

I have been reluctant to support the rapid expansion of NATO without a thorough discussion of the implications, for fear that it could fuel the very nationalism in Russia that we seek to discourage.

But neither am I among those who see no role for NATO today. On the contrary, the United States has an enormous stake in preserving NATO's strength. While NATO's focus will undoubtedly shift over time, the future holds too many uncertainties, and there are too many areas of potential conflict around the world where important interests of the United States and our allies are at stake, to allow NATO's strength to erode.

There is no other alliance that comes close to NATO, in power, in readiness, and in importance to the United States. NATO may not have sought the role of peacekeeper in Bosnia, but neither can it avoid it.

Mr. President, I cannot say whether this peace agreement will survive the test of time. Perhaps no one can. There is ample reason to be pessimistic, given the history of broken promises and ethnic hatred in the former Yugoslavia. Since the agreement was signed, it has become clear that no party is completely satisfied, and some have expressed grave misgivings with some aspects of it. If the agreement unravels, NATO forces may be forced to withdraw, rather than be drawn into the fighting. Even withdrawal would be risky.

But virtually everyone knowledgeable about the situation there agrees that this is by far the best chance for peace since the war began 4 years ago. We and our European allies have an immense interest in preventing the continuation of a destabilizing war in Europe, and I believe we must take this chance.

The President has taken a courageous step, a step that reflects the best of this country. Every American should consider the alternative. More mass murder. More towns shelled and burned. More starving children. More orphans. More horrifying atrocities that are reminiscent of the dark ages. If this does not compel us to help enforce an agreement we brokered to end this calamity, what further amount of inhuman brutality would it take? Should we wait for the slaughter of another 100,000, or 200,000?

The President is right. We have a moral responsibility to take part. The Europeans were unable to end the war themselves. United States leadership was not the only factor, but without it there would be no peace agreement, and the war would go on indefinitely. We should be proud of it, and stand behind it.

Some have suggested that we can lead without sending troops. I disagree. We cannot maintain our credibility as the leader of NATO if we are not prepared to assume some of the risk. We should remember that two-thirds of the NATO force will be troops from our NATO allies and others.

Mr. President, our troops are the best trained in the world, but we cannot eliminate the risks. There are 2 million landmines in Bosnia alone, hidden under mud and snow. Each one cost only a few dollars, but one false step could mean the loss of any American soldier's legs or life. The Pentagon says that landmines are among the most serious threats our troops will face there.

This is ironic, since the Pentagon has been actively lobbying against my efforts to show leadership by halting the use of antipersonnel landmines, which claim hundreds of innocent lives each week. Two-thirds of the Senate voted for it, but the Pentagon refuses. In the past few months, several of our European allies have stopped their use and production of these indiscriminate weapons, but the Pentagon refuses.

A quarter of the Americans killed in the Persian Gulf died from landmines. A quarter of American casualties in Vietnam were from mines. I can only wonder how many more Americans will needlessly lose their legs or their lives from landmines before the Pentagon gets the message.

We cannot eliminate the risks, but President Clinton has established the right conditions before US troops can be deployed. If the mission is limited in time, clear in scope, and achievable, as the President has insisted, we should support it. Our troops must be backed by broad rules of engagement that enable them to defend themselves with whatever amount of preemptive force is needed in any circumstance. That does not mean waiting to shoot until they are shot at.

Mr. President, I expect to speak again as the debate on this unfolds. I intend to support the President, and I expect there will be Senators I deeply respect who are on the other side. But at the end of the day, if Americans are sent to Bosnia as I believe they will be, I have no doubt that we all will support them, and we will all be proud of them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

#### TRIBUTE TO MAURICE "FOOTSIE" BRITT, AN AMERICAN HERO

Mr. BUMPERS. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of America's greatest heroes, and certainly one of Arkansas' greatest, if not the greatest, hero in the history of our State. He is Maurice "Footsie" Britt, born in the small town of Carlisle, AR, and raised in the small town of Lonoke, AR. He was a football star at the University of Arkansas and Honorable Mention, All American.

I first met Footsie in the barbershop of my hometown of Charleston, population 1,200. He had his campaign literature under his right arm—or his right stub. He did not have a right arm. He was running for Lieutenant Governor on the Republican ticket with Winthrop Rockefeller. He had all his literature under his stub and would use his left hand to pull it out and hand it to you.

As I got out of the barber's chair and paid the barber 50 cents for the haircut, this was 1966, Footsie Britt walked in. He had been a real hero to me, and I was honored to meet him. Winthrop Rockefeller became the first Republican Governor since Reconstruction in my State. In my opinion, he would have never been elected if he had not had Footsie Britt as his running mate.

But to go back, he was the first American to ever receive the three highest awards the American military can grant for valor and bravery in one war. He held the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, and the Silver Star. I do not know whether anybody has ever equaled that since then or not.

What happened to the right arm? It lay on the battlefield near Anzio, Italy, where he had been a lieutenant in World War II. As I walked around the battlefield at Anzio last year, as the President and numerous Members of Congress went to Normandy and Anzio, I thought "Where did Footsie lose his arm?"

Madam President, he not only received the three highest honors that our military can bestow, he received the highest honor that Britain bestows on any non-Englishman, the Military Cross, and the highest award that can be bestowed by Italy on any non-Italian, the Cross of Valor.

He was in charge of a platoon and leading a group of men near the beach at Anzio. He saw that some of his men were getting out in front of the others. He knew that the Germans were ahead of them and on either side of them. And as he had feared, the others got so far ahead of the rest of the group that the Germans had them surrounded. They knew it, and they surrendered.

The Germans took the American soldiers as shields, as hostages, and began to march them toward the other Americans that Footsie commanded. The Americans held their fire, obviously. And just as they got close enough, Footsie shouted, "Now hear this order by me. Hit the mud!" And every one of the American hostages immediately fell down and lay in a prone position. The Germans, not speaking English and being dumbfounded by the order, were confused just long enough for Footsie and his men to mow all the Germans down, saving all the hostages.

If Footsie Britt had an enemy in this country, I am not aware of it. He was a beloved public servant, not a strident partisan, just an all-around good guy. He saw his duty and did it. He was later appointed head of the Arkansas Small Business Administration where he served for 14 years. His wife, Pat, preceded him in death several years ago.

Two weeks ago I went to the John L. McClellan Veterans Hospital in Little Rock, as I do every Veterans Day. The first room I went to was Footsie Britt's. He had lost a piece of a foot as

well as his arm at Anzio, and being an acute diabetic, 48 hours before had had one of his feet amputated. I walked into the room, and I could hardly believe that Footsie had had that foot operated on and removed just 2 days before.

He said, "Senator, I just want you to know I think Betty Bumpers was the most gracious First Lady the State ever had. She was always unfailingly polite and friendly to me. And I hope you will tell her that." Shortly thereafter, they had to amputate more of the leg, and his heart just gave out.

To youngsters I speak to in high schools and colleges, I always remind them of how lucky they are to live in this country, how many sacrifices so many brave men and women have made to provide them with the freedom, the rights they enjoy, all the protections of our sacred Constitution. They do not understand what I am saying. They cannot possibly understand what I am saying. But I say it again today, Madam President. They, you, I, and every American have lost one of our greatest heroes with the death of Maurice "Footsie" Britt, a true immortal.

#### TRIBUTE TO DON PEOPLES

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, in Montana, we call Butte the Can-Do City. And there is nobody who personifies Butte's can-do spirit more than its former chief executive, my friend, Don Peoples.

Butte's paper, the Montana Standard, recently ran an article about Don's career in Butte. Don is a modest person; a man of few words. And I suspect he is a little bit uncomfortable with all this attention. But it is attention he richly deserves.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Montana Standard article be printed in the RECORD. And I ask my colleagues to take a moment to read about how a remarkable man has made such a difference for his community and home State.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Montana Standard, Nov. 27, 1995]

#### PERSEVERANCE THAT TWARTED HARD TIMES

(By Erin P. Billings)

Don Peoples still remembers the day in 1983 that shocked Butte and sent its economy spinning downward without warning.

The former Butte-Silver Bow County chief executive was driving back from Seattle, and made a phone call to his office—word was the Anaconda Co. was shutting down its Butte mines and laying off nearly 1,000 workers. Peoples was devastated.

"Nobody thought it was going to happen," the 56-year-old Butte native remembers, shaking his head in disbelief. "That was a devastating day for a lot of people."

"I saw so many people hurting," he says.

Many long-time Butte residents were struggling to find work and flocking elsewhere for jobs. And Peoples, who was sitting at the helm of Butte's government knew it was up to him to restore citizens faith and turn the economy around.

In 1985, ARCO sold the Continental Pit mine to Missoula multimillionaire Dennis Washington—restoring the copper mining legacy and some 325 good-paying jobs to the area. Peoples, many say, was key in bringing that sale to fruition.

"The tax base was eroding, people were leaving—the major element of an economic decline," says Evan Barrett, executive director of the Butte Local Development Corp. "He kind of carried this city by its boot straps in a time that was really bad."

For example, Peoples successfully lobbied to exclude the mine from the boundaries of the active Superfund site; pushed for lower power and freight rates; and helped provide the company with a three-year tax break granted by the state.

In addition to helping resurrect the mining industry in the 1980s, Peoples was instrumental in creating Butte's small business incubator, the U.S. High Altitude Sports Center and the Urban Revitalization Agency, which provides grants to help renovate Butte Uptown buildings.

By 1988, nine years after Peoples took office, Butte's economy had begun to forge forward and the city received national recognition as a National Civic League "All-American City." More than 900 cities nationwide competed for the designation, which 10 cities received that year.

"Don has a dogged preserverance to get things done," says Jack Lynch, who has served as chief executive since 1990. "He's not someone who can sit and watch."

That and Peoples' positive attitude are characteristics Lynch says he tries to emulate as the county's current leader.

Peoples chose to trade his life in the public eye in 1989 for the private sector and a financially attractive opportunity to serve as head of a major Butte research and development firm—MSE Inc.

A decision, he says, he's never regretted. "You had to be places, when you didn't want to be there," the slender, 6-foot-2-inch Peoples says of being county chief executive. "Now, I have a choice."

Although Peoples no longer governs 34,000 residents in Silver Bow County, he is still active in the community and plays the role as a leader to some 200 employees.

And many of his associates say Peoples' dedication is as impressive as his resume. As a community leader, he holds positions with organizations such as the Deaconess Research Institute in Billings, St. James Community Hospital and the Montana Tech and Butte Central Education foundations. He also is active on the Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce board and an appointee to the Montana Commission on Higher Education for the '90s.

Each day, Peoples serves as chief executive officer and president of MSE, where he has successfully put the technologies firm on the map.

The company, which once boasted only one research and development contract and had a revenue base of about \$12 million, today has tripled its revenue base and has more than 20 contracts.

Agencies including the U.S. Energy and Defense departments and NASA count on the firm for developments in areas such as mine waste reclamation, thermal technology and advanced aerospace technology.

But turning Butte's economy around, and helping to develop one of the county's largest businesses hasn't been easy.

Those who know Peoples quickly point to his tenacity, aggressiveness and work ethic—qualities which allow him to get things done. Part of what drives him, people remark, is his tireless devotion to Butte and the people that live there.

The lifelong Butte resident was born in 1939 to Jim and Marie Peoples, and was edu-

cated in local schools. His father went on to become Butte's public works director, a position that Don Peoples later held.

"He will do all that he can to fight for (Butte)," says Gov. Marc Racicot, who has known Peoples for about 15 years.

The two served on the board of trustees together at Carroll College in Helena, a position Peoples still holds. There, Racicot says, Peoples has fought to raise money and promote a code of ethics at the small private school.

"He's got a way of convincing people that anything is possible," says Alec Hansen, executive director of the Montana League of Cities and Towns. "You just keep pushing them and pushing them until something happens."

When Peoples served as president of the League in 1982, Hansen says, he fought hard in the state Legislature—pushing for workers compensation insurance programs for Montana cities.

"The guy doesn't scare easy," Hansen says. "Nothing is too big—you can do it."

Peoples says he welcomes a challenge, enjoys taking on big projects and likes to win. But with that, he and others admit, comes Peoples' biggest weakness—impatience.

"I have a fairly good temper," he concedes. "I find the older I get, the easier it is to spout off."

For example, Peoples says his patience has been tried over the proposed greenway project, which would turn the Silver Bow Creek Superfund site into a green corridor.

The state and ARCO, the company responsible for the cleanup, have battled over whether the mine waste should be removed and treated elsewhere or whether a less costly plan should be implemented that would treat mine waste in place—leaving enough money to develop a public greenway along the 25-mile site.

But Peoples' tendency to occasionally lose his patience hasn't hindered his ability to convince others to get things done, some say.

Barrett says Peoples has an ability to inspire those who work with him, as if he were a coach of a team.

"With Don there's no question that there's a coach and there's a team; he's always a team leader," he says. "He allows people on the team to get their best in."

"Leaders are far and few between" and Don Peoples is one of them, says Jim Kambich, director of corporate development and planning at MSE.

A modest Peoples quickly brushes off his success as a leader and credits those that have worked along with him. He attributes his achievements to an ability to find competent, hard-working and loyal players.

"He empowers the people under him to look at new ways to do things," Kambich says. "He doesn't ask anything more of you than he would ask of himself."

Peoples' team-oriented attitude shouldn't come as a surprise, as he is an avid sports fan, former athlete and 30-years-plus football referee.

On top of that—without missing a day in five years—he runs twice daily as part of a regimen that he says simply keeps him "feeling right."

And while Peoples will likely continue to jog daily, he says running for public office again is out of the picture.

"I become less political all the time," he says. Besides, "I think you have to have that fire in your belly."