

you to let your shoulders be used by those who still search for success, who wonder if the dream is still there for them. Because you see, the struggle is not yet over. We're not where we have got to be. We're not where we want to be. We have a great America. We can make it a greater America.

There are those who say, "Well, you know, we can stop now. America is a color blind society." But it isn't yet. There are those who say, "We have a level playing field." But we don't yet. There are those who say that, "All you need is to climb up on your own boot straps." But there are too many Americans who don't have boots, much less boot straps.

A few—a few Horatio Alger stories, not enough to give hope to our fellow citizens who still live in the despair of racism, who are trapped in tightening circles of poverty and poor education, who wonder if compassion and caring are still the pillars of the American dream. There are those who rail against Affirmative Action. They rail against Affirmative Action preferences, while they have lived an entire life of preference. There are those who do not understand that the progress we have achieved over the past generation must be continued if we wish to bless future generations.

And so, Colin Powell believes in Affirmative Action.

I believe it has been good for America, and I know that we can design Affirmative Action Programs that will satisfy the Constitutional requirements, because what we want is Affirmative Action that provides access for all Americans to the opportunities that rightfully belong to all Americans.

In my travels around the country since retirement, I have visited with many corporate leaders, and I have been pleased to see how committed American industry is to Affirmative Action. They understand that we cannot waste any human potential. They understand that in the future that is ahead they must have diverse work forces. They must be prepared to operate in a world trading environment that is increasingly minority, as we would call it, becoming a majority.

I'm very, very proud of what I've seen in American corporate life. In one case, one company leader said to me, "We don't care what the government does with respect to Affirmative Action. We believe in it. We believe it's the right thing to do. We are going to continue to move forward."

Affirmative Action finds and prepares qualified people for entry into the education system and into the work force. We must resist misguided government efforts that seek to shut it all down, efforts such as the California Civil Rights Initiative which poses as an Equal Opportunity Initiative, but which puts at risk every outreach program. It sets back the gains made by women, and puts the brakes on expanding opportunities for people who are in need.

I don't speak about Affirmative Action from an academic sense. I speak from experience. In the military, we worked hard to include all Americans. We used Affirmative Action to reach out to those who were qualified, but who were often overlooked or ignored as a result of indifference or inertia. We used Affirmative Action in the military to create the level playing field and to create the color blind environment that so many people speak of.

We didn't wait for it to happen. We made it happen in the military. We created an environment where advancement came from performance and a striving for excellence and not from color or gender. But first we had to open the gates to let people in. As a result, we produced an Armed Force rich in its diversity and the very, very best in the world, a reflection of what all of America should look like. So we have to keep it up. We have to commit ourselves. There is no alternative.

When one black man graduates, at the same time, 100 black men are going to jail. We still need Affirmative Action.

When half of all African American men between the ages of 24 and 35 years of age are without full-time employment, we still need Affirmative Action. When half of all black children live in poverty, we need Affirmative Action as well as quality education systems and a thriving economy to produce the good jobs, the good jobs that free enterprise and capitalism can produce, the jobs that at the end of day are the only solution to the problems we face.

Some people will say that Affirmative Action stigmatizes the recipients. Nonsense. Affirmative Action provides access for the qualified. And for anybody who feels stigmatized, go get A's instead of C's. Knock them dead. And then—I tell the story in my book about when I was a young Lieutenant and one of my commanding officers back then in the late '50s came up to me and said, "Powell, you're doing great. You're one of the best black Lieutenants I've ever known." And I just said, "Thank you, sir." And I said to myself silently, "That ain't going to be good enough. You may have a stereotype of me, but I intend to be the best Lieutenant you ever saw." And I will—for the way to handle stereotypes and stigmatism is to let it be somebody else's problem. You just perform and do your very, very best.

Because you see, the Army put me in an environment where I could be a winner, and I wanted to be a winner. Beautiful graduates before me this morning are all winners. You have benefited from the sacrifices of those who went before you. You have worked hard. And today, you receive your reward. You are filled by the love and by the dreams of your parents and families. You are nourished by the education you have received from the dedicated teachers here present who have given you the priceless gift of learning.

We expect you to go forth and prosper and contribute to the economic growth of this nation. We expect you to lead a life of service to your community and to serve those who have not had the advantages that you have. You are people of accomplishment. You are now role models. Each of you must find a way to reach down and back to help someone in need, someone in pain, someone who wonders if anybody cares, somebody who wonders if the American dream is still there for them.

In order to have a complete life, make sure you share your time, your talent, and your treasure with these who are less fortunate. We expect you to raise strong families. We expect you to raise children who are inspired to do even better than you are. Marry well, and marry for life. Be parents of value. Teach your children the difference between right and wrong. Teach your children the place of God in their lives.

Teach your children the value of hard work and education. Teach them to love. Teach them to be tolerant. Teach them to be proud of their heritage, their color. And teach them to respect their fellow citizens who may look different but who are not different.

Teach them to respect themselves, to believe in themselves. Teach them, above all, to believe in America as you must believe in America. America, a noisy, noisy country, the noise has a name. It's called "democracy." Democracy as we argue with each other to find the correct way forward. America, a wonderful place. A place with problems, problems that are now yours to solve and not just to curse, because we are a good people. We want to do the right thing. We must have faith in ourselves. We are, as Lincoln put it, "The last, best hope of earth."

I am so proud of you today, so very, very proud. Go forth now to make this a better

land. Go forth to find your destiny. Go forth to find happiness. Go forth on your American journey. Go forth with my congratulations and with God's blessings. Have a great life. Thank you.●

#### NOMINATION OF NINA GERSHON

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, yesterday, by unanimous consent the Senate confirmed the nomination of Magistrate Judge Nina Gershon for the position of U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. I recommended Judge Gershon to President Clinton on July 11, 1995 and the President nominated her on October 18, 1995.

The Senate has confirmed a judge of impeccable credentials. She has been a magistrate court judge since 1976 and was chosen chief U.S. magistrate judge for the Southern District in January of 1992. Indeed, Judge Gershon has the distinction of being the first chief magistrate judge for the Southern District. Nina Gershon has shown herself to be an extremely able and well-respected magistrate. And I am confident that she will serve the Eastern District of New York with equal dedication.

Throughout the nomination process she has had bipartisan support and I thank the leaders for bringing her nomination forward.●

#### RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I want to express my support of Jeffords-Roth-Leahy renewable energy amendment. This amendment will restore funding for the Department of Energy solar and renewable energy research and development program to the amount appropriated in fiscal year 1996.

I want to thank Senator JEFFORDS for offering this amendment because I believe that our country's renewable energy program is at an important watershed. With support from Congress and the Federal Government, our Nation can forge ahead in developing reliable and cost-effective renewable technologies. We can also position our renewable energy industry to capture its share of the rapidly expanding market of solar and other renewable technologies. And, we can expand power generation capacity in an environmentally responsible manner.

In recent years, energy efficiency and renewable energy programs have been remarkably successful and have created a new industry capable of world leadership in a very important technology sector. Energy efficient technologies are generating billions of dollars of consumer energy savings and new business opportunities and play an important role in job creation, according to a study by energy expert Daniel Yergin. If we retreat from this promising growth industry, as we did throughout the decade of 1980s, our international competitors will quickly carve up a market that will exceed a billion dollars by the turn of the century.

We should not reduce funding for renewable R&D and allow this initiative to sputter and stall. We must move forward, as other countries are doing, and make essential investments in technologies that will create new jobs, open export markets, and promote a healthy environment. This is the choice we have made in approving this amendment.

At stake is our ability to compete in an international energy market that will experience explosive growth in the decades ahead. Many countries cannot afford to meet the growing energy demand by building, operating, and maintaining centralized power plants and the costly infrastructure associated with them. The flexibility offered by renewable technologies is a natural fit for the developing world.

Countries around the world are also making conscious strategic decisions to endorse and adopt renewable energy as a mainstay of their energy policy. These policies may lead to the amelioration of problems associated with global climate change.

The past decade was a period of unparalleled success in the drive to reduce the cost of solar and renewable technologies. Some are at the verge of becoming cost competitive with conventional energy sources. This trend will continue to improve in the years ahead. As these technologies become more and more cost competitive, the rate at which these technologies are integrated into the energy grid will steadily increase.

What is at stake is the ability of a young, dynamic industry to capture the world markets for renewable technologies so that Americans can hold their share of rewarding, high paying jobs. That is what the Jeffords amendment is all about. If we are to move into the future with a strong economy and a healthy environment, renewable energy technologies must be a part of our investment strategy for the future.

Although the value of U.S. renewable energy exports exceeds a quarter of a billion dollars, the U.S. renewable energy industry is barely penetrating the expanding world market for renewable energy technologies. This is a result of a weak commitment to renewable energy research, development, and export promotion.

Compared with seven other leading trading nations, the United States ranks lowest in resources allocated to solar and renewable export promotion, according to a 1992 Department of Energy report.

National Science Foundation data confirms that the U.S. investment in R&D is in decline. Since 1987, Federal R&D investments have dropped steadily in real terms. Since 1992, industry R&D has stagnated. And today, less than one-third of private R&D is dedicated to research; the rest is being spent on product and process development.

I support the Jeffords amendment because I want to reverse this trend.

Frankly, I would have preferred higher spending levels for solar and renewable programs, but this is not realistic given the budget constraints we face. Unless we maintain a reasonable funding level for these programs, we will continue to lose ground and should not be surprised if other countries outcompete U.S. industry in this rapidly expanding market.

Finally, there are important energy security reasons for supporting this amendment. U.S. oil imports are at record levels, are continuing to grow, and could reach 60 percent of consumption by the year 2005. Oil imports that high would contribute nearly \$90 billion to the trade deficit. According to a recent Department of Commerce analysis, this level of oil imports constitutes a threat to U.S. economic security. Persian Gulf countries are projected to control 70 percent of the global market for oil by the year 2010, making world oil markets increasingly unstable.

Renewable energy technologies will lead to significant movement toward alleviating some of the potential negative consequences of our continuing and increasing reliance on imported oil.●

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TRIBUTE TO THE EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43D ANNUAL "FLY IN" IN OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN, AUGUST 1, 1996

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to salute the 160,000 international members of the Experimental Aircraft Association, based in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on the opening day of their 43rd annual "Fly In" convention, the single largest aviation event of its kind in the world.

Mr. President, the Fly In, held at the Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, is the stage for 12,000 experimental aircraft, vintage warplanes, showplanes, ultralights and rotorcraft. More than 700 exhibitors will present examples of cutting edge aviation technology, and more than 500 workshops, seminars and forums will feature many of the leading figures in aviation passing along their knowledge and experience on subjects covering the whole spectrum of flight.

More than 800,000 people from all over the world will attend the Fly In.

This year's program includes a salute to test pilots, the people who strap into the latest aviation designs and push them as far and as fast and as high as they can possibly go, pushing the performance envelope in the continuous quest for better aircraft. There will also be a salute to Korean War and Vietnam War veterans.

Mr. President, the Fly In is a terrific show, but it is only part of the ongoing work of the EAA.

The Experimental Aircraft Association works both to preserve aviation's heritage and promote its future. If you are interested in designing, building,

restoring, maintaining or flying airplanes, or if you simply take pleasure in watching aircraft perform, the EAA offers something for you through programs at the state, regional, national and international level, all aimed at making flying safer, more enjoyable and more accessible for anyone interested.

The EAA supports a foundation dedicated to the education, history and development of sport flying. It maintains a large collection of aircraft, a portion of which is on display at the EAA Air Adventure Museum in Oshkosh. EAA has created the Young Eagles program to give a free flight experience to young people, and there's a scholarship program for young people interested in aviation careers.

All this began, Mr. President, in January, 1953, a little less than 50 years after the Wright brothers flew at Kitty Hawk. Paul Poberezny and a group of flying enthusiasts met at Milwaukee's Curtiss Wright field, now known as Timmerman Field. The first Fly In was held nine months later at Curtiss Wright, drawing fewer than 40 people and a handful of aircraft.

Mr. Poberezny was elected the group's first president, and he held that post until 1989, when his son, Tom, took the reins. For the first 11 years of its existence, EAA was run out of the basement of Mr. Poberezny's home in Hales Corners, Wisconsin, near Milwaukee. Now it operates from its headquarters in Oshkosh.

Mr. President, flight has fascinated the human race for centuries. Less than a century ago, powered flight became a reality. Sixty-six years later, we landed on the moon. Still, the wonder of traveling among the clouds remains, and that spirit, along with the inventiveness and daring of pilots, designers and engineers, is nurtured by the Experimental Aircraft Association.●

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IT'S TIME TO END DEFERRAL

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, it's time to end the perverse \$2.2 billion U.S. jobs export subsidy called deferral that our Tax Code provides to big U.S. companies that move their manufacturing plants and U.S. jobs to tax havens abroad, and then ship back their tax-haven products into the United States for sale. Since 1979, we have lost about 3 million good-paying manufacturing jobs in this country, in part, because of this ill-advised subsidy.

Presidents Kennedy, Nixon, and Carter all tried to curb this misguided tax subsidy. In 1975, the Senate voted to end it. In 1987, the House voted to stop it. But in each case, high-powered lobbyists for the big corporations were able to derail it before such action could be enacted and signed into law.

In July, Robert McIntyre, Director of the Citizens for Tax Justice, offered compelling testimony in support of the effort to pull the plug on this misguided tax break at a recent Families