

Tibet at the March 16 meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

As the Dalai Lama has said, "Brute force, no matter how strongly applied, can never subdue the basic human desire for freedom and dignity. It is not enough, as communist systems have assumed, merely to provide people with food, shelter and clothing. The deeper human nature needs to breathe the precious air of liberty." It is time the government of China paid heed to his wise words.●

#### CLAWSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR"

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge Tamara Van Wormer Tazzia, winner of the Clawson, Michigan Chamber of Commerce "Business Person of the Year" Award. Ms. Tazzia is the owner and manager of the Tri-Centre Business Complex in Clawson and has been very active in the Clawson Chamber of Commerce, serving as a board member, for the past five years. This month she will take over as president of the Chamber.

In addition to her involvement in the Chamber of Commerce, Ms. Tazzia has an impressive list of accomplishments. Ms. Tazzia has over ten years experience in property management and eighteen years of entrepreneurial business experience. She is a past vice-president of the National Association of Women Business Owners and past president of both the Troy Toastmasters and Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club.

Ms. Tazzia will be honored at the Clawson Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner Saturday, March 21, 1998. I congratulate Ms. Tazzia on her award and commend her for her involvement in her community.●

#### TRIBUTE TO WAYNE NEWTON

● Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and perhaps the most recognizable Nevadan the world-over, Wayne Newton, for reaching his incredible fiftieth year in show business.

Wayne Newton has reached amazing goals in an industry in which success can be short lived. Before most Americans had heard of Elvis Presley or the Beatles, Wayne Newton released a best-selling record, sung for the President of the United States, and toured with the Grand Old Opry road show.

In a half-century, Wayne Newton has performed live for an astonishing fifteen million people and that number continues to grow each year. Tens of millions around the world have also enjoyed his talents through the radio, television, and movies.

Wayne's musical genius was recognized early in life. At the age of six, the precocious youngster was already dazzling audiences as the star of a radio show, which aired before he went

to school each morning. During his adolescent years, he entertained us through the new medium of television, performing regularly on our favorite variety shows. Americans quickly discovered Wayne's irresistible stage presence, enchanting voice, and charming smile.

While still a teenager, he headlined a Las Vegas show and became one of the area's most popular attractions. Indeed, over the years, millions of tourists flocked to the Silver State to enjoy the sunny climate, scrumptious buffets, spectacular lights, magnificent resorts, and, to be sure, the singular magic of Wayne Newton. Wayne's nickname, Mr. Las Vegas, is richly deserved, and, as his career has grown and met with amazing success, so has that great city.

At the age of 21, his single "Danke Schoen" made music history. Many of his songs have topped the charts, and there are too many to mention here, but some of my favorites include "Heart," "Summer Wind," and "Red Roses for a Blue Lady."

Wayne Newton's gifts extend well beyond his extraordinary showmanship and musical talent. For example, he has distinguished himself as a skilled actor, having been featured in ten films, and countless television and cable programs.

Many Americans are aware that Wayne Newton has earned a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, but how many know that he has been awarded the Medal for Distinguished Public Service, Founder's Award of St Jude's hospital, the VFW's Hall of Fame Award, the American Legion's Exceptional Citizen Award and the Humanitarian Award of the American Cancer Society's Research Center—just to name a few? After fifty years before the public eye, Wayne Newton has become one of the world's most prolific entertainers, but he has always found time and energy to devote to scores of worthy causes.

Wayne Newton's career is the stuff of legend. I am confident there will be many more years in which visitors to Las Vegas will be mesmerized by this amazing performer. It is hard to imagine anyone reaching greater heights of success, but certainly, if anyone could, it's Mr. Las Vegas. However, to me the greatest attribute of Wayne Newton is the quality of his friendship. He is above all my good friend.●

#### MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION HONOREE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise before you today to recognize Wesley A. Jones, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Mr. Jones, has been honored by the Michigan Council of Deliberation Scholarship Foundation, an organization of which he is a member.

Mr. Jones is being honored as an outstanding individual for his many business and civic contributions. Cur-

rently, Mr. Jones serves as Deputy for the Orient for Michigan. In addition, he serves as Deputy for Michigan for the United Supreme Council and is active in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction and USA Inc. Mr. Jones should be commended for his community activism as well. He serves as an active member of his church, treasurer of the Grand Rapids Urban League Board of Directors and Chair of the Minority Business Committee of the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce. His activity extends even beyond these organizations. Mr. Jones, an engineer and businessman is a father of six and grandfather of eight. It is quite apparent that Mr. Jones selflessly and freely gives of his time.

I am pleased to recognize the good work of Wesley A. Jones. He has been rightfully honored by the Michigan Council of Deliberation Scholarship Foundation.●

#### RESTORING DIPLOMATIC READINESS

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, in the coming weeks, the Committee on the Budget will begin consideration of the concurrent budget resolution for Fiscal Year 1999. I would like to take a few minutes today to discuss the continuing need for our government to provide sufficient resources for international affairs. Since becoming the ranking Democrat on the Committee on Foreign Relations, I have focused special attention on this question, because I believe that adequate funding for these programs is essential to our national interest.

With the collapse of communism and the dissolution of the Soviet empire, the United States has emerged as the world's sole remaining superpower. With that position comes a responsibility to take a leading role in international affairs. Around the globe, American leadership is essential to preserving stability and security, and advancing prosperity and economic opportunity.

The United States cannot remain an effective world leader without devoting sufficient resources to diplomatic readiness. Just as we need to maintain and train robust military forces in order to protect our security, we need a well-trained and well-equipped diplomatic corps to advance our nation's numerous international interests. Indeed, with the reductions in our military presence overseas in the last decade, it is all the more important that we maintain a robust diplomatic presence around the globe, and that our diplomats, who work on the front line of our national defense, have the resources necessary to do their jobs.

It is sometimes said that, in the modern information age, embassies and the diplomats who staff them are no longer relevant. The assertion is, in my view, absurd. While modern technology has eased communications and travel

across the miles, there is no substitute for being physically present in a foreign country. No one can fully comprehend all the intricacies of a nation's politics and government without living in that country. Equally important, diplomacy is about building trust; trust between governments cannot be secured over the phone and fax, but comes, ultimately, from personal relationships that are built over a period of time. In short, the telephone and the facsimile machine cannot replace the on-site presence of well-trained diplomats.

Unfortunately, in recent years we have short-changed our diplomats, and ultimately our nation's interests, by reducing funding for international affairs. Indeed, by almost every measure, the budget for international affairs has declined precipitously over the past decade. Importantly, Congress is waking up to this problem. In Fiscal 1998, Congress increased funding for the Function 150 account—which encompasses foreign affairs funding—for the first time in eight years. But measured against historical averages, funding for international affairs remains low.

According to a recent study by the Congressional Research Service (CRS) prepared at my request, the discretionary budget authority for Function 150 in Fiscal 1998—\$19.05 billion in Fiscal 1998 dollars—is 22.9 percent below the average of the past two decades (\$24.69 billion). Using constant FY 1998 dollars, in only two years in the last two decades (Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997) was foreign affairs funding at lower levels than the current fiscal year. Similarly, as a percentage of total budget authority, Function 150 funding in FY 1998 is 1.129 percent, nearly one-third below the annual average (1.653 percent) for the past two decades.

An examination of the subfunctions of the foreign affairs budget tells a similar story. Funding for international development activities is 14.7 percent below the average of the last twenty years. Security assistance in Fiscal 1998 is 46.4 percent less, in real terms, than the average of the past two decades. Foreign information and exchanges—this is, the broadcasting, public diplomacy and exchange programs carried out by the Broadcasting Board of Governors and the U.S. Information Agency—are at a level 13.3 percent below the average of the period covered by the CRS study.

Only the "Conduct of Foreign Affairs" subfunction, which includes State Department operational costs, as well as contributions to international organizations and peacekeeping, is above the twenty-year average. But it should be emphasized that the budget for this category in Fiscal 1998 is the smallest, in real terms, since Fiscal 1990. Moreover, the relative size of this category, as compared to the 1970s and 1980s, can be explained by significant increases in the international peacekeeping account, an account which was small during the Cold War, but has in-

creased substantially since the late-1980s.

Ethnic conflicts and regional rivalries—long submerged during the Cold War—have led to the creation of more U.N. peacekeeping missions in the last decade than there were in the previous three decades of the United Nations. In Fiscal 1990, for example, U.S. contributions to peacekeeping was \$81 million. By Fiscal 1994, largely because of the U.N. operations in Bosnia and Somalia, this account totaled \$1.07 billion. The United States bears 25 percent of the cost of these missions, and paid 31 percent prior to 1994.

I am pleased that the President has recognized the importance of assuring enhanced funding for foreign affairs by requesting \$20.15 billion in Fiscal 1999, roughly one billion dollars over Fiscal 1998. I would like to briefly discuss the highlights of this request, and the notable increases within it.

First, the budget for State Department operations contains two important initiatives. First, the Department seeks authority to construct a new embassy in Beijing, China, and to begin construction on a new embassy in Berlin, Germany. Both projects are essential. Our embassy in Beijing is in deplorable condition, and is barely sufficient given our important interests there. The decision of the German government to move its capital from Bonn to Berlin necessitates the construction of the new embassy there. Several years ago, Congress urged the State Department to fund capital projects of this sort from proceeds derived from sales of existing assets. Because of uncertainties in several foreign real estate markets, however, several anticipated sales have not been realized, thus requiring the Department to seek funding for these construction projects, which I support.

Second, the State Department seeks an increase in its Capital Investment Fund, which provides resources for modernizing its aging information technology infrastructure. The Department is significantly behind the times technologically. In many important posts and offices, it remains reliant on obsolete and obsolescent computer and telecommunications technology. To give just one example, the Department still has an ample supply of Wang computers; several generations of computer technology have emerged since the Wangs were installed, and it is long past time for the Department to replace these antiquated systems. Information is central to the task of diplomacy; modernizing these systems is essential to enable our diplomats to perform their jobs.

The foreign assistance budget contains three increases which are critical to American interests. First, the Administration seeks an increase in the assistance for the Newly Independent States (NIS) of the Former Soviet Union, from \$770 million to \$925 million. These programs are designed to assist the nations of the region, includ-

ing Russia, to make the transition from communism to democratic capitalism. A similar U.S. effort in Eastern Europe has already resulted in the "graduation" of several nations from U.S. aid programs, demonstrating that American assistance to this region need not be permanent.

Second, the Administration requests \$216 million for the Non-Proliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining and Related Programs account, an increase over the \$133 million appropriated in Fiscal 1998. This funds a number of key programs, including the effort to keep former Soviet scientists employed on useful projects—a program designed to prevent them from selling their knowledge and skills to rogue regimes. Like the Nunn-Lugar program, which is funded in the 050 account, the Science Center program is a critical element in a strategy of containment—a strategy directed not at a nation or ideology, but at controlling the threat posed by the proliferation of dangerous technologies.

Third, the Administration seeks a significant increase in the budget for international narcotics and law enforcement at the State Department. Specifically, it requested \$275 million, a \$44 million increase. These resources are required to continue the ongoing struggle against the narcotics cartels in this hemisphere and elsewhere.

I commend the President for seeking a 20 percent increase in the budget for the Peace Corps, an increase designed to put the Corps on a path to 10,000 volunteers by the year 2000, well above the current number of 6,500 volunteers. The Peace Corps represents the best of American values and ideals, and advances American interests overseas immeasurably.

Finally, the Administration has requested a supplemental appropriations legislation for Fiscal 1998 for the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and urge passage of legislation to pay off our arrears to the United Nations (UN) and other international organizations. Last year's budget agreement allows for an adjustment in the discretionary spending caps for these important priorities. I hope we will act on this legislation soon—and without linking it to unrelated issues.

Mr. President, in closing, let me emphasize this: funding for foreign affairs is but one percent of the total federal budget. But as is reflected in the daily headlines and our own priorities here in the Senate, foreign policy comprises far more than one percent of our nation's interests. As our Secretary of State likes to say, it may account for fifty percent of the history that is written about our era.

This is not to suggest that the foreign policy budget should constitute half of our federal budget; it is to remind us, however, that any reduction in that budget would be symbolic in its effect on the federal fisc, but would be significant in its effect on our national interests. I hope my colleagues will

bear that in mind as we begin debate on the budget for the coming fiscal year.●

#### 20TH ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE BENEFIT

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the 20th Annual "Respect Life" Benefit presented by the Knights to Columbus, Michigan State Council and the Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund.

The benefit is a very important pro-life event for Michigan. It will take place on the evening of Thursday, March 26, 1998 at the Burton Manor in Livonia, Michigan and is expected to attract over one thousand people. When a large group like this gathers to celebrate the gift of life it sends a great message. In light of the current struggle in our nation regarding partial birth abortion there could not be a more urgent time for a gathering like this one.

Another way in which those of us who respect the sanctity of life can send a message is through media channels. Michigan will lead the way in the pro-life movement through a major media campaign. The 1998 Media Campaign, of which the proceeds will go, will be showcased at the event. In addition, Dr. Alan Keyes will be the featured speaker for the evening.

The efforts of Richard F. McCloy, State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus, Michigan State Council, and Barbara Listing, President, Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund are truly commendable. They have generously devoted their time and efforts, not only to this event but to a very worthy cause. I extend my best wishes for both a very successful event and Media Campaign.●

#### CURBING TOBACCO USE IN THE THIRD WORLD

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, public and private institutions all across the United States have invested enormous amounts of time and money to educate Americans about the dangers from smoking, and to curb tobacco advertising especially that targets minors. Nationwide campaigns have raised awareness about the health and economic costs of cigarettes. Lawmakers have focused on holding the tobacco companies responsible for the incalculable harm their products, and their decades of lies, have done to our society. Parents, schools and local governments have joined together to keep children from starting to use tobacco.

The attention has paid off, although their is much more that needs to be done. Laws that seek to protect children from tobacco advertising have become stricter, warning labels on cigarette packaging contain stronger language, the price of cigarettes has gone up, and regulations on second-hand smoke have become broader and more inclusive. The number of stories in the

media about the tobacco industry and the horrors of lung cancer and emphysema are an indication of how far we have come.

What has been sorely lacking, however, is the same kind of attention on the effects of tobacco use in developing nations where an estimated 800 million people smoke and the consumption of cigarettes is rising steadily. As the market for tobacco products in the US declines, tobacco companies are aggressively pursuing these lucrative foreign markets. It is projected that adult consumption of cigarettes in the developing countries will exceed that in the industrialized countries within the next decade. These figures do not even take into account that in many developing countries the number of people under eighteen—those most susceptible to tobacco advertising and most inclined to start smoking—is more than fifty percent of the population. In a matter of years, tobacco will be a leading cause of death in countries whose poor healthcare systems cannot possibly care for them.

Why should this matter to us? Each year, we provide billions of dollars in foreign aid to improve the lives of people overseas. We spend tens of millions of dollars to support foreign health programs. It is absurd that in the same countries where we are spending precious American tax dollars to try to save lives, American tobacco companies are pushing their deadly products.

Until recently, it was even worse than that. According to a February 16, 1998 "New York Times" article, there has been a long history of collaboration between the US Government and tobacco companies to introduce American cigarettes into foreign markets and to fight anti-smoking regulations overseas. It is reported that in 1992 the US Government and the tobacco companies worked hand-in-hand against an effort by Thai authorities to require tobacco companies to disclose the ingredients in their cigarettes.

Fortunately, the US Government is finally catching up with the times. In February, the State Department directed our embassies and foreign commercial offices to stop promoting the sale or export of American tobacco products. They were also told to stop trying to block restrictions from being placed on these products.

Mr. President, the dangers of smoking have been established and Americans are responding by taking steps to curb their tobacco consumption. As our efforts against tobacco in the US pay off, we must also help the developing countries curb their own consumption. One step in the right direction is the Healthy Kids Act, of which I am a co-sponsor. Introduced by Senator CONRAD on February 12, 1998, the Act contains a provision to establish the "American Center on Global Health and Tobacco" to assist other countries curb tobacco use.

In addition, on July 23, 1997 Senator LAUTENBERG introduced the Worldwide

Tobacco Disclosure Act. It would subject exported cigarettes to the same restrictions on labeling that apply to the sale and distribution of cigarettes in the United States and prevent U.S. Government officials from working against other countries' restrictions on tobacco. We should do everything we can to try to protect the people in those countries from the dangers of tobacco, as we are protecting ourselves. Hundreds of millions of lives, and billions of dollars that could otherwise be used to educate, house and employ people, are at stake.●

#### COMMEMORATING THE RESTORATION OF LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, on this day, the eighth anniversary of the restoration of Lithuania's independence, I would like to pay tribute to the perseverance and sacrifices of the Lithuanian people which enable them to achieve the freedom which they now enjoy.

On March 11, 1990, the newly elected Lithuanian Parliament, fulfilling its election mandate from the people of Lithuania, declared the restoration of Lithuania's independence and the establishment of a democratic state.

The people of Lithuania endured a 51-year foreign occupation which began as a result of the infamous Nazi-Soviet Pact of 1939. During that time the people of Lithuania courageously resisted the imposed communist dictatorship and cultural genocide of this foreign occupation.

During this time, the people of Lithuania were able to mobilize and sustain a non-violent movement for social and political change which came to be known as Sajudis.

On February 24, 1990 Sajudis, the people's movement, through citizen action guaranteed a peaceful transition to independence and democracy by fully participating in the first democratic elections in Lithuania in more than half a century.

In January 1991, ten months after this restoration of independence, the people and government of Lithuania withstood a bloody and lethal assault against their democratic institutions by foreign troops. Lithuania's successful restoration of democracy and independence is remarkable for its use of non-violent resistance to an oppressive regime.

On September 17, 1991, Lithuania became a member of the United Nations and is a signatory to a number of its organizations and other international agreements. It also is a member of the Organization and Security and Cooperation in Europe, the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and the Council of Europe. Lithuania is an associate member of the EU and has applied for NATO membership and is currently negotiating for membership in the WTO, OECD and other Western organizations.