spanned the spectrum in rank, experience, occupations and age. They consisted of a Cabinet officer, a senior government official, civil servants, business executives, members of the armed forces and a journalist. They returned home on Saturday, however, side-by-side, departing the aircraft in no special order, indistinguishable from one another, and were received with great dignity by a military honor guard and the President who paid tribute to each with identical care and grace.

The salute bestowed upon them was deserving. "They were a glowing testimonial to the power of individuals to improve their own lives and elevate the lives of others and make a better future for others," President Clinton said. "For each of these 33 of our fellow Americans" who died on the Croatian mountainside, Mr. Clinton observed "their day on Earth was too short." "But," he observed "for our countrymen and women, we must remember that what they did while the sun was out will last with us forever."

In the President's brief but moving eulogy, the tragic and stunning loss was transformed into a celebration of both the lives of the men and women killed in the place crash and their mission. What they were seeking to do—that is, advance American interests by reconstructing and bringing peace to a badly fractured nation—was not unique. There have been many other such American missions on other occasions to many other parts of the world. The business of solving problems, or at least attempting to find answers to great and complex questions in distant lands, is an American tradition and obligation, if not a special gift. That these 33 Americans died, however, while trying to deliver American hope and enterprise makes their return home to shiny black hearses all the more poignant.

It fell to the President to put into words what many in the Nation might have been feeling about the victims, their grief-stricken families and friends, and the purpose of their mission. Speaking to the Nation, Bill Clinton said, "I say to all of you, to every American, they were all patriots. Whether soldiers or civil servants or committed citizens, they were patriots." Well said.

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[From the New York Times, April 9, 1996]

MOURNERS FLOCK TO PAY RESPECTS TO BROWN

(By David E. Sanger)

WASHINGTON, April 9—RONALD H. BROWN came back to the Commerce Department today in a flag-draped coffin with military honors, and thousands of mourners stood for hours in a driving rain to pay their respects to a man who in the last decade had stood at the center of American politics, trade and diplomacy.

Mr. BROWN, who was killed last Wednesday in a plane crash in Croatia that took the lives of 32 other Americans—including Commerce Department employees, business executives and a correspondent for The New York Times—was the first Cabinet member in more than 150 years to die while carrying out his duties.

But what caught this usually hard-edged city by surprise today was the outpouring of public emotion from Government employees, residents of the city and visitors who flocked to the headquarters of the Commerce Department for the first of two days of public remembrances.

"He was an incredible role model for blacks and for anyone in public service," said Dwayne Reevey, a corrections officer from Red Bank, NJ, who waited with his family of six this afternoon for a glimpse of Mr. BROWN's coffin, which rested on the catafalque constructed in April 1865 for President Abraham Lincoln's coffin. "Standing here for 2 hours doesn't seem like much when you think of what he did for all of us."

Tonight, Mr. BROWN's family is holding a memorial service, to be led by the Reverend Jesse Jackson, whose campaign for President Mr. BROWN once managed. Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, and the United States Trade Representative, Mickey Kantor, were also scheduled to speak at the service.

On Wednesday, President Clinton will deliver a eulogy at the National Cathedral, and Mr. BROWN will be buried later in the day in Arlington National Cemetery.

For many in the Commerce Department, which Mr. BROWN had in the last year fought to save from dismantlement, work has been carried out from habit since the plane carrying the Secretary's delegation was first reported missing last Wednesday morning. Now, even though the initial shock is over, the hallways are still filled with workers who are embracing each other and recalling the lives and hopes of the eleven other Commerce officials who died during the mission.

"She had just fallen in love," one worker said today, shaking her head as she looked at the photograph of Carol Hamilton, Mr. BROWN's press secretary. Ms. Hamilton's picture was displayed along with those of her colleagues on a table inside the Commerce Department's ornate foyer today where Mr. BROWN's body was watched by a six-man honor guard.

The use of the Lincoln catafalque was a measure of the Administration's decision to turn the services for Mr. BROWN into something just short of a state funeral. The Commerce Department said that the antique platform had never before been used for a Cabinet secretary who died in office, though it served as the platform for the coffins of President John F. Kennedy, General Douglas MacArthur and Chief Justice Earl Warren.

There is, in fact, little precedent for how to honor a Cabinet member who died performing his duties. The last instance was in February 1844, when the world's largest naval gun at the time, called The Peacemaker, was dem-

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onstrated for President John Tyler and his Cabinet on the U.S.S. Princeton. The gun exploded, killing Secretary of State Abel P. Upshur, Secretary of the Navy Thomas W. Gilmer and four others. Their coffins lay in state in the East Room of the White House, where the funeral services were also conducted.

Many of those who came to the Commerce Department today had no particular connection to Mr. BROWN or even to the Government. They came, they said, because Mr. BROWN was a rare example of a black American who rose to the top of the Washington power structure while retaining deep ties to his roots.

"He was a good man and he made the African-American community proud," said Lisa Caraway, a systems engineer from Atlanta who was visiting family members here and took the better part of the day to pay her respects. "He came from Harlem and really rose through the ranks."

Many in the line were among the 38,000 employees of the Commerce Department, most of whom knew Mr. BROWN only distantly, as the endlessly ebullient political operator who turned the Department from a sleepy backwater into a central player in international trade issues and who saved their jobs from Congressional budget-cutters.

"I only saw him twice, but he had this vibrant personality that made you feel good about coming to work every day," said Tony Perry, a 40-year-old official at the Census Bureau, which falls under the Commerce Department's broad purview. "That makes such a huge difference."

[From USA Today, April 10, 1996]

BROWN MOURNED ON DREARY DAY

(By Carol Comegno)

PUBLIC PAYS LAST RESPECTS

Pat Rodriguez stood in a bone-chilling rain for 4 hours Tuesday, the first of hundreds in line to say a final farewell to Commerce Secretary RON BROWN.

Like so many who waited to walk silently past the coffin in the stone and marble lobby of the building where BROWN worked for 3 years, she had never met him.

"I watched Secretary BROWN's rise for many years," said Rodriguez, 49, a telecommunications consultant from Lanham, MD, who had seen BROWN at conferences when he was a lawyer.

"We in the African-American community are proud of him. He was trying to do good things and bring things together in a country that had been torn by war."

Since BROWN and 34 others died on a trade mission when their plane crashed in Croatia last Wednesday, Rodriguez had been thinking of BROWN's family. So she did what she could do to offer comfort. She made a gift for BROWN's wife, Alma—a quilt of red, white and blue with the Presidential seal.

"I thought the seal would be appropriate because he was one of the architects of the Clinton election," she said.

Inside the Commerce building Tuesday, BROWN's family was joined by Vice President Gore for private time before the public entered.

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Rodriguez gave the quilt to a Commerce staffer and then, unable to wait any longer, left the line without going inside.

"I did what I came to do," she said.

The Commerce Department lobby remained open through the night for the public to view the flag-covered casket, which lay closed on a velvet-draped bier that has held the remains of President Lincoln and others, but never before a Cabinet secretary. A military honor guard representing each of the five services stood watch.

Cabinet members and other dignitaries, including Bosnian ambassador Sven Alkalaj, added their signatures to the lesser-known names in the guest books.

Nearly 60 children and adults from Elizabethtown, NC, skipped a White House tour for the visitation.

"I thought it would be an experience for us all, and I thought his work as chairman of the Democratic Party was quite remarkable," said Margaret Lawrence, 51, director of the pre-college Outward Bound program in Elizabethtown.

Other tourists such as Arnold Sanderson of Sanford, MI and his family took time out to honor BROWN. He called BROWN a "patriotic fellow doing good things for our country."

Among the local residents was Annie Hart, a retired hospital worker. "I'm here today for what he stood for—peace and unity. And he was for everyone, black and white."

Dennis Williams, a sales contractor from Upper Marlboro, MD, said BROWN was his role model. "They talk about athletes being role models, but he was a decent person who was in touch with people."

As rain alternated with snow, Williams stood for hours in the line around the Commerce building.

"I don't mind waiting," Williams said. "He perished in conditions 10 times worse than this. You see, it's all about sacrifice."

[From the Washington Post, April 11, 1996]

## THIS MAN LOVED LIFE AND ALL THE THINGS IN IT

(By Cindy Loose)

### A FOND FAREWELL FROM THE PEOPLE

They were ordinary people. More than a thousand of them. Without the connections needed to get advance tickets, they stood shivering in line for as long as 6 hours to say goodbye to a man most had never met.

A retired tool and die maker from Baltimore—a white man—chatted with a retired black maid from Washington as he waited outside Washington National Cathedral for the funeral of Commerce Secretary RONALD H. BROWN.

Behind them two ministers—one black, the other white—discovered that they shared not only a profession but also similar families, including children almost the same ages.

"It's like we're long-lost soul mates," said the Reverend Robert Hundley, referring to his new friend, the Reverend Leslie Taylor.

In short, RON BROWN continued to do, even in death, what he'd done best in life—bring people together.

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People gathered not only around the cathedral, where BROWN's funeral drew 4,700 mourners, but also along the streets, standing in a cold rain to catch a glimpse of his hearse passing by.

Cesar Navas took cover under the awning of a Dupont Circle strip joint, taking "a few minutes out of my workday to pay my respects." On U Street NW, a restaurant owner Virginia Ali remembered how BROWN liked heaps of chili on his hot dogs. At Arlington National Cemetery, in a section a quarter-mile from the dignitaries, people wept.

They came, some said, because of his accomplishments—what he had done for the Democratic Party, or the Urban League, or the Commerce Department. But most quite simply were responding to a person they perceived as a kind man who cared about people.

"I came because he was a decent human being trying to show all people of all nationalities to show love," said Abbrial Seagle, a financial assistant at the Dumbarton Oaks museum. "Although he was a wealthy and successful man, he tried reaching back to bring others along the way."

Asked if she came because BROWN meant something to her, Selestine Jeter answered: "I hope he meant something to everybody. He was a positive black man, and it's a terrible loss for a lot of people, not just blacks."

Jeter and Hannah Lewis didn't have time to attend the funeral, but they came by during their break as aides at a nearby nursing home, hoping to get a program.

"We also wanted, in a funny kind of way, I suppose, to pay our respects," Jeter said.

Two blocks down Wisconsin Avenue NW, where limousines were parked three deep, chauffeurs talked about BROWN and wished they could be inside the cathedral for his funeral.

"From a chauffeur's viewpoint, RON BROWN is the best customer in the world," said Rodney R. Ross, who had BROWN in his car a number of times. "He's the type of guy who goes to dinner, and he makes sure you have something to eat as well."

The first person in line at the cathedral was Shirley Pitts, who left her home in Harlem the night before to catch Greyhound's red-eye to Washington, arriving at the cathedral at 6 a.m. When tickets were finally passed out, she took two.

She had met RON BROWN in Harlem back in 1992, and he got her and an 89-year-old friend VIP tickets to the Democratic National Convention. Her friend was too frail to make the trip yesterday, but she would want a ticket as a souvenir of the important man who took the time to know them.

Behind her, Shannon Freshour marveled at the line.

"Just look at it," Freshour said. "There are people of all races and ages and economic status, and we are all talking. It's the greatest tribute to his life."

For hours, she said, those around her "talked about what RON BROWN meant to them, about how cold they are, about what the loss is like."

Gerald Brown got the idea to drive from Steelton, PA, to Washington during the middle of his 13-hour shift as a computer programmer. At 2 a.m., he called his sister to invite her along. "It's my 39th birthday today," she told her brother sleepily, then agreed to make the trip.

A few had personal favors to return. Nancy Hatamiya, from Southern California, recalled when her husband, Lon Hatamiya needed a boost for his campaign for the State legislature—an unsuccessful run as it turned out. BROWN flew into Los Angeles to organize a campaign event.

"He didn't know us before. We've never forgotten that," she said.

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Donald Becker, of New Jersey, happened to be in Harlem on business, he said, the day news arrived that BROWN, 54, and 34 others died in a plane crash in the mountains of Croatia.

"It was amazing to see everyone, white and black, show the same feelings of loss," Becker said. "Women were openly crying."

Becker, who brought his two children and wife to the funeral, was a young congressional aide in the 1970s. It was there he saw BROWN in action.

"He's one of those guys the media calls a crossover politician. To me, he was just a great man," Becker said. "He had a way of bringing all types together to make them understand we had more in common than we had differences."

BROWN's body was taken from the cathedral to the hearse, which then circled around a large part of the city—south on Massachusetts Avenue NW, east on Florida, then onto U Street, once the black Broadway of Washington, before circling the Commerce Department on the way to Arlington National Cemetery.

Thirty-two adults and one toddler lined up in front of Ben's Chili Bowl on U Street NW, to watch as the hearse and three black limousines with darkened windows rolled rapidly through the Shaw neighborhood.

Richard Swales removed his stained blue baseball cap as the hearse passed, then picked up his squeegee and bucket of water and went back to work washing the restaurant windows. His boss, Virginia Ali, said she flew back early from a vacation in Nevada because of BROWN's death. "I had to do something," she said. "It was such a nice gesture for the family to come to Shaw today."

BROWN "was a great symbol of what we could be," said Roscoe Ellis, an independent researcher who was standing in front of the historic Lincoln Theatre on U Street. ". . . When he got into the mainstream, he never forgot about the side stream."

Stanley Mayes, a contractor, walked from his house a few blocks away, carrying his 2-year-old son, Justin, to see the cortege.

Mayes said he often saw BROWN at Wilson's restaurant a few block away. "He'd wave and I'd wave. . . . I always felt he would be available to talk," Mayes said. "He was a person with that comfort level. He was one of us."

[From Manufacturing News, April 15, 1996]

IN HONOR OF THE LATE, GREAT RONALD BROWN

(By Richard McCormack)

I remember the day when RON BROWN was selected by Bill Clinton to be his Commerce Secretary. Sitting at my desk overlooking the newsroom, the appointment took me by surprise. Having covered the Commerce Department closely for the previous 6 years, I was once again seeing the old system of political patronage taking hold in the backwater, but potentially powerful, agency. Commerce was a dumping ground for those who donated a lot of money or volunteered to get their men elected.

Having known some of the people who had successfully put together Clinton's strategy to win the high-tech business vote, RON BROWN's selection didn't seem right. Clinton said repeatedly during the campaign that he was going to spend most of his energy turning around the business environment in the country. The Commerce Department was going to play a central role in the Clinton strategy.

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But with RON BROWN at the helm?

It was Ken Kay, executive director of the Computer Systems Policy Project, who presented the first argument to me in favor of the appointment. He said BROWN had the ear of the President, that he was a quick study, that he was articulate, that he would raise the stature of the Commerce Department and that as a consummate fundraiser he had worked extremely well with business.

As time went on, I began to get to know RON BROWN, not personally, but from news conferences and roundtables and speeches that I covered. I soon realized that Ken Kay was right.

One of the striking things about living in the Washington area that people elsewhere in the country may not appreciate is the sense of patriotism that pervades much of the federal workforce. No doubt, there are many thousands of bureaucrats who treat their jobs solely as a means to achieve a wonderful retirement, but there are many thousands more who truly feel they are servants of the public and who wear American flags underneath their suits.

RON BROWN was like that. But more important, he made the people working for him, many of whom he never met or knew remotely, feel the same way. RON BROWN and his entourage who died near the Adriatic Sea were American casualties of the Balkan war.

When BROWN's body was lying in repose in the Herbert Hoover building in which he worked, the 100-year-old Department had never experienced such grief. Grief seemed to be funneling into the cavernous building. It was Easter week and the weather was cold, gray and wet. There was not a hint of spring. How could it be possible for a man who brought so much life and vigor into the building to be there lying in state?

There are horror stories about previous Commerce Department secretaries who installed security systems and special entrances for themselves and never ate lunch in the building's cafeteria or walked the halls.

RON BROWN was far different, and he will be sorely missed on a number of different levels.

Most importantly, the United States lost its most important African-American leader. Where most other black leaders lead from the grass roots, RON BROWN was a leader of the leaders. He died in a plane of employers not employees.

I have interviewed a lot of Cabinet secretaries. I've heard them tell lies. I've seen them try to use the press and others to their political advantage in a way that was spurious and disingenuous.

Not RON BROWN. He was refreshingly honest and sincere.

It has been great to see that after his death, people have not had to try to make him look better than he was. Not a bad word was said—or felt. This is the ultimate compliment.

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