gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), has some very eloquent and wise thoughts on this issue.

We have had a hearing on our footprint in Germany, the 72,400 uniformed personnel in Germany, about 55,000 of whom are Army personnel; and we have also looked at the fact that American personnel can live much less expensively in places like Poland.

Mr. Chairman, from my own perspective, I will never forget that at a time when we had a dwindling list of allies who wanted to participate side by side with our young Americans who were laying their lives on the line in the Iraq conflicts, Poland sent a contingent of some 200 special operators into that theater and served with us in battle. I think it would be very appropriate, in fact, this committee has seen fit to place some money for military expenditures, for some early preliminary work in Poland, Bulgaria and Romania; and I think that we should certainly look at this Europe, this new Europe that Secretary Rumsfeld talks about in terms of the changing requirements that we have and the resultant changing strategic posture of the United States in Europe.

Mr. Chairman, I would offer this amendment. I look forward to comments from the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I know of no opposition to the amendment. I personally endorse it and support it.

Times have changed. Situations have changed. But I think one fact that is very important is the fact that NATO is an ongoing, successful organization, and it has recently expanded, and we should take advantage of that expansion and the friendship that is growing as a result of the new members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

This amendment requires a reevaluation of the current posture of American forces in Europe. It is designed only for the American forces, and it calls for a reevaluation.

I think there are a number of things we could and should consider. To begin with, I think it is important for us to remember that stationing troops in Germany is a very positive thing and that we should not rush to judgment just to move troops from Germany. But having said that, I think it is a good idea to take a look at the eastern countries. Poland, our chairman mentioned, and to their great credit, side by side, they have their special forces there, theirs with ours, in Iraq. Consequently, I think we should take advantage of that new-found friendship and that new-found military cooperation with that country and, of course, others in the region that are new to the NATO organizations.

Consider the entire picture, not being prejudiced one way or the other, but, A, take advantage of the new friends and those that are willing to help us; B, remember our old obligations and the admonitions of some that we should keep a strong footprint in Germany.

With that, I fully agree with the chairman's amendment, and I intend to support it, and I thank him for offering it at this time.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. No further amendments being in order, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. EVERETT) having assumed the chair, Mr. OSE, Chairman pro tempore of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1588) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). The Chair announces the proceedings will resume tomorrow on the motions to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1683 and H.R. 1257, originally considered yesterday.

□ 1915

VACATING ADOPTION OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 46, AMENDING SAID CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, AND ADOPTING CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AS SO AMENDED

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the action of the House adopting Senate Concurrent Resolution 46 be vacated to the end that the House hereby amend the concurrent resolution by striking ''Secretary of the Senate'' and inserting in lieu thereof ''Clerk of the House'' and adopt the concurrent resolution, as so amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

CONGRESSIONAL SPEEDWAY CAUCUS

(Ms. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the formation of the Congressional Speedway Caucus. Races like the Indianapolis 500, the Daytona 500 and the Southern 500 have become American institutions.

Hundreds of companies and thousands of individuals strive to make these spectacles of speed some of the most exciting events in the world. However, they are beginning to face unique challenges in the post-9/11 world. With some of the speedways in America hosting the largest spectator events in the country, they are already starting to express concern about homeland security needs and how they can better protect the hundreds of thousands of race fans who come to their raceways.

I have one of the greatest events, Mr. Speaker, in my district, the Indianapolis 500 Speedway Race, which is coming up next Sunday. We have 32 Members of Congress who have speedways within their congressional districts. Twenty-two of these have already agreed to be members of this exciting caucus.

I would encourage those with or without speedways in their districts to join the caucus to better represent all of the fans across the world who come to our district who come to this country to enjoy this spectator sport and try to resolve some of the impending issues of these speedways.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the names of all of the members of the Speedway Caucus who have stepped forward and joined this unique opportunity. They are as follows:

Rep. Virgil Goode (R–VA).
Rep. Charles Bass (R–NH).
Rep. Sue Myrick (R–KS).
Rep. Dennis Moore (R–KS).
Rep. Robin Hayes (R–NC).
Rep. Mike McIntyre (D–NC).
Rep. Dan Burton (R–IN).
Rep. John Spratt (D–SC).
Rep. Lincoln Davis (D–TN).
Rep. Bill Lipinski (D–IL).
Rep. Amo Houghton (R–NY).
Rep. Ken Lucas (D–KY).
Rep. Mike Oxley (R–OH).
Rep. Mike Pence (R–IN).
Rep. Bob Etheridge (D–NC).
Rep. Cass Ballenger (R–NC).
Rep. Nick Smith (R–MI).
Rep. Paul Kanjorski (D–PA).
Rep. Dennis Cardoza (D–CA).
Rep. Chris Chocola (R–IN).
Rep. J. Gresham Barrett (R–SC).
Rep. Harold Ford, Jr. (D–TN).
Rep. Jim Gibbons (R–NV).
Rep. Fred Upton (R–MI).
Rep. Mac Collins (R–GA).
Rep. Robert Scott (D–VA).
Rep. Jerry Costello (D–IL).
Rep. Ed Pastor (D–AZ).
Rep. Jim Copper (D–TN).
Rep. John Tanner (D–TN).
Rep. Patrick Toomey (R–PA).
Rep. Shelley Berkley (D–NV).
Rep. Rob Simmons (R–CT).

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JANKLOW) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JANKLOW addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.