

*We cannot count on having stationed forces in the right place at the right time, all the time. This suggests the importance of long-range assets, to provide the flexibility to respond rapidly from CONUS to trouble spots around the globe. The B-2 can reach any point on the globe from just three bases—Guam, Diego Garcia, and the U.S.

*Once in the theater, U.S. assets must be both survivable and highly effective against an invading enemy force. The B-2 bomber has a combination of range, payload, and stealth that is unmatched by any other system. And, precision munitions are continuing to enhance the value of all tactical aircraft, including the B-2 bomber.

*The value of stealth for conducting operations in a high-threat environment has been clear ever since the air operations against Iraq began in early 1991. The F-117A Stealth Fighter conducted countless missions over Baghdad without any losses and are widely cited for the success of the air war. Yet the F-117A has many operational limitations—it is a medium altitude attack platform capable of effective operations only at night in clear weather.

*The B-2 is an all-altitude, all-weather platform that is more stealthy than the F-117A and that carries many more individually-targetable weapons. The B-2's advanced capabilities go well beyond those of the F-117A or any other non-stealthy bomber.

*A number of recent analytic studies have shown that against many plausible invading forces, 20 or 21 B-2 bombers are simply not enough force to stop enemy invaders short of their important strategic objectives.

*The cost of additional B-2's is high relative to non-stealthy, short-range tactical aircraft. But so is the cost of failing to stop a determined enemy short of his strategic objectives. The inherent flexibility and capability of the B-2 bomber will be most important in those cases where we are surprised, where an enemy doesn't do what we had expected, and/or where we did not plan to have to fight.

I commend these points to the attention of your Subcommittee, and would urge you to undertake a searching review of the assumptions and assertions that underlie present U.S. military contingency plans. I thank you for inviting me to submit these thoughts for the Subcommittee's consideration and for your Subcommittee's careful attention to these important questions for national security.

Sincerely,

SAM NUNN.●

REMEMBERING TURKEY'S GENOCIDE OF THE ARMENIANS

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, America has always been a haven for victims of oppression and it is fitting that Members of this body rise every year to mark April 24—the day that commemorates Turkey's genocide of the Armenians. In the first instance in the 20th century when a state declared war on a minority group, an estimated 1.5 million people were killed. We rise today to show our solidarity with the victims and our condemnation of the slaughterers.

Many Armenian survivors came to the United States, where they found sanctuary. They have prospered and their vibrant community as a whole has become an integral part of American life and the democratic process. But while realizing and contributing to

the American dream, they always remembered their Armenian origins, and never forgot their national sorrow. As Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel has written, the Armenian people are rooted firmly "in their collective and immutable memory where death itself is vanquished, because the memory of death is received as a symbol, an instant of eternity."

Their sharing of the Armenian historical experience with non-Armenians has served as a stark reminder for us all of the universality of human evil and the strength of the human spirit, even at the darkest moments. The resilience of the survivors and Armenians the world over have inspired in other peoples feelings of shared sorrow and admiration. We mourn with them, and simultaneously take pride in their ability to overcome a great historical injustice, the consciousness of which never disappears.

Unhappily for them, Armenians have been called upon to be our teachers. From their terrible suffering we have learned that states may not make war upon minority groups, and the international community will neither tolerate nor forget such transgressions. From their ability to transcend the saddest moments of their history, we take heart and recommit ourselves to remembrance, celebration, and vigilance.●

TRIBUTE TO JOE STERNE OF THE BALTIMORE SUN

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, this month, Joseph R.L. Sterne will be retiring as editorial page editor of the Baltimore Sun—a job he has held for more than 44 years.

I have known Joe for more than 20 of those years. As editor, he has been one of the best. I cannot remember a time when his name was not at the top of the paper's masthead. I read his editorials and he has read my press releases. I think I liked his better. His editorials were fair—they were fair, professional, insightful, instructive, tough and thorough.

I've learned a lot from them. So did Baltimore and so did Maryland—whether it was an observation or suggestion regarding foreign policy or firm recommendation on how to improve Baltimore's housing policy or Federal tax issues.

Joe started his career in 1953 covering the police beat. But he didn't stay there long. He quickly moved on to report on some of the most important moments in American history—from the civil rights movement to the Vietnam war to working in Africa and Germany covering international affairs. That was his true love. But he never forgot that a great hometown paper begins with a great hometown.

His kudos and criticisms spurred all of us to do our best. But then, he asked no less of us than he asked of himself. He is one of the best. I will miss Joe Sterne. Baltimore will miss Joe Sterne. I wish him our best.●

"PEACE! WHERE ART THOU?"

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I request that the statement entitled "Peace! Where Art Thou?" written by my constituent, Ruben Ortiz-Paez, be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I encourage my colleagues to read this thoughtful essay.

The statement follows:

"PEACE! WHERE ART THOU?"

(By Ruben Ortiz Paez)

At a meeting to discuss World Peace, its Chairman closed the meeting with the following remarks: "After considerable effort, we are still groping like the Blind to come up with a significant dialogue which would contribute to the cause of Peace." After slight applause, he offered to field questions.

A blind man raised his hand and he was recognized. He stood up and this is what he had to say: "Mr. Chairman and Members: I really don't have a question, but if you will bear with me, I do have a few words to say. "The Chairman approved and he continued: "I don't think that it's fair to suggest that we haven't come up with solutions; the best minds in the world are devoted to finding Peace, and so far, they have come up with Zilch!

"Peace has always been desired, but there are leaders among nations who seem to derive Satanic pleasure in obstructing or derailing Peace initiatives! How then in Heaven's name, could Peace be expected to flourish? Here's a splendid suggestion: A sure way, is for us to embrace and spread The charity of Love! For Peace is Love's God-child, and it will flourish wherever Love and compassion dwell in the Hearts of Men!

"I know that it's difficult to understand; and some would dare to say that it's just a pipe-dream! But not so, if my logic is considered with an open mind; reinforced with the Undeniable Truth, that Love is more contagious than all of the deadly viruses, so far identified by medical science and research!

"Here then, Mr. Chairman, I humbly offer the following, which I hope you may be able to consider as an acceptable contribution to the cause of Peace. It will probably be dismissed as an illusion by the skeptics, due to its spiritual connotation, but I ask you sir, what other choice do we have?

"It takes just one person who's a 'carrier' to start an epidemic! So what are we waiting for? Let's be the 'carriers' to start an epidemic of Love! It isn't all that difficult, all that it takes is for us to shed our shyness; our fear that our affection could be misunderstood! It will be well worth it, and surely the Prince of Peace, will bless us for it, since his exhortation "Love your neighbor as yourself" means not only the one next door, but all with whom we share the Earth!

"Dear Members: If I can visualize all these things despite my blindness, just try to imagine, the great and wonderful things that you will be able to accomplish with God's gift of sight and optimism, in a world firmly determined to live in Peace, in the fast-approaching New Millennium!

"Thank you for allowing me to express my pent-up emotions and my layman's assessment of such a pressing and complex subject. May God bless you!"

The blind man received a standing ovation and the applause was deafening!●

THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

● Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, On February 3, of this year, Carolyn