

want to say personally that my term is ending shortly as president of the Association. I want to thank the Board and the Executive Committee for their great support, and all of you for your support of the Association and just for giving me the honor and the privilege to serve as your president for the last 2 years. It has truly been a wonderful 2 years to work on the programs here.

And I want to thank Sam Nunn, too, for honoring us here to receive the award and for his great remarks. Thank you so much, Sam. And to our bipartisan leaders of the current Members who have come to greet us.

We have a wonderful program today, starting in just a few minutes, with a press panel over in the Cannon House Office Building, but with that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back my time and conclude my report.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has concluded his report, but before terminating these proceedings, the Chair would like to recognize the gentleman from Florida, Lou Frey, for a special presentation.

Mr. FREY. Mr. Speaker, this will just take a couple of minutes, but I think this is really important. It is a great privilege for me to recognize the outgoing president, Larry LaRocco, for his many years of outstanding service to the organization. As he just said, his term as president comes to an end this year, and all of us, members of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, Association members and our staff, wish to thank Larry for his exceptional leadership. He has amazing drive and energy, and he has brought a vision to the presidency like few others before him.

Ever since he joined our Association, he has been such a great asset, and we are glad he will remain on our Board and on the Executive Committee even now that his term as president is ending. In my opinion, and I know many of my colleagues share in this assessment, this Association has taken quantum leaps since Larry became president.

He has talked about the Congress to Campus program that has almost quadrupled in size, the international component that we have, and the tours to Taiwan, France and Germany. In addition, Larry has brought us into the 22nd century, I think, with his space-age technology, and he continues to drag us in that direction.

I personally believe that because of Larry LaRocco's leadership, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress is perceived as a vibrant and engaged NGO that allows its unique membership to continue their service to the country. He took existing programs and made them better. He brought ideas to the table that upon implementation have resulted in new and exciting ventures for our Association.

Larry, you just did an incredible job. We thank you so much. And on behalf of the Association, I would like to

present this plaque to you, which is just a small token of the thanks for so many years of effort and such a great job, and we truly are blessed with your service. Thank you so much, Larry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman yields back his time.

The Chair again wishes to thank the former Members of the House for their presence here today. And to reiterate the remarks of the gentleman from Idaho, for all those Members present who did not record their presence, please come to the reading clerk and be so designated.

Good luck to you all.

The Chair announces that the House will reconvene at 10:45 a.m.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House continued in recess.

□ 1045

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) at 10 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and that all Members and former Members who spoke during the recess have the privilege of revising and extending their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

JOHN KERRY DOES NOT BELONG IN THE WHITE HOUSE

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on this day in 1971, JOHN KERRY showed his true colors; and they are not red, white, and blue.

Before the Senate, before America, and before the world, he blasted our Nation, chastised our troops, and hurt our morale. He famously declared that soldiers tortured innocent Vietnamese and that America was the worse violator of the Geneva Conventions, not Vietnam.

In 1971 when JOHN KERRY had the freedom to stand up to defy duty, honor, and country, I just emerged from 4 years of solitary confinement, where the Vietnamese did not adhere to the Geneva Conventions.

What he did was nothing short of aiding and abetting the enemy. A person like JOHN KERRY does not belong in the White House.

Is it any wonder my comrades from Vietnam and I have a nickname for

him similar to "Hanoi Jane"? He is called "Hanoi John."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would ask Members not to refer in a personal way to Senators who are candidates for President.

RISING COSTS OF COLLEGE EDUCATION

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today's New York Times states that middle-class families are being edged out of the prestigious universities by rising costs of college education. Access to college for middle-class families has worsened over the last few years, another example of the middle-class squeeze in America.

The greatest disservice that we have done to middle-class families in America is to convince them of the necessity of college education for their children and then priced it out of reach for their children.

College tuition at public universities has increased by 14 percent last year and in certain States by 20 or 30 percent. In my home State of Illinois today, when a college graduate gets a diploma, on the backside is their first Visa bill. Every kid graduates with an average of \$15,000 of debt.

College tuition is running three times the rate of inflation; but Congress has not made the investment in higher education, and costs have soared. While college costs have skyrocketed, Pell grants have been frozen for 3 years. And in the year in which we are to reauthorize the Higher Education Act which deals with Pell grants and Perkins loans, what has Congress done?

RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF 432ND CIVIL AFFAIRS BATTALION

(Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize before this House the brave members of the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion who are returning home today from their overseas deployment.

Northeastern Wisconsin is often called the "land of legends" for our fabled football team, the Green Bay Packers. The gridiron leadership of men like Lombardi and Lambeau and Nitschke made Green Bay synonymous with strength and courage and triumph.

But it is not our sports heroes who make our area truly legendary. It is our servicemen and -women who have put their lives on the line to defend freedom. Under the most difficult conditions, brave troops of the 432nd have