

Wednesday night and in a number of press briefings since then, Administration officials insist that Mr. Clinton made the decision to strike based on the U.N.'s finding of non-compliance. My question is: which version is it? Did they decide it on Sunday or did they decide on Tuesday? This, at minimum, undermines their argument that they learned about it Tuesday and had to act Wednesday. Excluding the two interim reports and several infringements they knew about it for weeks and days and chose to strike Wednesday.

Red Flag #3—Though I agree with what the President said on Wednesday night, the problem lies in the fact that it is old news. In some ways it's old news over the last year, and it has certainly been reinforced several times over the last several months. Scott Ritter, a former United States Marine Corps officer and Gulf War veteran, resigned his post on the U.N. Inspection Team in August. In September he testified before Congress on the reasoning behind that resignation. In both his testimony and his resignation, Mr. Ritter's reasoning and facts were the same that the President suggested was new information on Wednesday. In fact, since mid-November, the Iraqis have thrown a series of impediments in front of the U.N. inspection teams. As you might remember, the inspections team returned to Iraq on November 17th and within days their efforts were being thwarted on November 25th, November 26th, November 29th, December 4th and December 9th the Iraqis hampered our efforts. The government of Iraq thwarted UN Inspection Teams in a number of different efforts ranging from proposed schedule of work to inspections of a variety of different sites. The White House knew about each of these incidents and in fact, Richard Butler produced two interim reports. Suddenly, this week, the Administration has painted Saddam Hussein as a "clear and present danger" when his actions are no different now than they were last year or earlier this year.

Red Flag #4—I am struck with the unconventional use of force. Any of the Pentagon folks that I've been around over the last several years have suggested that the American military typically places overwhelming force at the beginning of engagement to minimize the risks of casualties to Americans. That is certainly not the case in this present conflict with Iraq. In 1991, we had a full six carrier battle group in the Persian Gulf. Today, we have just one. Even on November 15, the date of our last staredown with Saddam, we had 2 carrier battle groups in place in the Persian Gulf. Now, we are told by Secretary Cohen, another carrier battle group is on the way and will be there by the weekend and that more aircraft are on the way. This raises another question: Is our new military strategy to amass a force slowly after the initial moment of engagement?

On this point, not only have we amassed our forces slowly, we have little over 200 planes prepared for this engagement, while we had 2,700 aircraft in the Persian Gulf of 1991. More significantly, we've essentially made no efforts to build support in the region for our undertaking. In the Persian Gulf War, we had 36 allies. In this engagement, only Great Britain has joined us in risking military personnel.

Red Flag #5—This hasty engagement broke previous procedure used prior to the use of force. I spoke with Porter Goss, head of Select Intelligence Committee in the U.S. House

of Representative, who learned of this incident the same way I did—on CNN. This is highly unusual policy. Typically in a military engagement or a buildup to a military engagement, he would have been forwarded and briefed.

Red Flag #6—We are not sure of our strategy. Some have suggested that because of the onset of Ramadan, a month of peace in the Muslim world, we will be wrapping up our efforts in a matter of days. If so, this pin prick effort is sure not to do any great damage to Saddam. Using 2,700 aircraft in a 42 day engagement, he stayed in power. Does he have to do little more than hide for a few days if he knows an engagement is going to be curtailed by a religious holiday?

Red Flag #7—With air strikes limited to just a few days, what is the outcome we hope to get? We were told that we want to thwart his ability to produce weapons of mass destruction and yet the very nature of biological or chemical weapons makes them very difficult to detect. If one was charged with hiding gallon-sized milk jugs across the state of Texas, and then someone else 30 days later was charged with bombing those gallon sized milk jugs, my bet is that at the end of the month there would be plenty of well-hidden milk jugs absolutely unharmed. Similarly, we can tear down buildings maybe 4, maybe 40, maybe 400, but if they are not buildings that weaken what the military calls his center of gravity, his access to strength, then it will do little to no good. If we're serious about this we ought to be aiming for his Republican Guard and other pieces of the formula that's keeping him in power. There are no clear efforts to weaken these components of his power.

In summary, as you walk through these red flags, too many of them suggest that the timing of this engagement may have been politically motivated. I think we should make every effort to ensure that even the appearance of that politicization doesn't come back to rest on the shoulders of American troops. We can do better than that and the men and women of our armed services deserve it.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
GLENN POSHARD

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the public service of my very good friend, Congressman GLENN POSHARD.

GLENN and I were elected to Congress during the same year, 1988, and worked together as a team to represent the 22nd and 21st Districts of Illinois until those districts changed in 1992. Since then, GLENN has represented the 19th District and I have represented the 12th District, which covers a large amount of territory formerly in GLENN's old congressional seat.

I can tell you that there is no one in Southern Illinois who is held in higher esteem than GLENN POSHARD. During his race for Governor in 1998, GLENN ran a race that made all of his colleagues in the Illinois Delegation proud. However, I can tell you that the constituents in my district who know and love GLENN POSHARD were also very proud of his congressional service and his race for Governor.

GLENN has always been a unique representative. He made the decision early in his congressional career to refuse money from political action committees, a commitment he made as well in his race for Governor. He imposed on himself a term-limit of five terms in Congress, which he fulfills by leaving at the end of this session of Congress. He has carried himself with a quiet dignity, working hard for the people of his district while promoting those policies he thought best for the entire nation.

His sources of inspiration have been those individuals who overcame difficult circumstances to excel in life, including his parents, and notable public figures like Lech Walesa and Nelson Mandela. GLENN was born poor in Southeastern Illinois and rose to achieve a PhD and go on to one of the highest honors an individual can attain in the United States—to serve his fellow men and women in the Congress.

GLENN POSHARD will leave this Congress with a distinguished record: fighting for a balanced federal budget; increasing the pay, working conditions and health care for working men and women; protecting the Constitution and improving the economy of rural America. But he will also leave here with enormous affection and gratitude of his colleagues, and the thanks and devotion of his constituents, who may be seeing the end of his days in the Congress but surely not the end of his public service.

I join my colleagues in saluting the honored service of my good friend, GLENN POSHARD.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, in these times of automated phone responses, impersonal corporations, and indifferent employees, some see customer service as a deduction from the bottom line. However, good customer service is more important now than ever. In private industry, and in government, good service fosters trust and good feelings between constituencies and those who serve them. In a competitive market, those who perform above and beyond what people expect survive and prosper. Government leaders can always learn from good examples in American businesses.

Some of the nation's most successful business leaders have built upon a philosophy of service to their respective constituencies. Herb Kelleher, CEO of Southwest Airlines, was never content to a rest while his employees toiled. He once helped flight attendants serve drinks on a Southwest flight. On Thanksgiving and Christmas, the busiest travel times, it was rumored he worked in baggage service alongside his employees. Imagine the inspiration, working with their CEO, as they sacrificed time with their families to ensure thousands of others could be together on those important holidays. Likewise, wayward travelers at some hotels are not directed, but accompanied by employees to the destination they seek within the hotel. Such kind assistance is likely to lift the spirits of even the weariest of guests.

Sam Walton, founder of Wal-Mart, and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom,

was legendary for his commitment to his employees and his customers. His philosophy of good service destined his enterprise to become the nation's largest retailer. Mr. Walton ran his stores like a coach preparing his team for the big game. He led by example, and instilled in his staff the determination and motivation to serve and to succeed. Famous for his devotion to his employees, Walton, whenever he saw a Wal-Mart Truck, was known to land his Cessna amidst the nearest cornfield, flag down the driver, and ride with him to his destined store. Such company spirit and pride has fostered loyalty and trust among the public.

Sound principles of customers service should be inherent in government as well as private industry. Intrinsic within a republican form of government is a commitment to the people one represents and to serving their needs in the best way possible. With that in mind, I have focused on putting together America's best congressional staff. Employees in my office come from diverse backgrounds and have diverse talents: all have close ties to Colorado and the district. Each and every member of my staff considers it their personal responsibility to serve the public the best they can. They genuinely believe in their work and in serving the people of the State of Colorado.

Our office responds to thousands of letters and phone calls each month. My dedicated staff handles scores of constituent requests, helps me prepare letters, draft and follow legislation, and helps advise me on multitudes of important issues. Should someone from Colorado visit our nation's capital, we are always eager to line up congressional tours of the Capitol, and even the White House. People within the district also express their opinions, seek help with problems involving a government agency, or request information on legislation or proposed regulations from me or a member of my staff all the time. With an open door policy, my staff communicates frequently and openly with me. I consider them, as should my constituents, as an extension of myself. With selfless dedication, and in the spirit of America's best business leaders, America's best congressional staff works long hours and strives toward a philosophy of service to the good people of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

A TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
GLENN POSHARD

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Congressman GLENN POSHARD. Congressman POSHARD has aptly served the Nineteenth Congressional District of Illinois for ten years. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, GLENN has stayed true to his strong morals and has done what was best for his constituents.

With working-class roots of his own, Congressman POSHARD has been one of the most ardent congressional supporters of working-class men and women. From his position on the House Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, POSHARD has also been a guardian

of the economic interests of his district. For example, Congressman POSHARD opposed the North American Free Trade Agreement, which he knew would cost many American working men and women their jobs. However, when it became clear that this flawed trade agreement would pass in the House of Representatives despite his opposition, Congressman POSHARD sponsored an amendment to protect the domestic broom industry. There are many broom factories in the Nineteenth Congressional District and they are still thriving today because of Congressman POSHARD.

Congressman POSHARD has a strong moral center that has greatly influenced his congressional career. GLENN is opposed to abortion and has been one of the most impassioned defenders of the unborn. A pro-life Democrat like myself, Congressman POSHARD has worked to protect the lives of the unborn and has worked to make the Democratic Party more open and welcoming to pro-life members. As a former teacher, GLENN has also worked to protect the needs of children. GLENN voted for welfare reform in 1996 but only after satisfying himself that the needs of children were addressed.

Throughout his service in the House of Representatives, GLENN POSHARD has fashioned himself as a citizen legislator. Since his first term in Congress, GLENN has shunned contributions from Political Action Committees. Instead, GLENN has relied on the support of his constituents. As he promised when he was elected in 1988, Congressman POSHARD is leaving after five terms so that "other folks have their shot at solving the problems."

My colleagues in the House of Representatives and I will miss GLENN POSHARD. He is a gentleman, a statesman, and even a poet on occasion. Most of all, however, he is a good friend. Thank you, Congressman POSHARD, for all of your hard work and support throughout your ten years in Congress. Congratulations on your numerous accomplishments which are too numerous to list here. And, good luck with all your future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO GLENN POSHARD

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in honoring the distinguished gentleman from Carterville, Illinois, Congressman GLENN POSHARD.

There are perhaps no two better words to describe GLENN POSHARD than distinguished and gentleman.

GLENN POSHARD arrived in Washington 10 years ago charged with a mandate to represent the people of his district to the very best of his abilities. I can think of no one who has been a more effective representative for the unique needs of southern Illinois than GLENN POSHARD.

For the people of southern Illinois, he has been a fighter and a tireless advocate. He has broken through the wall of regionalism that separated our State into Chicago versus the suburbs versus downstate versus the real downstate of southern Illinois. GLENN POSHARD made people aware that southern Illinois existed by never wavering in his efforts and

never shying away from the pride that those southern Illinois roots instilled in him years ago.

As a Member of this body, he has distinguished himself as one who keeps his word and stands on principle. As a member of our society, he has distinguished himself as a gentleman of the first order.

There's never a moment when he's too busy to say hello or share a kind word with a friend or foe. I am proud of all that he has accomplished.

I am proud that he kept his word to serve no longer than 10 years in this body and then returned to Illinois to run for Governor, as for GLENN POSHARD, public service never truly ends.

While he wasn't elected as our next Governor, I know that he gained the personal respect of the man who was elected and of all those of us who watched him during his campaign.

During that effort, GLENN POSHARD spoke forcefully and loudly about the needs of our State's children. Since that time he has pledged to continue to try and make a difference for our kids.

As he leaves this body to move on to that effort, GLENN POSHARD should know that he has already made a difference for our State's children, one that will last for generations to come.

God's blessing to the distinguished gentleman from Carterville and his loving wife Jo.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE
OF CONGRESSMAN GLENN
POSHARD

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 1998

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the positive contributions that my fellow Illinois colleague, GLENN POSHARD, made to the State of Illinois, Congress, and the Nation. After 10 years of congressional service, GLENN POSHARD is retiring. His principled and pragmatic presence will be missed, not only by the people of the 19th District of Illinois, but also by those of us in Congress who worked with him on important issues.

First elected to the House of Representatives in 1988, GLENN POSHARD pledged to serve only 10 years in Congress. Now, ten years later, he is keeping his word. He will be leaving behind a reputation for bipartisan and hard work, forged while working on such issues as campaign reform, improving rural health care, deficit-cutting, and preserving the American coal-mining industry. During his work on these issues and others, GLENN POSHARD always stood his ground and fought for what he believed in, and for what was good for his constituents and for the State of Illinois.

Throughout his congressional service, GLENN POSHARD was able to benefit from, and draw on, his background. As a holder of a doctorate in education from Southern Illinois University and as a former teacher, GLENN POSHARD brought a valuable perspective to Capitol Hill. This perspective was further enhanced by his experiences that he gained while growing up in a small, rural town in Illinois. He never forgot his roots, and they