

(5) when considering requests by the Russian government for loans or other economic assistance from the International Monetary Fund and other international financial institutions, the United States government should take into account the extent to which Russian government authorities support the full, free, and unfettered freedom of the news media and freedom of expression in deciding whether to support such requests; and

(6) the President and the Secretary of State are requested to convey to appropriate Russian Government officials, including the President, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, this expression of the views of the Congress.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF COLONEL  
RICHARD F. ROTHENBURG

**HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I call to your attention the outstanding public service of one of our Nation's finest military attorneys and a dear personal friend of mine, Colonel Richard F. Rothenburg the Chief Judge of the United States Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals. On May 1, 1999, Colonel Rothenburg will retire after 30 years of especially distinguished service. Colonel Rothenburg was born in Washington, DC. After graduating from Catonsville High School, Maryland, he received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Maryland in 1964, and his bachelor of law (LLB) degree in 1967 from the University of Maryland School of Law. The Chief Judge received his commission in 1964 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Program. After completing his legal studies, Colonel Rothenburg entered active duty in 1967. Colonel Rothenburg was first assigned to Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. In 1969, Colonel Rothenburg was assigned to Headquarters 7th Air Force, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam. In addition to serving as both a prosecutor and defense counsel, Colonel Rothenburg sat as a military trial judge on 27 courts-martial during his tour in Vietnam. Colonel Rothenburg is the only officer still on active duty to have served as an Air Force judge advocate in Vietnam. Colonel Rothenburg's other early assignments included positions as Assistant Staff Judge Advocate at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, and Staff Judge Advocate at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. Colonel Rothenburg attended Air Command and Staff College between 1978 and 1979, then took the reins as Staff Judge Advocate at Langley Air force Base, Virginia; then the home of Tactical Air Command. Colonel Rothenburg was next selected to serve as a military judge for all air bases in Europe, where he presided at more than 150 felony trials. Colonel Rothenburg returned from Europe in 1986 to serve as the Air Force Tactical Fighter Weapons Center Staff Judge Advocate at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. Then, from

1988 to 1992, he served as the 15th Air Force Staff Judge Advocate at March Air Force Base, California. In 1992, Colonel Rothenburg was selected to serve as the Director of the United States Air Force Judiciary in Washington, DC. As Director, Colonel Rothenburg oversaw a 3.5 million dollar budget and 350 people directly involved in the Air Force's worldwide military justice system. Based on his vast experience in military justice and impeccable judicial temperament, Colonel Rothenburg was selected in 1997 to serve as the Chief Judge of the nine-member Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals. He was sworn in as Chief Judge on April 2, 1997. In the face of a blistering docket average of 600 appellate opinions per year and an undermanned Court, Chief Judge Rothenburg led the Court to its lowest backlog of cases awaiting review in a decade. At the same time, Chief Judge Rothenburg guided the Court into the uncharted waters of electronic pleading at the federal appellate level. Chief Judge Rothenburg's influence on the shape of military appellate law and practice will endure well into the next century.

Colonel Rothenburg's military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze service stars, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm leaf. Colonel Rothenburg is a member of the bar in Maryland and the District of Columbia. He is married to the former Linda Lee Gossard of Hagerstown, Maryland. They have two children: Richard and Anne. I ask that you join me, his colleagues, and Colonel Rothenburg's many friends in saluting this distinguished officer's three decades of service to the United States of America. I know our Nation, his wife Linda, and their children are extremely proud of his accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM A. COBURN**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 18, I was visiting with officials in Albania and consequently was not present for Roll Call votes 57 through 59. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 57, agreeing to the resolution providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 4. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 58, the motion to recommit with instructions. I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 59, passage of H.R. 4, a bill to declare it to be the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSEUMS AT  
STONY BROOK

**HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in this hallowed chamber to pay tribute to The Museums at Stony Brook. This year marks the 60th anniversary for the historic museums located in beautiful Stony Brook, Long Island.

Since the Museums at Stony Brook first opened their doors in 1939, they have helped to spread the wonderful history of our local community. Their praise and revival of Long Island's celebrated past has been a great benefit to our families, schools and neighborhoods. The museums have helped countless numbers of Long Islanders remember their history and increase their respect for its rich and vibrant culture.

Led by Museum President, Deborah Johnson, the Museums have enriched Long Islanders by spreading the legacy of Ward and Dorothy Melville, two of Long Island's most respected citizens. The Museum has reached out to all members of our community, young and old, to keep sacred Long Island's past. The museum's importance to our community is truly evident in their success for sixty strong years.

In particular, one Museum program deserves special recognition, it is their summer program for children. The Museum enlists community volunteers to help teach their children about their past, while creating an enjoyable environment. The success of this program has contributed to the vital and vibrant participation of the Museum in our community. This is a fine example of the community spirit that is evident in my Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring 60 years of devoted service to our community. I only hope that the Museums at Stony Brook will be able to continue to further enrich our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROGER F. WICKER**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 50, on House Congressional Resolution 819, Federal Maritime Commission Authorization Act of 1999, I was unavailable to vote because I was returning from a bipartisan Congressional Delegation trip to Russia. The objectives of this four-day trip included meetings with the Russian Duma and other governmental officials concerning the missile defense threat as outlined in the report of the Rumsfeld Commission. Our delegation was joined in Moscow by former Secretary Don Rumsfeld and two members of his commission, Mr. Jim Woolsey and Mr. William Schneider, Jr.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."