

cooperative agreement that has worked well for the United States and worked well for Russia. So I compliment and applaud my friend, the Senator from North Dakota.

HONORING ANDRE AGASSI

Mr. REID. Mr. President, yesterday, I got up very early. I had a 6:30 a.m. flight leaving from Reno, NV. I was very concerned because that same day, that same time, my friend and someone who is very important to the State of Nevada, Andre Agassi, was playing for the championship of the French Open. This is a tournament that is world renowned. My friend and one of Nevada's favorite citizens was playing in that championship.

Just a few months ago, he had a series of injuries, and people said he was not going to compete anymore on the high scale he had in the past. He surprised everyone, except himself and the people from the State of Nevada. We have seen this young man time and time again do things that were said could not be done. There were people who said over the years he did not have the basic skills great tennis players have, but he, of course, has shown them that simply is not true.

When I arrived in Denver, one of the first things I did was run to a television set to see how Andre was doing. How disappointed I was. He had lost the first two sets, and lost them overwhelmingly; he had been beaten, and he was behind in the third set. If you lose the third set, it is all over. On the entire trip from Denver to Washington, I was very despondent. This opportunity for Andre Agassi to make world history was slowly dissipating as I traveled the skies. I knew the news would be bad when I arrived at Dulles.

I asked the first person whom I had a chance: What happened to Andre? He said he won. He won the French Open.

I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Andre Agassi. As I have already mentioned, he is a prominent Nevadan who has become the first man in 30 years to win tennis' four grand slam events. Andre, who lost the first two sets to Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev, rallied in dramatic form, to say the least, to win the French Open on June 6, 1999, yesterday. He won at Wimbledon in 1992, the U.S. Open in 1994, and the Australian Open in 1995. Andre Agassi now joins the ranks of tennis immortals Fred Perry, Don Budge, Roy Emerson, and Rod Laver. Not only does this assure him of a place in the record books, but also marks a successful resurgence into the very elite of the tennis world.

Andre in previous years has been ranked No. 1. He started a few months ago, ranked 140th in the Nation. He now, of course, is in the top 10 and is rising to where he will be ranked No. 1 again. He was ranked as high as No. 3 about a year ago.

Andre Agassi has proven himself to be not only a world-class athlete but a great citizen of the State of Nevada who has continually given back to his community. He should be recognized not only for his athletic prowess, but he should be recognized for what he has done in charitable endeavors in the State of Nevada.

In April of 1998, the Andre Agassi Boys and Girls Club in west Las Vegas, a minority community, was chartered as the 2,000th Boys and Girls Club in the Nation. This club provides a positive alternative to time on the streets for the youth of Las Vegas and is dedicated to the aid and education of children who are at risk of becoming involved with gangs, drugs, or both.

Not only has Andre Agassi done this, but he has also founded the Andre Agassi Charitable Foundation dedicated to the continued support of children's organizations, as well as domestic violence support programs.

Andre Agassi has done more than make appearances. He personally has given and raised millions of dollars to these charities. He is an outstanding example of an athlete and demonstrates how they should return to their communities.

I admire Andre Agassi for a number of reasons, some of which I have laid out today. He is a great athlete and, of course, we all admire great athletes. He is a great athlete who has returned much to his community. But one of the reasons I admire Andre Agassi is he has not forgotten from where he came. He recognizes the millions he has made in endorsements, and playing tennis did not come, in effect, because he was born with a silver spoon in his mouth. He recognizes he came from a family that had very little. He came from a family that worked in the restaurants and hotels of Las Vegas. He has not forgotten his roots. It is this trait I admire more than any other of this world renowned athlete. I am pleased to acknowledge the achievements of this great athlete, great Nevadan, great American, Andre Agassi.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the individuals on the list which I send to the desk be granted the privilege of the floor during the consideration of the defense appropriations bill.

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

The list is as follows:

Sid Ashworth, Dan Elwell, Tom Hawkins, Bob Henke, Susan Hogan, Mazie Mattson, Gary Reese, Candice Rogers, Kraig Siracuse, John Young, Charlie Houy, and Emelie East.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to the consideration of S. 1122, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1122) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. I thank the Chair for bringing the Department of Defense appropriations bill for fiscal year 2000 before the Senate.

It is my privilege to once again bring this defense bill to the Members of the Senate in partnership with my distinguished colleague, the Senator from Hawaii.

I hope all Senators were able to see or at least learn of the very distinguished memorial that was created to honor the 442nd, which was the most decorated unit of World War II; our colleague, Senator INOUE, was part of that unit. I am very pleased we are once again able to come before the Senate to pursue a matter of great concern to each of us, and that is the defense of our country.

We have served together on this subcommittee now for more than 20 years, and we have been chairman or ranking member, depending upon the political tides of this country. I want the Senate to know that I could not have brought this bill to the Senate so early this year without the wisdom, experience, and judgment of my good friend from Hawaii.

I also commend Senator LEVIN and Senator WARNER of the authorization committee for their handling of the defense authorization bill. We have worked closely together with that committee to stay close to the budget and the policy determinations which were made in the armed services bill. Amendments which we will offer later today reflect adjustments made to that bill to make this appropriations bill fully compatible with the authorization process.

As Senator INOUE and I reported to the committee when we considered this bill in the committee, and as reflected by the Armed Services Committee in their bill, the military has faced a difficult challenge in meeting critical readiness and quality-of-life needs while modernizing our total force for the 21st century.

The armed services have sought to maintain that balance while undertaking contingency operations in the Balkans, southwest Asia, and the heightened alert on the Korean peninsula. Last month, the Congress, at our request, provided a second emergency supplemental bill for the fiscal year 1999 to meet some of those contingency requirements.