

With uncertainty in Pakistan and the continuing influence of al Qaeda on the Afghanistan and Pakistan border, it is essential that India remain our strategic ally.

Mr. Speaker, 15 years ago, I formed the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans in order to work for a stronger bilateral relationship between the United States and India. Today the world's two largest democracies have established a remarkable strategic partnership that can only be strengthened by civil nuclear cooperation.

Mr. Speaker, we should all do everything we can to see that the U.S. civil nuclear agreement receives final approval in Washington so that the world can begin to benefit from its implementation and we can embark on a new era of U.S.-India relations.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE
TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BONNER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, as the American people are sitting home tonight watching the President of the United States talking about the state of our economy with so many uncertain questions that are out there about so many different issues, this is a time where the House has completed its work that gives us an opportunity to show the American people how, at least in the State of Alabama, Republicans and Democrats have over the years worked together hand in hand with a love of country at heart to try to make our State, our communities and certainly our great country a better place. And tonight I am privileged to lead this special order which will not take the entire hour but will give some of our colleagues an opportunity to recognize the significant contributions of two such Members, two men who didn't come to Congress at the same time, but who came within a term of each other, and who have, with different life backgrounds, made a substantial contribution to the betterment of their district, the State that they grew up in and love, and certainly this wonderful Nation. And I'm referring to two men of different political paths and different political parties, but two men who

have universal respect here in the House of Representatives, BUD CRAMER of the Fifth Congressional District of Alabama and TERRY EVERETT of the Second Congressional District.

Earlier this year, Congressman CRAMER surprised his constituents and really people throughout this city and our Nation's capital that he would be leaving Congress after 18 remarkable years of dedicated service to the people of Huntsville and his district, the Fifth Congressional District in north Alabama. And I think it was actually this time last year when Congressman TERRY EVERETT surprised the people in the Second Congressional District that he too was going to be calling it quits after 16 wonderful years of dedicated service to the people of Alabama's Wiregrass community.

Joining me tonight will be some colleagues who know these Members intimately well. And so I will be privileged to recognize them in just a moment and let them say a few words of thanks on behalf of the American people to these two giant legislative leaders and their dedicated service.

I also have some statements for the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to enter, because as the night has drawn on and Members have had other obligations, they have not been able to actually be here for some of these comments. But I would like to enter one in particular at this moment from my colleague, Congressman ROBERT ADERHOLT, of Alabama's Fourth Congressional District.

Of TERRY EVERETT, ROBERT ADERHOLT said, "we value very highly Representative EVERETT's service and his work with our delegation over the course of his distinguished career. John Quincy Adams once said, if your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you're a leader. TERRY EVERETT is the type of leader that embodies this quote. His actions have inspired many Alabamians to dream more and to learn more. And I am pleased for his great contribution to our State. As TERRY leaves this institution at the conclusion of this 110th Congress and goes on to other endeavors, we wish him the very best of luck and ask God's blessings on him and his wife, Barbara, for many years to come."

And ROBERT also serves next door to Congressman CRAMER. And he asked me as well if I would take just a moment to mention the following about his friend and neighbor, Congressman BUD CRAMER. "Even though Bud and I are members of different political parties, we have cosponsored over 50 bills in this congressional session alone. We've not always agreed on every issue that has come before the House, but I have always respected him and his leadership no matter what the issue has been. Congressman BUD CRAMER has served his district and our State well. And it is my pleasure to have worked alongside him for 12 years. He has been a great partner in working on

issues for north Alabama. As Bud leaves this institution, he leaves behind friends on both sides of the aisle. Regardless of the path he chooses, he leaves this institution a better place. And I look forward to watching his successes along the way."

And also, ROBERT added "may God bless BUD in all of his endeavors, and we wish him all the best that he looks forward to doing."

Now I'm very pleased to recognize for a few minutes my distinguished friend from California, the former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and the current ranking Republican on that committee, Honorable DUNCAN HUNTER, who has known Congressman TERRY EVERETT for every year that TERRY has been in Congress. And I would be honored to yield as much time as my friend, DUNCAN HUNTER, might choose to consume.

Mr. HUNTER. I thank my good friend for yielding. And to both these great sons of Alabama, I want to say, thank you for your wonderful work and your wonderful service to our country.

I was in TERRY's house a couple of summers ago. And we walked out to his woodworking studio where he makes all of these great cabinetry, wood products and molding. In fact he built this beautiful house by himself almost single-handedly using all this machinery that he had in his woodworking place. And as we walked across the floor, I noticed a bunch of red stains. And I said, what is that, TERRY? He said, that is when I cut part of my hand off. And I keep that blood to remind me so I won't do it again. And I immediately decided that I would not become a woodworker. It was too dangerous.

But I am reminded on that trip that TERRY EVERETT was showing me how to make cabinets. And he can make cabinets. And if you go in that house, you can see he made beautiful ones. I said, TERRY, our house burned down in California. We're going to have to rebuild it. He said, well, HUNTER, if you come down here for a week or two, we will make some cabinets.

TERRY, let me tell you, having now experienced the cost of California cabinets, I wish I had come down and worked with you and made those cabinets with you out of some of that good old cypress wood. That would have been great.

And BUD, I want to thank you incidentally for your great support of national defense. I have always been in this Congress kind of a Johnny One Note focused on defense issues since I got here. You always support a strong national defense. That has helped us to do all the things that TERRY and I have worked on over the years to rebuild our defense in such a way that we're able to bring down the Soviet Union and that we were able to free hundreds of millions of people, we were able to bring freedom to the captive nations of Eastern Europe and to keep the United States a shining star in this very difficult, very dangerous world. And your

work to make sure that we kept this country strong is very, very much appreciated.

And I have always thought of you as one of those great voices who could reach across the aisle and come together in a bipartisan way to make this country strong and to do the right thing. And that is so important in this body. In fact the ability to reconcile our differences and find common ground may be the best characteristic of this body.

Now let me tell you about TERRY. TERRY and I have done a lot of political planning. And some people would call it conspiracy. But I just call it political planning. TERRY EVERETT has either shown enormous loyalty to me or terrible judgment. He supported me in every campaign I have run in the House. And I have run for the leadership. I have lost some of them, and I have won some of them. And TERRY would go out and make those vote counts and helped me. Sometimes he would sit and say, HUNTER, I think you're going to be a little bit short here, but we're going to drive on. And we always drove on. And in the end, it's not whether you won all those contests. It's the great friends that you made while you were on the way, while you were competing.

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If you think that loyalty and friendship are important components of the American character, then TERRY EVERETT is just full of character. And also he is a character. And if you listen to him, you will see a great sense of humor, an ability to laugh at the world, even when the world has taken some dangerous turns, and go back to work in a quiet way and get things done.

I have also said that TERRY, behind closed doors, is one of our members on the Armed Services Committee and on the Intelligence Committee, so he ties those two committees together; one committee that oversees this \$600 billion-plus budget and this enormous fighting force of the Army and the Navy and the Marine Corps and the Air Force, and the other committee which oversees this very important arm called the Intelligence Branch, which gives us the information that we need to keep this country safe and secure. And many times those two entities, the defense community and the intelligence community, have to come together and work together, just like they are working together in Iraq and Afghanistan right now.

Let me tell you, a lot of the coordination that is taking place right now in Iraq and Afghanistan between people that are working in very difficult, inconvenient places and risking a lot, their effectiveness and their coordination to a large degree is a result of the work of the guy sitting right in front of me, Mr. TERRY EVERETT.

So, TERRY, you are a life-long friend, a great, great American, and I have got

to tell you, working on the Armed Services Committee with you for so many years has been a real joy. It has been a great thing for this Nation to have you in the traces there pulling that plow, doing that hard work every day. You are going to be tough to replace.

BUD, I know you are going to be tough to replace too. You have done wonderful work.

TERRY, you are one of two guys retiring from political life from the Armed Services Committee. JIMMY SAXTON is the other one, and I gave him his parting gift from the HUNTER family. I have got one for you. I am going to give it to you now, TERRY. I am going to present it to you about five times this week so I can get a lot of mileage out of it.

I want to tell you just a little story about this picture. This picture was painted, this is a signed and numbered lithograph by Olaf Wieghorst, who at the time he passed away in San Diego, California, and he was a great friend, he was the highest-priced Western artist in the world. He was a grand old guy who had been part of the American cavalry in the early 1900s and became a great artist, without ever taking a lesson.

In fact, if you go rent the movie "El Dorado" with John Wayne and Robert Mitchum and James Caan, you will see that Olaf Wieghorst is the Swedish gunsmith in the movie. He was in that movie because John Wayne had a number of his pictures, as did Ronald Reagan and Barry Goldwater, and Wayne told him to come down to the movie set one time, and he did that, and they put him in this movie "El Dorado."

So I want you to check out "El Dorado," and you will see my old friend Olaf Wieghorst, who painted your picture. And I believe your picture is rolled on the screen during the credits as they sing the opening ballad in this great Western movie. So I want you to go down and look at that.

But one reason I am going you this Olaf Wieghorst picture of the American West is this: The quintessential American Westerner is straight ahead, looked you right in the eye, his word was his bond, loyalty was his trademark, and that is TERRY EVERETT.

So, TERRY, I want you to look at this picture and remember that the Hunter Rancho has lots of rooms in it since we have rebuilt after the fire, and we look forward to you coming up and bringing some of your cabinet making tools. Maybe you can show Mrs. Hunter and I how to make a couple of extras.

But thank you for your great service to this country. That flag over this Capitol waives proudly and waives more securely because you served.

Thank you very much for your service.

And BUD CRAMER, thank you, my great friend, for your service to our country also.

I am going to take this picture back, TERRY, because I am going to present it to you about five more times.

Mr. EVERETT. DUNCAN, before you leave, thank you very for those kind words, and, obviously, thank you for that beautiful picture. You are still welcome to come to my home down outside of Dothan, Alabama, and we will do the cabinet work there. Those cabinet saws are a little bit hard to move around. I am not sure I could get it all the way to San Diego.

I want to thank you for allowing me to be the first chairman of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee. I think it is some of the most interesting work that we do. I am really proud of that committee, of the staff that supports that committee and the other members who are on it. We have all the missile defense, we have all the overhead stuff, satellites, and we have nuclear weapons. So it has been a really interesting committee, and I have you to thank when this committee was first formed that you allowed me to be the first chairman of that committee. So thank you very much.

I would be amiss if I didn't say that you have made great contributions to this country. You have always been straight up for the military. You have never let anybody push over our military and not provide them with what they needed.

I remember being in your office when we were having those tragic explosions on the roadsides that were killing and maiming our troops, and you had somebody from Lawrence Livermore there and you told them to get this problem solved and get it solved right now. If we have to go over there with welders and put this sheeting, steel sheeting on those Humvees, then we would do it. So I appreciate your dedication to the military.

You say you have been a one-note person. That is not true. We both know that. We have had a number of issues, for instance NAFTA, that we fought. We lost, but we fought that I thought very well.

I appreciate the dedication and all the years you have been contributed to this country and to the State of California. Thank you very much.

Mr. HUNTER. Well, TERRY, thank you. You know, we did lose on NAFTA, but we were right.

Mr. TERRY. We were right.

Mr. HUNTER. In your work on the Strategic Subcommittee on Armed Services, what a critical position at a critical time for this country. Because being able to renew our strategic capabilities, these systems age, being able to match what other people are doing in space now. I think when the Chinese knocked that satellite out of space, they initiated and heralded a new era of competition in space. Whether we like it or not we are in this fight, we are in this competition. And being able to maintain that capability that, as you so articulately stated, supports American military movements and operations and the economy of the United States, what a crucial responsibility, and you did a great job at it.

But always with that great—you know, you are an Alabama guy, and Alabama is a wonderful State, but you have all those great qualities that represent the best of the American West.

Mr. TERRY. Thank you very much. And I do love that committee. I love what it has done. We are the leading users of space in the world. We have great assets not only for our military, but for our economy also. The global economy for space is some \$220 billion, and growing about 18 percent a year.

I have problems though, and I know one of the things you have championed over the years is getting young people interested in engineering, math, science and things that we need in the space industry. I just point out that China last year graduated 500,000 new engineers. The United States graduated 70,000. So we certainly have to interest young people in this marvelous thing that we call space.

Thank you again for your kind words.

Mr. BONNER. DUNCAN, thank you so much for being with us.

Mr. HUNTER. TERRY, I want to give you this picture, but you have to give it back so I can present it to you on five more occasions.

Mr. BONNER. As this evening continues to unfold, we have heard from so many colleagues from all over the country who are paying homage tonight to Congressman BUD CRAMER and Congressman TERRY EVERETT.

Congressman JOHN TANNER, one of BUD's closest friends and colleague and one of the leaders in the Blue Dog Coalition asked me, because of a last minute conflict, to enter the following statement.

“Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join our colleagues tonight in paying tribute to my friend Congressman BUD CRAMER, who, as you know, will retire later this year after representing Alabama in this body for 18 years. During this time, he has been an important leader in Congress and an excellent public servant for the American people.

“Several years ago, BUD and I, along with a handful of our other Democratic colleagues, formed a small group to fill what we saw as a void within the body at the time, a solution-oriented coalition of moderate Members who could help forge a bipartisan bridge between our colleagues on either side of the partisan aisle. That group was named the Blue Dog Coalition, to which we both still belong.

“I appreciate BUD's leadership on working on bipartisan solutions to the challenges facing our country. A military veteran, grandfather and children's advocate, BUD has dedicated much of his life to his country and helping others.

“Mr. Speaker, BUD CRAMER's dedication and commitment have served our country well, and his presence in this Chamber will be sorely missed.”

That comment and so many others from our colleagues in Alabama, Congressman ARTUR DAVIS, Congressman

SPENCER BACHUS, Congressman MIKE ROGERS. I have already mentioned Congressman ADERHOLT could not be here because of a last minute conflict, but asked his statement to be entered into the record.

Friends of TERRY EVERETT and BUD CRAMER, LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, BART GORDON, the distinguished chairman of the Science Committee, GENE TAYLOR, my neighbor along America's Gulf Coast, so many people from both sides of the aisle and all political stripes who are opening up their heart tonight saying thank you for the leadership that these two outstanding gentlemen have provided.

Mr. Speaker, without objection, I would like to enter an article on each of these two gentlemen in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

On July 27th, shortly after Congressman CRAMER announced his intentions to resign at the end of this session of Congress, The Huntsville Times, Congressman CRAMER's hometown newspaper, ran a series of articles about the outstanding, dedicated leadership and service that BUD CRAMER has provided.

So without objection, I would like to enter this into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Likewise, on October 1, 2007, and then a few months later in the Dothan Magazine, the first being the Montgomery Advertiser, the capital city newspaper, there were editorials and articles alike praising TERRY EVERETT for his solid performance as an outstanding leader of Congress and an outstanding leader for Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter both of these as well.

[From the Montgomery Advertiser, Oct. 1, 2007]

EVERETT HAS BEEN SOLID PERFORMER

Residents of Alabama's Second Congressional District—which includes all of Autauga and Elmore counties and a portion of Montgomery County—aren't prone to frequent changes in the representative they send to Washington. A new representative has been elected just twice in 44 years.

Bill Dickinson won the seat in 1964, the year of the fabled “Goldwater sweep” that saw five Republicans elected to Congress from Alabama, something that would have been unimaginable only a few years before. He held the seat until 1992, usually with ease, fending off only a handful of significant challenges over the years.

Dickinson retired from Congress that year and the Second District, to the surprise of many observers, turned to Terry Everett over two better-known candidates. Its voters have elected him every two years since and likely would continue doing so for some time to come.

But they won't have the chance. Everett announced last week that he would not seek another term in the House in 2008. At 70, he said he was looking forward to returning to his farm in Rehobeth.

The announcement set off a flurry of speculation and exploration. Chances to run for an open congressional seat are rare, so there surely will be no shortage of candidates next year in a district that covers the Wiregrass area of southeast Alabama, then curls upward to reach into Montgomery County.

There will be ample opportunity to consider those candidacies in next year's cam-

paigns. For now, Everett's tenure in office deserves some reflection by those he has represented since 1992.

Everett, who previously owned a string of small newspapers, was not exactly a household name when he began his bid for the seat. Nor was he—nor did he ever become—a scintillating campaigner. For those looking for a candidate to ignite an audience or light up a room, Everett was never the guy.

Yet Second District voters liked Everett from the start. Something in his low-key, receptive manner and steadfast common-sense conservatism resonated with them. He defeated state Sen. Larry Dixon of Montgomery, long considered a likely successor to Dickinson, in the Republican primary and state Treasurer George Wallace Jr., then a Democrat, in the general election.

He would have opposition in future races, but never any opponent of similar stature.

Everett understood well the concerns of his district, where military and agricultural issues are especially important. He was a consistent supporter of the major military installations in the district, Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery and Fort Rucker near Ozark. Farmers had a reliable advocate in Washington as well.

A subcommittee Everett chaired uncovered and addressed serious abuses in health care facilities for veterans. He served for years on the House Intelligence Committee and is now the ranking minority member. He observed wryly in an interview with The Associated Press that “some of the most important work I've done I can't talk about because it was on the Intelligence Committee.”

Everett has served the district and the nation well. It should be noted that he's not leaving office right away. Indeed, he'll be there for more than a year. We are confident that he will continue his steady, conscientious representation during that time before entering an honorable and well-earned retirement from public life.

[From the Huntsville Times, July 27, 2008]
STAUNCH SUPPORT FOR DEFENSE, SPACE A HALLMARK

Over his 18 years in Washington, D.C., U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer says his connection to defense, NASA and the Space Station has been huge.

“In the early years, I had constant battles in defending the Space Station and with protecting NASA,” Cramer says. “We won those battles, but it took going member to member asking for votes. It meant building support to preserve the station. One of those victories was won by one vote.”

In defense, early issues with the Redstone Arsenal arose with the base military realignment—or BRAC-rounds. The congressman says he immediately sought to tell the “Redstone story,” often by showing its cooperatives with BRAC.

Cramer also says there were a host of other developments, like a weather station with NexRad radar. When the National Weather Service intended to close its Huntsville office, the congressman sought legislation to keep it open. After a decade of uncertainty, Cramer helped secure \$3 million in startup money for a full service weather forecast office to be located in the National Space Science and Technology Center building on the University of Alabama campus in Huntsville to serve an 11-county area.

After a four-year battle, the congressman got the National Weather Service to drop its plan to eliminate radar in Huntsville. The radar was kept and Doppler radar was added.

Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer says, “Without question, Congressman Cramer has been a stalwart in assisting the growth of the Army and NASA in Huntsville. By be-

gining and continuing the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, Bud continues to bring positive recognition for our city."

Cramer was elected to Congress in 1990 after serving 10 years as Madison County's district attorney. He was re-elected to Congress eight times and is a strong children's advocate, having founded the National Children's Advocacy Center. In North Alabama, the congressman's support for defense and aerospace industries is well-known. Part of his economic development efforts is the Boeing Company rocket plant.

In the House of Representatives, Cramer is known as a tireless supporter of the Space Station and a leading advocate for spending increases in missile defense, particularly with Huntsville long being a center for research and development for both. Redstone Arsenal is located in the Fifth District, as well as the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center.

In 2002, when Cramer joined officials in breaking ground for the world-class Propulsion Research Laboratory at Marshall Space Flight Center, he commented on it representing fortitude.

"The groundbreaking today represents years of hard work by many people who are dedicated to making sure Marshall continues to be the leading center for propulsion research in the country. Securing funding for this world-class research lab was one of my top priorities, and I was pleased to help lead our Alabama delegation's efforts to make it a reality. With this new facility, Marshall Space Flight Center will be well-positioned to play a significant role in the future of NASA."

Cramer worked to secure funding for the laboratory, including \$10 million for design and research equipment, and another \$20 million for construction. The facility's research will aid advanced nuclear technology, alternate- and combined-cycle engines, high-energy plasma engines, beamed-energy sails and antimatter propulsion systems.

Building on the Huntsville area's high-tech growth, the congressman called the area "a natural place" for the laboratory and a fundamental move toward maintaining North Alabama's excellence in propulsion.

Two years later, when Cramer helped NASA officials cut the ribbon at the laboratory, he also praised Sen. Richard Shelby for his support for the lab.

"Since our space program's earliest days, North Alabama has been a center of space propulsion expertise," he said. "With this new lab, the world-class propulsion experts right here in North Alabama will be better prepared to tackle the propulsion challenges facing NASA and the new Vision for Space Exploration."

In June, Cramer continued his support of NASA with the House of Representatives passage of the NASA Authorization for fiscal year 2009. It authorizes \$1.2 billion for programs and an additional \$1 billion for research and development of space exploration vehicles, including the Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle and the Ares 1 Crew Launch Vehicle, which are being designed to replace the space shuttle.

"I am proud to support NASA and all of its field centers, including North Alabama's Marshall Space Flight Center," Cramer said. "The authorization bill passed by the House today gives NASA the resources it needs to sustain programs and research initiatives that are critical to keeping America at the forefront of space exploration. In North Alabama, our space community is poised to continue its major role in NASA's vision."

Cramer serves on the House Appropriations Committee and the House Permanent Select

Committee on Intelligence. The Appropriations Committee is in charge of spending for all aspects of the federal government, including the U.S. Department of Defense and NASA. Many of the critical jobs performed by these two agencies are based in North Alabama. Cramer was appointed to the House Intelligence Committee in 2002, which oversees defense and national security intelligence issues.

The congressman has been a strong, active supporter of the space program. As one of NASA's top allies in Congress, he fought for Huntsville's NASA Marshall Space Flight Center and programs like the U.S. Space Station. For his outstanding record of support for space exploration, Cramer received the National Space Club's 2002 Von Braun Memorial Award for Space Exploration.

Mr. BONNER. Now, while I know others would like to speak, I think it is appropriate to pause and dedicate the balance of our time to recognizing these two outstanding individuals, outstanding public servants, sons of Alabama.

Interestingly enough, they both serve on the Intelligence Committee. BUD had become a leader in the defense world on the appropriations side. Terry has been a leader in the defense world on the authorization side.

Ironically, but probably not coincidentally, they both came to Congress having served their communities as Sunday school teachers and long-time community advocates.

So for the balance of this time, I would like to yield first to my friend Congressman BUD CRAMER, the dean of our delegation, and then to Congressman EVERETT.

Mr. CRAMER. JOE BONNER, thank you. On behalf of this Alabama delegation, I appreciate your team membership with us. Even when you worked in Sonny Callahan's office, you were part of our delegation there, because, of course, Sonny was our team leader for a while there as well.

As you and maybe the rest of the country doesn't know, there are only seven of us from the State of Alabama. When I came here in the year 1990, I was broken into, introduced to the Alabama team, and understood pretty quickly that regardless of party label, we were one for the State of Alabama, and hopefully for the country as well.

So it has been a pleasure to work with you, and I thank you for you taking the time tonight to allow folks to express these words of kindness for my service here, but particularly for my colleague TERRY EVERETT.

TERRY EVERETT, this gives me the opportunity to say to you that I can think of no one I have enjoyed serving with more than you here, and I have many friends on both sides of the aisle. You and I are bookends in our State, you from the southeastern part of the State, I am from the north-central part of the State.

But your service on the Armed Services Committee, and then eventually on the Intelligence Committee, I joined you there on the Intelligence Committee. The Congress may not know, but I am currently the chairman of a

subcommittee on the Intelligence Committee called the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, a new subcommittee that was formed two Congresses ago. I was ranking member until this term of Congress, and now I am the chairman. You are the ranking member of that subcommittee. So it is interesting and ironic that Alabama has had kind of service on that committee, that we can't talk much more about, but it has been particularly important to the rest of the country as well.

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I will miss you. I will miss Barbara as well—your wife, Barbara—whom I came to know because I got to know you, and we're like family. That speaks well of the entire Alabama delegation.

When we presented our Intel authorization bill on the floor earlier in the year, I was able to get a little more specific as Chairman DUNCAN HUNTER was able to do tonight about your commitment to defending space and to making sure that this country's investment in space is preserved. I hope, in your next life, whatever that might be, that you continue your expertise in that area because you still have a lot to offer to the space intel community and to the defense community as well from your service right here in this remarkable arena.

So I will miss you. I will miss this Alabama delegation. I will still be active with you, and will make sure that we, together, continue to look after the State of Alabama.

I will yield back my time, but thank you, JO BONNER.

Mr. BONNER. Thank you, BUD.

TERRY, would you like to say a few words?

Mr. EVERETT. Yes. Thank you very much, Jo.

First of all, thank you for arranging for this to happen.

Two of my favorite people and two of the nicest people I think I know in the House who I've never heard say an unkind word about anybody are JO BONNER and DUNCAN HUNTER. They're absolutely some of the top people who you could have leading this Nation and in this Congress.

As for my friend BUD CRAMER, I appreciate those kind remarks that you've given.

BUD came here one term before I did. I've served with him now for 16 years, and we have an awful lot of things in common. The Alabama delegation, as he referred to it, is a small delegation, but it's large in its dedication to the State and to getting things done. A great deal of that, being able to operate from a small delegation that does a lot of very good things for their State and for the district, is because of BUD CRAMER's ability to reach across the aisle and work with people.

Bud is correct. We have worked together. He is an appropriator and I'm an authorizer. Some of our key issues have been missile defense as well as

space. We've worked together an awful lot to make sure that that's represented well—and it is—up in Huntsville. In my estimation—and I've told BUD this before—in Huntsville, there should be one of our national labs. I mean what they do in Huntsville, Alabama for our missile defense and for our space activities is just outstanding. A great deal of that is because of BUD CRAMER and his work on the Appropriations Committee and on the Intelligence Committee.

He is the chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee on Intelligence, and he has done an outstanding job of moving things forward that have to be moved forward in that committee. It is just a real honor for me to be able to be his ranking member on that. I, too, think that it's good that Alabama has two Members who are in leadership positions on that particular committee.

So, BUD, I want to thank you and I'll miss you. I've appreciated your friendship. I've appreciated your loyalty to this country, to the State and to your district, and I hope you stay connected. I know that you're one of the leading experts in a lot of these areas, and I really hope that you will stay connected to space. I certainly intend to stay connected to it.

Thank you very much, Jo.

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say thank you for allowing us to have this opportunity on behalf of the 433 other Members of Congress who are not here in person but who tonight, in some form or fashion, have expressed their love, their appreciation and their respect for the dedicated service of BUD CRAMER and of TERRY EVERETT.

In closing, I just want to tell the people who might be listening in Kansas or in Wisconsin or in Florida or in California that this is an example of the best of America, of the best of two men who grew up in different times but in the same State, who came to Congress 2 years apart and who worked their hearts out to make their country a better place.

As the son of an Alabama sharecropper and railroad foreman, TERRY EVERETT knew hard times from the day he was born, never leaving his home area of Dothan and Midland City until he joined the Army following high school. He learned Russian. He served as an intelligence analyst in Europe. After his military service, he came back to his beloved Dothan and worked as a sports reporter. He then covered the police beat for the Dothan Eagle, eventually becoming a newspaper editor and publisher and eventually becoming an owner of several newspapers in southwest Alabama.

TERRY, on behalf of the people in Autauga, Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Coffee, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Elmore, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lowndes, Montgomery, and Pike Counties—635,000 people who have benefited from your 16 years of dedicated serv-

ice—a heartfelt thanks for what you have done and for what you continue to do.

Certainly, without equal, BUD CRAMER was named just a few years ago by Money Magazine as one of America's best Congressmen. What a tribute and what a true statement at that.

For a remarkable career, the people of Colbert, Jackson, Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, Lawrence, and Morgan Counties owe a debt of gratitude for your outstanding 18 years of service, BUD.

As the editorial staff of the Huntsville Times said it best, your record has been nothing short of remarkable.

The Times Daily went on to say that he has shown that he can represent the people of his district while always considering the best interest of his Nation.

These are two outstanding men who will leave Congress at the end of this session, but they will leave a lifetime of service.

BUD, especially for you, in the area of child advocacy, you certainly are the national leader in that area.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House to pay recognition to a dear friend across the aisle. My colleague, Representative BUD CRAMER will retire after eighteen years of service to the people of Alabama's 5th District when this session adjourns.

Congressman CRAMER has been a pleasure to work with during my time in the House, and has contributed a great deal to the Alabama Congressional Delegation. His willingness to discuss issues across party lines speaks to his genuine concern for the well-being of his constituents. Congressman CRAMER has been a strong, advocate for sensible legislation and has used his positions on the House Appropriations and Permanent Select Intelligence Committees to champion fiscally responsible programs.

I would like to thank Congressman CRAMER once more for his dedicated service. I have been honored to work with him over the past 6 years.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House to pay recognition to a dear friend and exemplary member of this body. My colleague, Representative TERRY EVERETT will retire after 16 years of service to the people of Alabama's 2nd District when this session adjourns.

Congressman EVERETT has been an invaluable resource for the Alabama Congressional Delegation. His experience and insight were a great help to me when I first came to Washington in 2002. As a member of the Agriculture, Armed Services, and Permanent Select Intelligence Committees, he has furthered the interests of the people of Alabama and the security of the United States.

I would like to thank Congressman EVERETT once more for his dedicated service. He is a gentleman with the highest regard for duty and principle, and he will be dearly missed.

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the time to the Chair.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JIM SAXTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 18, 2007, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO) will control the remainder of the hour.

Mr. LOBIONDO. I thank you, Mr. Speaker, very much.

I am here tonight to talk about one of our retiring colleagues from New Jersey, Congressman JIM SAXTON, who after 24 years in Congress is hanging it up this year. Jim has been a colleague and a mentor of mine.

When I was first elected to Congress in 1994, I remember going through orientation. People were asking me what it was like, and it was like trying to get a drink of water from a fire hose. There was so much information that it was difficult to get.

JIM SAXTON said, "Listen, I have a desk in my office. I want to make my staff available to you, and I want you to get off on the right foot." It was the beginning of a great relationship.

He has been a teacher; he has been a mentor; he has been a leader, and he has been an individual who has been focused on generating results. He wasn't so much interested in the rhetoric. JIM was never one to be running to a camera, to be wanting to do that interview and to get his face on TV or anything like that. He was interested in finding out about the problem, in determining what the possible solutions were and then in working for a consensus. He is known for many things within his district and for doing a great job in representing his constituents, but his work on the Armed Services Committee and his leadership on Armed Services is what he is best known for.

To talk about that a little bit, I would like to yield time to Chairman DUNCAN HUNTER, who is probably JIM SAXTON's closest friend in this Congress of the United States, who knows more about JIM SAXTON and who will share some of the stories with you.

Mr. HUNTER. I thank the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey for yielding. Thanks for the privilege of being here.

We just finished talking about TERRY EVERETT, one of the real giants in this House, and now, to talk about JIMMY SAXTON.

You know, there are a lot of ways to describe JIMMY SAXTON. JIMMY SAXTON is the kind of guy you'd like to share a duck blind with because he's such a good guy, and he's just fun to be around, and he's got a great sense of humor.

He talks about the time—and I'll tell the story on myself—that we went deer hunting one day. We were going to go bowhunting for deer. I told JIMMY I'd pick him up at 5:00 in the morning, and I did pick him up at 5:00 in the morning in my old, beat-up suburban that we called the war wagon.

We were driving out toward this farm that I had permission for us to hunt on. We never got anything, but we had a lot of fun out there, watching the sun come up. We were driving out there, and I realized, you know, when you're deer hunting, you want to get into the