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A TRIBUTE TO ERIC HARNISCHFEGER
• Mr. GREGG, Mr. President, I want to mention the efforts of Special Agent Eric Harnischfeger, who has been on detail from the U.S. Secret Service to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary for the consideration of the fiscal year 2000 bill. Eric has been a considerable asset to the subcommittee, as well as to his family of origin and all of our other difficult law enforcement accounts. His management of counterterrorism programs, office of justice programs, and state and local law enforcement accounts is greatly appreciated. Eric’s ability to provide keen insight and a friendly manner toward any task he is asked to deal with assured a competent resolution.

Eric’s professionalism, wit, and jovial manner will be missed. Agent Harnischfeger is one of the height standards that the Secret Service is known for and has done an excellent job for us. I just want to thank him publicly for all his efforts over the past year. Based on his performance here, I am sure he has a bright future at the Service. We wish him the very best.

ON THE DEATH OF AKIO MORITA
• Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. President, today I rise to note the passing of Akio Morita, the brilliant Japanese business leader who did so much to rebuild his country after World War II. I ask that his obituary that appeared in the October 4 New York Times be printed in the Record.

The obituary follows:

[From the New York Times, Oct. 4, 1999]

AKIO MORITA, CO-FOUNDER OF SONY AND JAPANESE BUSINESS LEADER, DIES AT 78

(By Andrew Pollack)

Akio Morita, the co-founder of the Sony Corporation who personified Japan’s rise from postwar rubble to industrial riches and became the unofficial ambassador of its business community to the world, died on Sunday in Tokyo. He was 78.

Morita died of pneumonia, according to Sony. He had been hospitalized in Tokyo since August, after returning from Hawaii, where he had spent most of his time since suffering a debilitating stroke in November 1998. Morita’s philosophy and management style were admired by the world. He was the unofficial ambassador of Sony and Japanese business leaders, and his legacy will be missed.

In Japan, Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, who was one of several hundred people to visit Mr. Morita’s Tokyo home following his death, called Mr. Morita “a leading figure who played a pivotal role in developing Japan’s postwar economy,” according to Kyodo News Service.

Sony’s current president, Nobuyuki Idei, said in a statement, “It is not an exaggeration to say that he was the face of Japan.”

To the day of his death, nearly six years after the stroke that removed him from an active role in business, he was still no doubt Japan’s most famous business executive, and the only one many Americans could name or recognize in a photograph.

As Japan’s most famous business executive, and the only one many Americans could name or recognize in a photograph recently selected him as one of 20 “most influential business geniuses” of the 20th century, the only non-American on the list.

In the 1960s, when the country was on the rise, he was seen as effacing, Mr. Morita was viewed as a bit flamboyant and arrogant. He was the first to fly around a corporate business jet and helicopter. He appeared in a television commercial for the American Express card. He served on the boards of three foreign companies. He took up sports like skiing, scuba diving and wind surfing in his sixties. He competed with the rock star Cyndi Lauper after Sony bought CBS Records.

Shortly before he suffered his stroke, Mr. Morita made waves in his home country by saying that Japan was like a “fortress” and that its unique business practices were alienating its trading partners. Although there is much to commend in Japan’s economic system, it is simply too far out of sync with the West on certain essential points," he wrote in The Atlantic Monthly in June 1993. His words were soon rejected by Japanese companies and a sharp cutback in government regulation. Now, as Japan struggles through an economic slump that has lasted most of the decade, some of what Mr. Morita advocated is being adopted.

“Japan was coming closer to him and seeing more for that kind of leadership,” said Yoshihiro Tsurumi, professor of international business at the Baruch Graduate...