

discussions regarding the future political status of East Timor. It is important for all parties to be at the table since all parties must ultimately abide by the agreement if it is to be credible and enduring.

While the exact details of the tripartite negotiations that occurred last month between Indonesia, Portugal and the U.N. are not fully clear at this time, the world community will be watching closely when they are released. The August ballot is supposed to determine the political future of East Timor. Whether the East Timorese choose independence or continued unity with Indonesia, the voting process and the period following the vote must be free of violence and intimidation. The world community can play an active role in helping the Indonesian government see that this happens.

The Administration has pledged \$30 million to assist Indonesia during its national election. However, I believe we, and others in the international community, should do more to make sure that sufficient funds are available both for a free and fair election to occur in June and to help the Indonesian government conduct a free and fair ballot for East Timor in August. The United Nations already has agreed to send a civilian police force to East Timor to monitor the vote. I believe this is a good first step. The U.N. presence should, though, be supplemented by international, non-governmental organizations, or equivalent Indonesian groups, which can help monitor and facilitate the ballot process.

The time is now for the U.S. and the international community to focus on Indonesia and East Timor. The national election for Indonesia is less than six weeks away and the ballot for East Timor is only about eight weeks after that. I believe, as one long involved in Southeast Asia, that it is important for those who have interest in the future stability of this region to start creating a positive atmosphere in which both of these events can occur.●

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, since 1963, May has traditionally been designated Older Americans Month. I would like to take this opportunity to thank these valuable citizens and share an article that was recently printed in the Des Moines Register. The author reminds us of the many contributions older Americans make to our communities.

As we prepare for one of the largest demographic shifts in the history of our nation, we as policy makers often focus on the challenges presented by a graying nation. However, as suggested by Francis Keith in his article, "Celebrate the Old Folks, Iowa's Assets," it would be a shame not to take the time to recognize and appreciate the vital role that seniors play in our communities.

Today more than ever, seniors are continuing to play active roles in their

communities. In my home state of Iowa, I know many seniors who perform both paid and volunteer work well into their later years. Their wisdom and experience are a valuable resource that we should not allow to go to waste.

Mr. Marion Tierney, of Des Moines, Iowa recently spoke at an Aging Committee event. He is a perfect example of an older American who continues to be an active participant in his community. He made a career change half a lifetime ago because he was looking for a new challenge in sales and increased earning potential. Today, at the age of eighty, he serves nearly 100 customers of Iowa Machinery and Supply.

In a highly competitive business, Mr. Tierney says hard work is the key to success. He brings know-how, experience, relationships, and trust to customers as he assists them in developing solutions to improve their productivity through the use of his company's industrial products. He stays on top of new technology and products and re-trains frequently to effectively meet customer needs. In turn, his field experience helps the company decide which new product lines to acquire.

His employer cites Mr. Tierney's willingness to share knowledge and experience with younger salesmen as a major contribution to the business.

Mr. Tierney is just one example of the many contributions older Americans make to their communities. I hope you will join me in honoring Mr. Tierney and all Older Americans for their many contributions. Not just during the month of May, but all year long.

I ask an article regarding Older Americans be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Des Moines Register, Apr. 27, 1999]

CELEBRATE THE 'OLD FOLKS,' IOWA'S ASSETS

(By Francis Keith)

In recent months there have been numerous stories about the aging of Iowa. The news reporters say our older population is a burden. They say that the increasing numbers of older people will be a liability for all the younger people who still work and pay taxes in Iowa. The graying of Iowa it's called.

There are predictions that as this trend continues, the problem of so many old people will become acute and drag the state into some economic quagmire that will have a negative effect on everyone living here.

I take a different and more positive view. I am retired, over 65; I was born in Iowa, I worked my whole life in Iowa and I retired in Iowa. Most of my peers and close friends are over 65. Many are over 70 and some over 80. For the most part, we "old Iowans" remain very active in our community and church and we know we are an asset to the state. We pay our own way and we make a contribution. We old people are a renewable resource.

We pay property taxes and help pay for the public schools, yet none of us has children still in school. We don't drive as much as when we worked and chauffeured our children to school and activities. Still, we pay our share of the street budget and we don't wear out the roads.

We pay income taxes, like everyone else, on our pensions, on interest earned on our savings, even on part of our Social Security.

We don't go to jail very often. As a group, we have a very low crime rate. Few of us are druggies, abuse children, speed, rob banks or use excess alcohol. We don't tie up the courts or fill the jails.

We pay our share of sales tax. We still buy things locally and support the stores and shops of Iowa. We eat out more often, while we may not have as much income as when we worked, we have more disposable income.

Most of our income is fixed, which has its limitations. But on the other hand, we aren't caught in economic downturns, layoffs, unemployment, labor strikes and other crises of the work years. Our income is limited, but dependable.

We know how to work. While it's true we don't run as fast as we used to, we are steady and dependable and we're not afraid to work. Some of us still have business interests and work every day. When we do have a business, we employ Iowans and contribute to the economic well-being of our state.

We work for free. We volunteer. We serve on boards and committees of many community activities and at hospitals and care centers, libraries, churches and schools. We give our time; some of us almost as much as a full-time job. We baby-sit our grandchildren.

We're a stable population. We don't move around much. Not that we don't travel for fun. We do that whenever we can, but we aren't job-hopping. We don't have to prove ourselves anymore by buying a bigger house or a bigger car, just to impress our peers. Been there, done that. We've been in the rat race—we know sometimes the rat wins. We've learned to rest a little, to see the world up close and far away. We look at sunsets and flowers and people in a little different way now. We have learned patience and tolerance and we are more thankful and appreciative of little things.

We even contribute when we are sick, which some doomsayers point out derisively as a negative of being old. Even our being in the hospital more than our younger friends contributes to the economy of Iowa. We keep people working as nurses, therapists, lab technicians and so on. We all die sometime, and for us it's likely to be sooner. Even that gives a job to someone.

Wouldn't any state like to have a group of honest, reliable, stable, sociable, tax-paying citizens who are willing to work without pay, who support our local businesses and who never go on strike?

Well, look around, Iowa, we're already here. We're your retired citizens. And we're working hard to keep Iowa the great state we choose to retire in.

We're nice people to have around. We know we're pretty darned good citizens and we have our pride. We have beaten the system. We have reached retirement with all its promises, most of which are true. Let's celebrate all the "old folks" in Iowa, not put them down as a liability.●

JAPANESE CAR CARRIER TRADE

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, with our trade deficit continuing to grow and with Japanese vehicle manufacturers continuing to increase exports to the United States, I rise to remind my colleagues that competitive U.S. companies continue to be thwarted in their efforts to break down the walls of "kereitsu" relationships built up over decades in Japan. With Prime Minister Obuchi making his first official state visit to the United States, I thought it useful to review our economic relationship, or lack thereof.

As my colleagues know, the Japanese economy has been in a recession for quite some time. Unfortunately, it would appear the country has sought to export its way out of the problem and to continue to shield inefficient domestic companies from international competition. For instance, just last week the Commerce Department determined that Japanese steel imports were being dumped by margins of up to nearly 70%. Such actions are not acceptable. As the office of USTR recently said,

[A]s its demand for imports declines and its firms redouble their efforts to sell to healthier markets abroad, the effects of Japan's economic policies will continue to hit the United States. In 1998, the U.S. goods trade deficit with Japan reached \$64.1 billion, an increase of \$8.4 billion (14.2 percent) from the 1997 level. . . . U.S. merchandise exports to Japan fell to \$57.9 billion, a decrease of 11.9 percent from the 1997 level. . . . Japan is more dependent on the U.S. market to absorb its exports than it has been for many years. In 1998, the United States bought about 31 percent of Japan's exports, the highest level since 1990, and close to the all-time high of 36 percent in 1986.

It will come as little surprise to Senators who are concerned about our steel industry and other sectors that Japan accounted for approximately one-fourth of our entire trade deficit in 1998. It is a mistake to suppose that such huge amounts of money can continue indefinitely to move one way across the exchange with reciprocal movement in the other direction blocked. In view of this situation, the USTR said in its report: "The United States attaches top priority to opening Japan's markets to U.S. goods and services." I trust the President will share our government's concerns in his meeting with Prime Minister Obuchi, and will urge him to take steps to increase U.S. access to the Japanese market.

I also believe Japan can, and should, take additional steps to increase its defense sharing burden. Let me give one example. In the early 1990s, Congress and the Department of Defense recognized that more needed to be done to augment our strategic sealift capacity. Our experience in Desert Storm demonstrated a critical shortage of U.S.-flagged, U.S.-manned roll-on roll-off strategic sealift vessels. We therefore undertook new construction of a fleet of military ships of this type. Even with this new construction, however, there will continue to be a deficiency of lifting capacity.

To meet this deficiency, under the leadership of then-Senator Bill Cohen, Congress created the National Defense Features program. Under the program, U.S. companies have been invited to build vessels equipped with special military features for operation in normal commercial service but available in times of national emergency.

Under one proposal, a fleet of refrigerated car carriers would be built in the United States for operation in the U.S.-Japan trade. In normal commercial service, the vessels would carry ve-

hicles to the United States and refrigerated products to Japan. In times of national emergency, the vessels would carry tanks, heavy trucks, and other military equipment, as well as substantial amounts of live ammunition.

Unfortunately, notwithstanding support from the Congress and the Secretary of Defense, the project has met with no interest or actual resistance in Japan. This is particularly disturbing because implementation of the project would, at no economic cost to the Government of Japan, enhance the mutual security of our two nations. Especially at a time when the Government of Japan wishes to play a greater role in advancing shared defense objectives, I am disappointed that it has not given more serious attention to this proposal.

I hope the Administration will continue to press the Government of Japan to take steps to reduce our trade deficit and enhance our mutual security. I also hope the Government of Japan will use the occasion of the Prime Minister's state visit to make further commitments to doing so.●

COMMEMORATING BRANDON BURLSWORTH

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, it is not often that I rise to speak about specific individuals, but the individual I want to talk about today was a man of extraordinary character, Brandon Burlsworth.

Last Wednesday, I was saddened to learn about the tragic and untimely death of Brandon Burlsworth. Brandon was only 22 years old when a car accident ended his life. While his time on this earth was short, his impact on our world will be long lasting. Brandon was a hero to the community of Harrison, the Razorback family, and the entire state of Arkansas.

Brandon lived the kind of life that would make any parent proud. He led a wholesome life, and was a devout Christian who used his faith and strong work ethic to become a success in every facet of life.

Brandon was not a highly recruited athlete coming out of Harrison High School. Several small colleges expressed interest in him, but Brandon had his sights on walking on at Fayetteville and becoming a Razorback. While the odds were long, Brandon worked hard and not only made the team, but went on to start for the Razorbacks for three years. Last year, he earned All-American honors, while leading Arkansas to the SEC West Co-Championship and a berth in the Citrus Bowl. Last month, the Indianapolis Colts selected Brandon in the third round of the National Football League draft.

Not only was Brandon a disciplined player on the field, he was an outstanding student in the classroom as well. Brandon earned a bachelor's degree in marketing management and a master's in business administration,

all in 4½ years. In addition, he was a three time member of the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

Today, newspapers and newscasts are often filled with stories about athletes and their brushes with the law. Brandon became a symbol of how student athletes should conduct themselves. The manner in which he conducted himself on and off the field will be Brandon's legacy. He was a young man of great character and dedication. While I recognize that words alone provide little comfort in times such as these, I hope that Brandon's family knows how many lives this young man has touched.●

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1999

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 5. I further ask that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and that the Senate then proceed to vote on the adoption of S. Res. 94, which is at the desk.

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

Mr. GRAMM. I now ask unanimous consent that it be in order to ask for the yeas and nays on S. Res. 94.

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

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I now ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. GRAMM. I ask unanimous consent that immediately following the vote, there be a period of morning business until 11 a.m., with the time equally divided. I further ask that the first half of the time be allocated to Senator COVERDELL and the second half of the time to be allocated to Senator DORGAN or his designee.

I also ask consent that at 11 a.m. the Senate resume consideration of S. 900, the financial modernization bill, and the pending Sarbanes amendment.

I finally ask that the time until 12 noon be equally divided between Senator GRAMM and Senator SARBANES, and that Senator GRAMM be recognized at 12 noon to make a motion to table the pending Sarbanes amendment to S. 900.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. GRAMM. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and will immediately proceed to a rollcall vote on adoption of S. Res. 94. Following the vote, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. At 11