

consolidates their relevant functions within the State Department. This \$200 million reduction in operating expenses abolishes duplicative legislative, legal, and administrative personnel. In addition, with the savings derived from the ending these wasteful programs, we are able to fully fund narcotics control, antiterrorism, and security programs.

Streamlining the foreign aid bureaucracy and prioritizing our commitments abroad allows us to continue our deficit slashing agenda. The bill moves us closer to that goal and represents a step in the right direction. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to keep our budgetary goals in mind as we continue to debate and fine tune this bill.

HISTORY PROPERLY DISPLAYED

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would like to commend to his colleagues the following editorial from the May 16, 1995, Omaha World-Herald. This editorial properly praises the National Archives for its straightforward approach to displaying World War II artifacts, photos, letters, and recordings. As the editorial notes, the National Archives has appropriately chosen to allow visitors to examine the display without being subjected to unnecessary and slanted commentary.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, May 16, 1995]

SIMPLE ARTIFACTS, PHOTOS, LETTERS
DESCRIBE WAR; NO NEED FOR 'SPIN'

While the Smithsonian Institution was giving itself a black eye over its proposed Enola Gay display, a different kind of World War II exhibit was being prepared a few blocks away.

Historians at the National Archives assembled artifacts, photographs, letters and recordings to tell the story of America's involvement in World War II from Pearl Harbor to V-J Day. Their display tells the story with power and poignancy—and without the accusatory spin that tainted the Smithsonian's proposed Enola Gay display, with its condemnation of the U.S. use of atomic weapons.

The Archives display includes General Eisenhower's handwritten draft of the statement with which he planned to blame himself if the Normandy invasion failed. There is a bit of red fabric cut from the American flag that was surrendered to the Japanese on Corregidor. The cloth was preserved by American POWs, carried on the Bataan death march as a sacred symbol of their love for America, passed from one GI to another until the end of the war.

The Pearl Harbor attack is stunningly seen in a film shot by a Navy photographer who happened to be on deck with his camera when the bombs started to fall. Hitler and his cronies are shown in a photo album kept by Eva Braun. The display includes photos of battle scenes, victory celebrations and everyday life in the 1940s.

Giving the display a special quality are letters and diaries penned by the great and the ordinary.

A declassified message from Prime Minister Winston Churchill to President Franklin Roosevelt is signed only with the word "Prime." An American mother writes movingly to a son who will never live to read her words.

The letters come from both sides of the battle line. A letter by a Japanese officer explains why he felt the war was justified—America, he said, had denied his country access to natural resources. A Japanese soldier writes tenderly of his concern for his young sister as the tide of war turns against Japan. Gen. Erwin Rommel of the Wehrmacht expresses affection for his wife.

Of the U.S. use of atomic bombs, the text says, "Argument about their employment has continued almost increasingly ever since 1945, but in the context of the time, they were seen as, and almost certainly were; life-saving shortcuts to the end of the war."

The assessment is reasonable. A few days ago, a citizen's committee made public a report about the future of the Smithsonian. The panel said the facility should not become a "home for congratulation." The inclusion of that sneering statement suggests that someone on the panel wanted the Smithsonian to become a court in which the United States and Western civilization in general can regularly be put on trial.

Good history, of course, isn't cheerleading. But neither does it consist of condemning earlier generations because they didn't live up to the politically correct standards of the present. Some of the best history consists of unadorned facts, presented in their context. That is what the National Archives, to its credit, has produced.

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD SITER, U.S. NAVY

HON. GERALD B. H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as Memorial Day approaches again this year, many people and families around this Nation prepare weekend trips, picnics and barbecues. They can do so because of the selfless service and sacrifice of the millions of men and women who have served in the armed forces throughout our history. These people defend and provide the very freedoms we enjoy everyday, not to mention those luxurious moments we look forward to spending with loved ones on days like Memorial Day.

However, for a great deal of Americans, Memorial Day takes on a much more personal meaning, a reminder of the loss of a loved one. It is a time when millions of Americans reflect on the memory of a loved one who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our nation and our freedoms. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to pay tribute to the service of one such American hero from the town of Philmont, NY in my congressional district, Lt. Richard Siter, U.S. Navy.

In the summer of 1992, Lieutenant Siter was stationed aboard the air craft carrier, *USS John F. Kennedy* off the coast of Puerto Rico. Richard was a radar specialist in the Navy's air division and was assigned to an E-C2 Hawkeye aircraft. On July 31, 1992, Lieutenant Siter and the four other members of the five man crew, were flying over the waters of the Atlantic, well north of Puerto Rico, comprising the defense of our eastern shore. Upon their return flight to the *USS John F. Kennedy*, the five members of this Hawkeye crew would suffer a terrible accident. Their craft went down 75 miles north of Puerto Rico with no survivors. Tragically, the body of Lieutenant

Siter and his fellow crewmen were never found.

Mr. Speaker, these are the people we should hold near and dear to our hearts as this Memorial Day draws near. As we celebrate the golden anniversary of the end of World War II and remember the thousands who gave their lives in that monumental war, let us not forget those, like Richard Siter, who put their lives on the line daily to provide the blanket of freedom beneath which our Nation and our way of life has thrived.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would ask that you, and all Members, join me in paying tribute to the service of Lt. Richard Siter and send our condolences to his family. While they suffered through the initial uncertainty of his whereabouts, they can be bolstered by the certainty that Richard is indeed counted amongst great Americans. May he be both in our hearts and our minds this Memorial Day and always.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES J. MARTIN AND RALPH KERMOIAN

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, in a few days, two of California's most outstanding educators will retire after years of effective public service.

Both James J. Martin and Ralph Kermoian have served the Lafayette School District for 25 years. Dr. Martin is currently serving as superintendent of the district, and Mr. Kermoian is assistant superintendent. Over the years, they have filled many other roles in educational administration.

As of July 1, these dedicated men will leave the Lafayette School District to pursue other ventures. Their presence will be missed by the thousands of present and former students who have benefited from their dedicated stewardship of Lafayette's schools.

It is a pleasure for me to join with the entire Lafayette community in thanking James Martin and Ralph Kermoian for all they have done to enhance learning in the East Bay region. Bestowing the precious gift of knowledge on young minds is both a challenge and a vital need, and James and Ralph deserve much credit for their roles in preparing future generations for tomorrow. I am most pleased to recognize them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF PIO NONO COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL AND THE 50TH AN- NIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF DON BOSCO HIGH SCHOOL

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. KLECZKA. I would like to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the founding of Milwaukee's Pio Nono College and High School and the 50th anniversary of the founding of my alma mater, Don Bosco High School.