

February 27, 2001

A TRIBUTE TO NASA EMPLOYEES
AT MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT
CENTER

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the NASA employees and contractors at Marshall Space Flight Center for their role in the successful delivery of NASA's Destiny Laboratory Module, the second of the U.S. pressurized modules, to the International Space Station. I am proud to say that the extremely talented men and women of the Boeing Company built Destiny in my district at the Marshall Space Flight Center. This includes the successful design, development, assembly, integration, and testing of Destiny, as well as its delivery to Kennedy Space Center in November 1998.

The Destiny Laboratory, the long-awaited centerpiece of the Space Station, will allow the United States and its international partners to perform fundamental science experiments around-the-clock in the microgravity environment of space. This state-of-the-art module has a capacity of 24 rack locations, of which 13 are especially designed to support important scientific research. Once these racks arrive on later Shuttle flights, scientists can begin fundamental long-term research in space that can help improve the quality of human life back on Earth. Some of the first experiments will focus on the growth of proteins in the absence of the effects of gravity, hopefully leading to a better understanding of the true structure of harmful viruses that develop under strong gravitational effects on Earth. The Station will also allow researchers to study how the human body is affected by long-term exposure to the low-gravity environment of space, which is a crucial first step in establishing a human presence elsewhere in our solar system.

Mr. Speaker, while Destiny is primarily intended to be the key U.S. science facility on board Station, the addition of this engineering marvel to the current Space Station configuration on-orbit will also expand the Station's power, life support, and attitude control capabilities. It will enable the transfer of flight control responsibilities from the Russians to NASA personnel, providing command and control capability for NASA's Mission Control in Houston. The Station had been under Russian command and control since the launch of the Russian-built Zarya Module in November 1998. The addition of the Destiny Laboratory, which is 28 feet in length and 14 feet in diameter, will also give Station occupants more habitable space than was available aboard Skylab or Mir.

The launch of Destiny now allows NASA to focus on providing other high priority capabilities necessary to complete the ISS. One of these capabilities will be provided by the U.S. Propulsion System, and is necessary to eliminate our dependence on the propulsion systems on board the Russian Service Module and the regular launch of Russian Progress vehicles. It is also time for NASA to aggressively move forward with the U.S. Habitation

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Module, which would provide safe living quarters for the full complement of seven Station inhabitants. This is the module that will provide for the crew and enable a full vigorous science research program to bring about the expected return on the taxpayer's investment in this unique national resource. Mr. Speaker, the Habitation Module and much of the Propulsion System will be built at the Marshall Space Flight Center by Boeing—the same highly skilled team that also constructed the U.S. Unity node—and therefore I believe they will be in good hands.

Mr. Speaker, North Alabama has a long heritage of spacecraft construction, starting with the rockets that placed men in Earth orbit and eventually on the Moon. I am proud to congratulate the world-class Space Station team in North Alabama for continuing this proud heritage of excellence with the development of the Destiny Laboratory Module. I expect it to be one of the highlights of this year's space program.

FISCAL DISCIPLINE MUST APPLY
TO PENTAGON ALSO

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, in an area where we talk about our military budgets in almost unbounded terms—whether it's the hundreds of billions of dollars of accounting entries in Pentagon books that can't be supported, or the multiple billions of dollars that Congress added to the Pentagon's coffers in recent years beyond what the administration requested—it's easy to lose any sense of scale about this spending or the sacrifices we make for such largess. Therefore, I submit into the RECORD the following piece by John Isaacs, President of the Council for a Livable World and one the most thoughtful voices in America on the subject of rational national security spending.

PENTAGON UPSET WITH \$14 BILLION BOOST
(By John Isaacs)

President George W. Bush's recent decision to use the Clinton Administration's defense budget request for fiscal 2002 has set off a wave of criticism. Big defense spenders are angry that the \$310 billion request for Department of Defense programs is only a \$14 billion increase from last year's budget. Only in Washington would a \$14 billion raise be considered "paltry." To put it in perspective here are some comparisons:

How much is \$14 billion?

It's more than the defense budgets of all the states of concern—Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Cuba, Sudan and Syria combined (\$12.8 billion).

It's greater than total federal spending on law enforcement activities including the FBI, DEA and the INS (\$13.6 billion). President Bush just announced he will cut the Justice Department budget by one billion dollars.

It's equal to the entire budget of the U.S. Treasury Department.

It's more than the federal government spends on higher education (\$13.8 billion).

It's almost as much as the non-military international affairs budget (\$15 billion).

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It's equal to all federal government expenditures on water resources, conservation and land management, and recreational resources combined (\$14.3 billion).

It's greater than the Gross Domestic Products of 40 individual nations including: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Angola, Estonia, Chad, Cambodia, Niger, Madagascar, Jamaica, Haiti, Trinidad & Tobago, Qatar and Papua New Guinea.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
THE ENGAGEMENT OF CAROLINE
MULLEN AND CARLOS ESPINOSA

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Caroline and Carlos are to be united in marriage;

Whereas, they will declare their love before God, family and friends;

Whereas, this momentous day will begin their years of sharing, loving and working together;

Whereas, may Caroline and Carlos be blessed with all the happiness and love that two people can share and may their love grow with each passing year;

Whereas, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Caroline and Carlos on their recent engagement. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Caroline and Carlos many years of happiness together.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE TOWN OF HAD-
LEY

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the town of Hadley, New York, February 27, 2001.

I have always been proud of the heritage and physical beauty of the 22nd Congressional district of New York which I have the privilege to represent. To savor the history and character of the picturesque towns in the Hudson Valley and Adirondack Mountains is the reason that I return home every weekend.

We often forget that the real America is the small towns and villages that are rich in pride and culture, and not the bustle of Washington. It is these small towns and villages where the great traditions of this country were founded. I would like to talk about one of these great towns today.

Mr. Speaker, the town of Hadley, New York in Saratoga County will be commemorating 200 years of existence since they separated from the nearby towns of Greenfield and Northumberland back in 1801. Hadley is one of the many beautiful river towns that we have in New York State. Located at the southern gateway to the Adirondacks and where the Sacandaga River meets the Hudson River, Hadley has endured many transformations.