

Cornell in 1996, and military exercises by the People's Republic of China in the waters around the island of Taiwan on the eve of their historic Presidential elections. In all cases, Dr. Hu has provided valuable insights regarding these matters to me.

Throughout his career, Dr. Hu has distinguished himself among his countrymen. From his days as the ROC delegation leader at the U.N. World Youth Assembly in 1970 to his current post as the representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office here in Washington, DC, Dr. Hu has made a name for himself as an expert on foreign affairs. Obviously, President Lee recognizes Dr. Hu's abilities and has asked him to take the lead in foreign affairs. I hope Dr. Hu's replacement will be as helpful and knowledgeable about Taiwan issues.

Finally, I would like to wish both Dr. Hu, his wife Shirley, and their two children good luck and express to him my heartfelt thanks for a job well done.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee special investigation to meet on Friday, September 19, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on campaign financing issues.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

● Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, yesterday I attended a ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the Department of Defense. It was a most impressive event to honor the men and women who serve in the defense of our Nation.

Our former colleague, Secretary of Defense Bill Cohen, highlighted the achievements of the Department over these past 50 years. He reminded us of the Department's great legacy and challenges that lie ahead in the future.

The Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and my good friend, Gen. Joe Ralston, also spoke at this event. His remarks illustrated the significant changes that have occurred since the Department's inception and saluted our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who so honorably serve our country.

Mr. President, I request that the text of the remarks of both Secretary Cohen and General Ralston be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The remarks follow:

REMARKS BY WILLIAM S. COHEN, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, SEPTEMBER 17, 1997

The poet Shelly called history "a cyclic poem written by time upon our memories."

Let me describe a certain pivot point in history: It is a time of daunting security challenges both at home and abroad. In Europe, the United States is proposing a bold plan to advance democracy, free markets and shared security. In the Pacific, America is the dominant power, but Korea remains dangerously divided and China is in a period of profound transition, its future uncertain, its intentions unclear. Meanwhile, breathtaking advances in technology are fueling a revolution in military affairs. And America's defense establishment is reorienting itself to confront the enormous security challenges of the new era.

I could be talking about September, 1997, for this picture captures our world today. But as history is "a cyclic poem," this picture also describes September, 1947, when the Department of Defense came into being.

We have been marking many golden anniversaries of late. These are the days of remembrance, a time to recall the historic trials and triumphs of half a century. The hallowed days—D-Day, VE-Day, VJ-Day. The historic deeds—the Marshall Plan, the National Security Act. And the enduring establishments—the United Nations, the US Air Force, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Department of Defense.

Why do we recall these trials and triumphs? Because they can help us face the portents and possibilities of the century ahead. As we talk of tomorrow, we must be mindful to hold up the lamplight of history, so that we may walk with confidence on the footpath to the future.

We are here today to celebrate not the golden anniversary of a bureaucracy, or that of a building—but rather of a bold idea. That idea was for a National Military Establishment that unified all of our military services, land, sea and air, under a single Department with a civilian chief, the whole greater than the sum of its remarkable parts.

By 1947, it was an idea whose time had come. The generation that won the Second World War set out to win the peace. They understood that to win the peace, America had to be engaged in global affairs as a global leader. They had learned from personal experience—from their "blood, toil, tears and sweat"—the central lesson of this century: That when America neglects the problems of the world, the world often brings its problems to America's doorstep. And so they created a Department of Defense that would engage the world with gathered strength and purpose.

To witness the wisdom of this bold idea and its historic achievements, you only have to walk the corridors of the Pentagon.

You will walk past George Marshall's desk. He was soldier who led our forces to victory against fascism; a diplomat who set forth a bold vision for a new Europe, healed, whole, free and linked to America in the spirit of help and hope; and a Secretary of Defense who helped to halt the columns of communism on the Korean peninsula.

You will walk past a section of the Berlin Wall, once a symbol of tyranny and peril, now a symbol of the triumph of freedom, and a triumph of the Department of Defense that trained, equipped and maintained the US Armed Forces—forces that gave America and our allies the power and the will to stand fast and stand firm through 40 winters of the Cold War, and gave us the opportunity to secure a lasting peace in Europe and Asia.

As you walk through the corridors of the Pentagon, you will see not only the artifacts of our trials and triumphs, but the individuals who endured the trials and ensured the triumphs.

You will see the portraits of the military leadership, and also those who led this Department—the Secretaries of Defense—some

of whom have graced this ceremony with their presence today. Secretary Cap Weinberger, Secretary Frank Carlucci, Secretary Bill Perry: Each one of you has protected and defended those who protect and defend our nation. Each one of you has left the Department in better stead than when you arrived, and with a challenge to your successor to continue the legacy. I am honored and humbled to accept—and extend—this challenge.

But the legacy of leadership extends to those who were ready and willing to be led. And as you walk these corridors, you see the legacy of soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines enshrined on our walls—from the Hall of Heroes that recall exceptional valor, to the exhibits that remember forgotten service—the Women's Military Corridor, the exhibits for Hispanic veterans and the Tuskegee Airmen.

To walk these corridors is to learn of courage and commitment; of service and sacrifice; of grit and greatness: From the frozen hills of Korea, to the twisted jungles of Vietnam; from Beirut to Grenada; Panama to Somalia; to the searing sands of Saudi Arabia and the mud and ice of Bosnia.

I dedicate our golden anniversary to their golden achievements.

In so doing, let me make a point which often becomes obscured in the reports which focus on our flaws: We have the best-trained, best-equipped and best-educated military in the history of the world, and we need to remember that despite our shortcomings, which we are eager to examine and confront openly, our forces are the envy of every other nation on this planet.

Finally, if you walk the corridors of the Pentagon, you will meet the backbone of this institution: The civilian employees who serve this Department and support the troops. The success of this Department is their success too.

But as we recall our trials and triumphs of the past, we face a new challenge: In 1997—as in 1947—we must build a Department of Defense that can face the dangers and the daring possibilities of the future. For a brave new world stretches beyond these lawns, past those shining monuments across the river. It is a world of momentous opportunity—of flourishing markets, stunning technologies, and new democracies. But it is also a world of startling new dangers—ethnic conflict, regional aggressors, and terrorism.

Fifty years hence, let those who look back on 1997 say that, we too, were not just a building or a bureaucracy, but that we too were bold. That we too were unafraid to think anew, to organize anew, to act anew. Let them say that by embracing the spirit of our era, we too were able to seize the challenges of our time: The challenge to shape the world; to respond to its threats; and to prepare for the future; to harness a Revolution in Military Affairs to give our forces the technology to dominate the battlefield; and to foment a Revolution in Business Affairs, to create a 21st Century Pentagon—a model of action, efficiency, economy and versatility.

Fifty years from now, let them say that our leadership, vision and courage helped catapult America into a new century. And 50 years from now, let them say that we bequeathed to them, what our predecessors bequeathed to us: The best trained, best equipped, best prepared military in history, the pride of our nation and the envy of the world.

I will close with the words from Daniel Webster, speaking at the dedication of the Bunker Hill Monument: "And now let us indulge an honest exultation in the conviction of the benefit which the example of our country has produced and is likely to produce on

human freedom and happiness. And let us endeavor to comprehend in all its magnitude and to feel in all its importance the part assigned to us in the great drama of human affairs."

REMARKS BY GEN. JOSEPH RALSTON, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, SEPTEMBER 17, 1997

Secretary Cohen, Former Secretaries Weinberger, Carlucci, and Perry, Members of Congress, Gen. Jones, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I am very proud to be here as the representative of the more than 3 million people currently serving in the defense of our nation as soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, coast guardsmen—active duty, National Guard, Reserve, and civilians. It is an honor to be a part of this splendid anniversary; a celebration to commemorate fifty years of unwavering leadership to our armed forces.

Take a moment and put yourself back in time. Fifty years ago we had just won a world war and the country was still celebrating its victory. The might of the military machine was not broken, at least the American public didn't think so.

But we learned many lessons the hard way during that war and the leaders who fought that war knew we could and should do better.

These visionaries understood that to stand still would put the United States back where we were before the war . . . as isolationists.

Imagine if you can, the resistance these men faced as they attempted to reorganize our armed forces . . . a force that only a year prior had defeated a deranged dictator and an imperial army and navy.

These leaders, both civilian and military, realized the daunting task before them, but charged forward, amid intense debate, and agreed upon a "unification" course.

Although the reforms in 1947 were immense, ten years later the leaders of our country recognized the requirement for a course correction.

The Act of 1958, spearheaded by President Eisenhower, provided that course correction and called for the organization of all combat forces into unified commands and as he stated, "singly led and prepared to fight as one, regardless of Service."

With this new guidance our armed forces marched on for over 25 years. However, in 1986 a significant change occurred with the enactment of the Goldwater-Nichols Act. It not only reinforced our joint warfighting doctrine, but it also strengthened the civilian authority in the Department and increased the responsibility and authority of the Chairman. Today we have an armed force that is the envy of every nation on this Earth—and the pride of Americans.

Make no mistake . . . it is the magnificent men and women in uniform who make the sacrifices, who walk the jungles, fly over the deserts, sail on and under the seas, that provide the peace, freedom, and stability we enjoy as a Nation today.

But we must resist the temptation to relax and believe we have it just right. We must fight the complacency. We have much left to do as we revolutionize the way we do business, as we make the hard choices that will always put the needs of America's sons and daughters first.

Today I proudly salute the men and women of the Department of Defense.●

IN RECOGNITION OF HARRY BELL

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Harry Bell, a man well known to the people of South

Carolina. We salute him as he retires in December as president of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation.

Harry Bell is known throughout the State as a successful farmer. With his son, William, he operates a productive, 1,450 acre farm in Saluda County, on which he raises cattle and plants soybeans, cotton, small grains, and strawberries. But Harry Bell's activities extend far beyond farming. He also is a savvy and successful businessman, with a long career in banking and insurance.

In fact, he began his business career as a bank clerk, currently serves on the local board of First Citizens' Bank, and has been president of the Palmetto Casualty Insurance Co. and director of the Ridge Banking Co.

But it is for his work with South Carolina farmers that Harry Bell is best known. He has served as president of the South Carolina Farm Bureau since 1971; in that time, he helped South Carolina farmers weather droughts, high interest rates, and the increasingly overwhelming competition of large-scale commercial farms. During his tenure as president, Harry helped preserve the State's heritage of family-owned farms, while at the same time assisting farmers to mechanize and modernize their operations. It is partly as a result of his efforts that agriculture remains a key component of South Carolina's economy.

Harry Bell's involvement with agriculture has not been confined to the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation. He also was president of the Saluda County Farm Bureau Federation for 4 years, and was vice president of the American Farm Bureau Federation from 1986-94. From 1967-85, he was the farm representative on the South Carolina Water Resources Commission.

Fortunately for us, Harry Bell has employed his prodigious talents and energies not just in the service of the farming community, but of the whole community. He must have filled his every waking moment with public service of one kind or another.

He is active in his church, Johnston Presbyterian, having served as an elder and former deacon. He responded to another kind of call when his country summoned him to fight, serving on active duty in the U.S. Air Force from 1945-47 and from 1951-53. Additionally, he served in the Air Force Reserves until 1974, when he retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Harry Bell exemplifies the ideal of public service. His career has combined devotion to God, country, and community. Thanks to his stewardship, South Carolina farmers can look forward to many future harvests. It has been my good fortune to work with Harry Bell for over 20 years on important issues affecting the farmers and economy of our State. We in South Carolina are proud to call him our own, and I am honored to salute him today.●

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF LEASING PROGRAM ● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I would like to rise today, with my colleague, Senator JOHN BREAUX, to engage in a colloquy about a serious matter that has only recently come to our attention.

Mr. GORTON. I yield the floor for your colloquy.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, if these concerns are not addressed, one of our country's most successful programs, the Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Program, may be jeopardized. Under that program, the Federal Government has raised hundreds of millions of dollars in rents and royalties over the last 25 years, while at the same time developing safe and secure sources of energy for our country. Crucial to the success of that program is the ability of the private sector to conduct exploration of the Gulf of Mexico before submitting bids on the tracts offered for oil and gas leases.

I recently learned that the Minerals Management Service [MMS] has proposed changes to the rules under which that exploration is conducted. These changes would potentially jeopardize the continuity and success of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act [OCSLA] program.

Currently, geological and geophysical companies [G&G companies] conduct seismic surveys under MMS permits which require the permittees to provide the data they collect to the MMS under strict guarantees of confidentiality.

The G&G companies then provide the oil companies access to the data through nonexclusive licenses. The licenses allow the oil companies to use the data for any purpose including reprocessing the data using their own technology and data. These licenses are given on the condition that the licensee will not show or share the data with anyone else. In this way, the G&G companies are able to offer data to the largest number of possible users at the lowest cost.

Under the proposed regulations, MMS intends to extend its ability to obtain data from just the G&G companies to all of the companies who have licensed and reprocessed that data using their own technology. By requiring all industry to share reprocessed data with the MMS, the threat of disclosure of extremely sensitive business data exists. Under any number of situations, including appeal of fair market values, it is unclear if the proposed changes would protect the confidentiality of that data. This threat to sensitive business data could ultimately threaten the success of the OCS leasing program.

I understand and appreciate the need for MMS to have accurate data. However, I question the need of the Government to obtain reprocessed data that