

national event occurred. The tragic death of President Kennedy was one of those things for me. When Anwar Sadat was assassinated, that was another thing for me.

I remember very well when Operation Desert Storm started. I was in the State legislature in a committee meeting in the Capitol, and the news came in that the bombing had started, and I remember having brothers that served in Vietnam and thinking about the young people that were there. I remember thinking, well, thank you, God, that Dick Cheney is in charge of those troops over there, because they could not be in better hands, and I truly felt that way, and I believe that today.

I know my colleagues will join me in thanking Dick for his leadership, for his statesmanship, but, most of all, for his friendship. I would also like to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM), and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure staff for working with me to enact this legislation. I urge the Senate to act on it expeditiously and hope that when it comes before that body that it will come into law.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation to name the Federal building in Casper for our former colleague, Dick Cheney. I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

The gentlewoman from Wyoming has pointed out Dick Cheney's meteoric rise within Republican ranks of leadership here in the House of Representatives. In all probability, he now would be the Speaker of the House of Representatives if he had stayed here, if he had not answered the call of the country to serve as our Secretary of Defense, and he served there so ably with such a distinguished record.

Dick Cheney's competence was recognized by all as soon as he arrived here. I can recall that, directly, since he and I were first elected in the 96th Congress and served the first 4 years side by side on what was then called the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

He was born in my district in Lincoln, Nebraska. His father was an employee of the U.S. Soil Conservation in Nebraska before he moved to Wyoming with Dick and his mother. They lived in a small central Nebraska town during World War II when Dick's father was serving in the military.

Dick Cheney has sometimes told me in the past when he came into my district or when I visited him in his district, "Doug, if I stayed in Lincoln, of course, I would be the Congressman." He would be. And I would be? "Well," he said, "I don't know what you would be." So Dick Cheney's departure to

Wyoming was probably fortunate for me and undoubtedly for the citizens of Wyoming.

But I must say, as I watched Dick Cheney in this body and watched his competence already demonstrable in the earliest stages of his career here in the House, because of his service as the White House Chief of Staff and earlier at the OEO where he worked for Dick Rumsfeld, I think that I and everyone else who knew Dick were quite impressed with him. He was my candidate to be the President of the United States; I wish he had made that effort.

In any case, he brought great honor and respect to this body for the contributions that he made here, and I thank my colleagues, particularly the gentlewoman from Wyoming, for offering this legislation. Naming the Federal Building in Casper for the Honorable Richard Cheney is a wonderful tribute that ought to be due to our former colleague, Dick Cheney.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), our chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in strong support of the gentlewoman's measure, the gentlewoman from Wyoming, in honoring Dick Cheney by naming the Federal building and post office at Casper, Wyoming, in his name.

As a former White House Chief of Staff, as a former Member of the Congress, former Republican Chairman in the Congress, former Secretary of Defense, I can think of no more appropriate honor that we could give to Dick Cheney for his service to our Nation, and I am pleased to rise in support of the measure.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3453.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3453, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

AGRICULTURE EXPORT RELIEF ACT OF 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2282) to amend the Arms Export Control Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2282

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Agriculture Export Relief Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. SANCTIONS EXEMPTIONS.

(a) EXEMPTION REGARDING FOOD AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY PURCHASES.—Section 102(b)(2)(D) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2799aa-1(b)(2)(D)) is amended as follows:

(1) In clause (i) by striking "or" at the end.
(2) In clause (ii) by striking the period and inserting ", or".

(3) By inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

"(iii) to any credit, credit guarantee, or financial assistance provided by the Department of Agriculture to support the purchase of food or other agricultural commodity."

(b) DESCRIPTION OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.—Section 102(b)(2)(F) of such Act is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting ", which includes fertilizer."

(c) OTHER EXEMPTIONS.—Section 102(b)(2)(D)(ii) of such Act is further amended by inserting after "to" the following: "medicines, medical equipment, and".

(d) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—The amendment made by subsection (a)(3) shall apply to any credit, credit guarantee, or other financial assistance provided by the Department of Agriculture before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act through September 30, 1999.

(e) EFFECT ON EXISTING SANCTIONS.—Any sanction imposed under section 102(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act before the date of the enactment of this Act shall cease to apply upon that date with respect to the items described in the amendments made by subsections (b) and (c). In the case of the amendment made by subsection (a)(3), any sanction imposed under section 102(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act before the date of the enactment of this Act shall not be in effect during the period beginning on that date and ending on September 30, 1999, with respect to the activities and items described in the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 2282, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.