

ask questions, have fun, and learn. That's what school is all about.

And once again, I want to thank you for this warm welcome, for a chance to spend some time with you in the classroom, and for the opportunity to share this proud moment for Slanesville.

And now I am honored to present this crystal apple—an apple for the teacher—to the 1991 Teacher of the Year, Rae Ellen McKee.

Mrs. McKee. Mr. President, I thank you on behalf of the teachers of America. Your being here today is an honor that most of us never dreamed we would have. And as important as this day will always be to me and to my colleagues in the teaching ranks, I think it is even more special because you have once again demonstrated your commitment to the young people of America.

And at this time, I thank you on their behalf.

Note: The President spoke at 10:01 a.m. on the grounds of Slanesville Elementary School. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander, former Governor of Tennessee; Gov. Gaston Caperton of West Virginia; former Representative Harley D. Staggers, Jr.; Cleve Benedict, State agriculture commissioner; Henry R. Marockie, State superintendent of schools; John Quam, project director of the National Teacher of the Year program for the Council of Chief State School Officers; and Gary Kidwell and Rae Ellen McKee, principal and reading teacher at Slanesville Elementary School. Following his remarks, the President returned to Washington, DC.

Appointment of C. Gregg Petersmeyer as Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of National Service

April 10, 1991

The President today announced the appointment of C. Gregg Petersmeyer, of Colorado, to be Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of National Service at the White House.

Since January 1989 Mr. Petersmeyer has been Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of National Service. Prior to this Mr. Petersmeyer was a senior officer of the General Atlantic Energy Corp., a private oil and gas exploration company in Denver, CO. Before moving to Denver in 1982, Mr. Petersmeyer was with McKinsey & Co., Inc., in New York and has also been a member of the Hudson

Institute. From 1972 to 1974 Mr. Petersmeyer served as a staff assistant in the White House. Mr. Petersmeyer is chairman of the Fizzie Foundation, a nonprofit public foundation that annually recognizes and rewards outstanding girls and young women from four schools in the Boston area.

Mr. Petersmeyer received a bachelor of arts degree with honors from Harvard College, a master of literature degree from Oxford University, and a master of business administration degree from Harvard Business School. Mr. Petersmeyer resides in Bethesda, MD, with his three children.

Remarks at the Swearing-In Ceremony for Patricia F. Saiki as Administrator of the Small Business Administration

April 10, 1991

The President. Good afternoon, Secretary Martin and distinguished friends from the

United States Congress. And of course, a special welcome to the members of Pat's

family with whom I just met. And it's a pleasure to have you all here for this very special occasion. And it's also a pleasure—the business at hand—to welcome a good friend on board as this nation's new Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Pat Saiki will be bringing her own spirit of aloha to this job. And for those who don't know what I mean, just watch. Watch how she does over there. You talk about enthusiasm and ability, you're going to see it all, all at once.

I'm pleased that she's going to be heading up the SBA because small business is so vitally important. Small business—the heart of our country's economy. In the 1980's, small business produced two out of every three new jobs. But more importantly, they're the heart of the American dream. The SBA was founded to encourage that spirit and that belief in our ability to make our dreams come true.

Owners of small businesses show the rest of America the way. And they've seized control of their own lives, made their own choices, made their own decisions. And over 20 million men and women across the U.S. today are running their own small businesses—20 million pieces of the American dream. Pat Saiki's going to be their advocate, their tough, smart advocate.

I know her, and I know she'll throw her whole energy and dedication into this challenge because Pat will be responsible for more than administration and policy development. She's going to have the chance to help people shape their own futures. She'll do this by expanding SBA's role in providing start-up guidance; by concentrating on business opportunities for minorities, women, and veterans; by focusing on outreach.

Pat will be a dynamic champion of small business. She's got the strong background for it. She's been a board member of a big company—Hawaiian Airlines, of AMFAC, one of Hawaii's largest companies with extensive small business interconnections. And she received the Congressional Guardian of Small Business Award.

In public service, Pat's proven herself as an effective administrator of can-do optimism. This former teacher and assistant Re-

publican leader in her State legislature became the first Republican elected to the House from Hawaii. And now she'll bring to the SBA stellar House committee experience ranging from banking and finance to consumer interests.

During her two terms in the Congress, I admired her bipartisan approach to getting the job done, watched her build consensus. She's smart, and she's direct, and she moves government forward.

Pat's also a fiscal conservative. As a matter of fact, her efforts against waste in government made her a two-time winner of the Golden Bulldog Award. I like that image. [Laughter] It kind of captures her personality—but nevertheless, tenacious—[laughter]—dedicated. I mean, tenacious, dedicated—[laughter]—protective, honest.

But Pat comes from a land that showed the world how men and women of varied backgrounds can tie their destinies together in common cause. And I know she's going to help show all of us how we can work together, can use our exuberant diversity to make this nation the best place it possibly can be.

Aloha, Pat. Welcome and congratulations. And now on with the formal part of the service here. All right.

[At this point, Administrator Saiki was sworn in.]

Administrator Saiki. Thank you very much. Mr. President, Justice O'Connor, Governor Sununu, my congressional colleagues, all of my friends, my family, aloha.

I have been very fortunate to have faced many challenges in my lifetime. But by far this opportunity to serve my President and my nation is the greatest challenge of them all. And I thank you, Mr. President, for the privilege.

The small business community, made up of aspiring entrepreneurs, risk-takers with the same pioneer spirit which made our nation great, deserve encouragement and recognition as we move into the 20th century.

Your encouraging remarks, Mr. President, I know will be appreciated by all those men

and women who truly believe that ours is still the nation of opportunity. I shall do my best to deserve your trust and faith and earn the confidence of those I shall serve.

I want to especially thank my dear husband, Stanley; my mother; my father; all of my children—my entire family—for sticking by me all these years. And there have been ups, and there have been downs, but I know they will be with me again as we embark on this new and exciting journey.

Mr. President, I thank you very much for making this all possible.

The President. Thank you all very much for coming. And again to the family, our

respects; I'm delighted. And I didn't pay my respects to Justice O'Connor—which is an oversight of enormous proportions—[laughter]—but I know Pat and I are both just honored that she would be here for this special occasion. Thank you, Sandra.

All rise, thank you all.

Note: The President spoke at 2:17 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In the ceremony, the following persons were referred to: Secretary of Labor Lynn Martin; Sandra Day O'Connor, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; and John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff to the President.

Statement on Signing the Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1991

April 10, 1991

Today I have signed H.R. 1282, the “Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1991.”

I am pleased that the Congress has acted quickly to provide funds to pay the costs of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. In providing this funding, H.R. 1282 recognizes the significant commitment of our coalition partners to help in defraying the costs associated with the crisis in the Middle East.

I am concerned, however, about certain provisions of this Act that constitute excessive micromanagement of security assistance, defense, and foreign policy. These provisions could hinder our ability to work with Desert Storm allies and friends in several ways and make our efforts to establish security and stability in the postwar Middle East even more difficult.

Section 107(f) requires that the President notify the Congress of the proposed storage of certain equipment, supplies, or material in a prepositioned status for use by the U.S. Armed Forces. I will interpret this provision in a manner consistent with my constitutional authority as Commander in Chief. In addition, section 107(g) requires that a report be provided to certain congressional

committees on “all enemy equipment falling under the control . . . of allied forces within the Desert Storm theater of operations.” To the extent that providing such a report requires the acquisition of information from another country, I will interpret this provision in a manner consistent with my constitutional authority to conduct our Nation's foreign affairs.

Section 108 requires a report to the Congress on “any arrangement for a United States military presence that has been made or is expected to be made to the government of any country in the Middle East.” I will also interpret this provision consistent with my constitutional authority regarding the conduct of foreign affairs.

Section 109 prohibits the use of funds—provided by this Act or any other legislation—for military sales and financing programs with any country that has not fulfilled its commitment to contribute resources to defray the costs of Operation Desert Storm. I will interpret section 109 as prohibiting such transactions if the countries concerned have not fulfilled any specific commitments made to the United States in a reasonable time and manner.

GEORGE BUSH