

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREE-
MENT—ADDITIONAL COSPONSOR

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that in its first printing, the following Senator be added as an original cosponsor to the Department of Energy Abolishment Act of 1997, a bill to eliminate the Department of Energy: Mr. HAGEL of Nebraska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRAMS. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. GRAMS pertaining to the introduction of S. 238 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. BYRD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the emerging relationship between the United States and China is one of immense opportunity for both nations, and deserves the steady attention of the highest levels of both governments. Both nations need to make every effort to broaden the area of common ground in our dealings and understandings, and to engage in an open and honest dialogue on those issues, such as weapons proliferation and human rights matters, on which we have serious differences. There is a rising tide of commentary on our bilateral relationship, and it is not particularly easy to arrive at the kind of balanced approach which is both clear-eyed regarding present realities, and at the same time visionary on future prospects. One of the most thoughtful recent attempts to paint the salient highlights of this complicated picture was made last week by the recently retired Senator from the State of Georgia, Sam Nunn.

On the occasion of his selection as the 1997 recipient of the Paul Nitze Award for Distinguished Public Service, Mr. Nunn described the current state of consensus in the United States on U.S.-China policy as "very, very fragile." If that consensus were to break down, and the relationship with China were to turn sour, a historic opportunity of profound importance could be lost. Both sides need to work hard to avoid that possibility.

The consensus within the United States that Senator Nunn describes includes the healthy notion that our support for the modernization of China's legal and banking and judicial, civil service and other institutions will pay long-range dividends for our overall relationship, and for progress in China, but that modernization will not emerge magically. Sustained efforts at cooperation in both public- and private-sector activities must be ongoing.

In his remarks, Senator Nunn rightly flags the importance of the cir-

cumstances accompanying the turnover of Hong Kong to China on July 1 of this year. How well China adheres to the commitment that she has made to the people of Hong Kong to preserve Hong Kong's distinct social, political and economic identity for the next 50 years will be vital. Senator Nunn states that China's "credibility is on the line," in that China has given its word, and extended a solemn promise. A very disquieting note has just been raised by the annual report by the State Department on human rights performance around the world according to the New York Times. The report says, "Hong Kong's civil liberties and political institutions were threatened by restrictive measures taken by the Chinese government in anticipation of Hong Kong's reversion to Chinese sovereignty" in July. If China does not honor its obligations to Hong Kong, her relationship with the world, as Senator Nunn points out, will be "dealt a severe blow." Keeping her word will be a key indicator of China's general willingness to adhere to the terms of other international obligations that the United States might support, such as membership in the World Trade Organization. Hong Kong will, in July, become an integral part of China and it will take some dexterity and work on the part of the Chinese government to fulfill its promise to honor Hong Kong's unique institutions. In this, as in many other aspects of our growing relationship, patience, calmness, understanding and open dialogue will be important keys to success. The United States would be mistaken to judge too quickly or to criticize too easily. We should be cognizant that the more our interrelationships develop across the board, the more likely it will be that the warm breezes of open democracy will have its effects on Chinese society.

It will take a special effort on both sides to continue to propel our relationship along constructive channels, and to do so will require sustained effort, frequent interchanges and constant communication.

I commend Senator Nunn for his contribution to this dialogue on our China policy and recommend a reading of his address to my colleagues. I hope that his remarks will receive wide distribution.

I ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that the remarks of Senator Nunn to which I have just alluded be printed in the RECORD at this point.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

UNITED STATES-CHINA POLICY—SEEKING A
BALANCE

(By Sam Nunn)

It is a great honor for me to accept this award which bears the name of one of our Nation's greatest statesmen—Paul Nitze has dedicated his life to advancing our national interests—as a Governmental official—as a

private citizen—in war and in peace. Paul is a public servant without peer—from NSC-68 and the wise men—to the Marshall plan and NATO—Paul has led with vision. From the Committee on present Danger and Nuclear Weapons Strategy—to charting a course in the post cold war era—Paul Nitze has had the courage of his vision and has demonstrated that one man can truly make a difference.

Paul—by your example—you have defined the true meaning of statesmanship. As an admirer—a student—and a friend—it is a great honor for me to accept the Paul Nitze Award.

I am grateful to Bob Murray and CNA's board of trustees for this special honor and for CNA's contributions to our Nation's security.

These are just a few examples of the great return the taxpayers get by investing in CNA. Bob, to you and your team—keep up the good work!

There is only one catch to this wonderful evening with Paul Nitze—the awardee must deliver a lecture on a matter important to our national security—so any hope that you may have that I will say a quick thank you and sit down—is dashed on the rocks of this obligation.

If Paul were presenting a paper this evening, he would cover NATO expansion, peace prospects in the Middle East, the effect of Islamic fundamentalism on U.S. interests, the quest for eliminating nuclear weapons from the globe—as well as the emergence of China—all in clear, succinct and persuasive form. Being a mere mortal, I will confine myself to only the last subject—the emergence of China. I believe that this is an important subject on the eve of the 25th anniversary of President Nixon's historic 1972 visit to China and at a time when many Americans are questioning the policy we have pursued under both Democratic and Republican Presidents since that time.

There are many think tanks in Washington—but CNA is unique—the only one whose scientists regularly deploy in war and in peace with our operational forces.

Those of us in the Congress dealing with national security are keenly aware of your reputation for excellence and objectivity—but most of all—we are aware of your effect on policy.

In the gulf war, one of our missiles misfired and killed our own people—CNA figured out why and prevented it from happening again.

The Defense Department has to become more efficient if we are to have the funding to modernize—CNA identified billions in infrastructure savings which have been adopted by the Navy.

One of our most effective weapons is the Tomahawk Missile—CNA's recommendations have significantly improved its performance.

The growing importance of China in world affairs demands a purposeful, coherent and consistent American policy. History is littered with the uninformed and ineffective responses of an established power towards a rising power, and vice versa.

Established powers must provide consistent and credible signals about their expectations and set forth reasonable terms on which they are willing to incorporate the rising power into the international system.

We are now watching the rise of China against the backdrop of Asia's rapid industrialization. China is a nuclear power with the world's largest army and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. China also is a nation with 1.2 billion people, an economy growing at nearly 10 percent a year over the last decade—and as we too often forget—a distinctive civilization of great antiquity.