

\$1,823,103,000,000, one trillion, eight hundred twenty-three billion, one hundred three million.

Twenty-five years ago, September 25, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$552,347,000,000, five hundred fifty-two billion, three hundred forty-seven million which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,093,905,666,475.97, five trillion, ninety-three billion, nine hundred five million, six hundred sixty-six thousand, four hundred seventy-five dollars and ninety-seven cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF SEA CADET MONTH

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, September is Sea Cadet Month, and today I rise to pay tribute to the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. Sea Cadet organizations exist in most of the maritime nations around the world. Having recognized the value of these organizations, the Department of the Navy requested the Navy League to establish a similar program for American youth.

Since their creation in 1958—and their federal incorporation by Congress in 1962—the Naval Sea Cadets Corps has encouraged and aided American youth ages 13–17, training them in seagoing skills and instilling within them patriotism, courage, and commitment. By teaching America's youth the important role of maritime service in national defense and economic stability, the Corps has produced responsible and capable leaders. Weekly and monthly drills at local units and more intensive two-week training sessions, stress physical fitness, seamanship, shipboard safety, first aid, naval history, and leadership while advanced training sessions range from a submarine seminar to aviation school. Thanks in part to this training, Sea Cadets demonstrate the leadership skills and responsibility that allow them to excel and become leaders in their communities.

I wish to pay special tribute to LT Lance Nemanic and the Twin Cities Squadron of the Sea Cadets, for their dedicated service to Minnesota's Youth. I would also like to thank those men and women who continue to make the U.S. Sea Cadets Corps the pride of the Navy.●

NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE SPEAKER DONNA SYTEK

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Donna Sytek as she retires as Speaker of the New Hampshire House of Representatives. Donna's dedication to public service is remarkable, and she has done much in her twelve terms in the House to make life better for the people of our great state.

Throughout her nearly quarter century as a member of the House, Donna

has worked tirelessly on issues about which she feels passionate: crime, juvenile justice reform and education. She has shepherded numerous bills into law, including legislation that established the Department of Corrections, legislation that guarantees truth in sentencing; and an anti-stalking law. She also authored two amendments to the New Hampshire Constitution, including one to limit abuse of the insanity defense in 1984 and another to earmark sweepstakes revenues to education in 1990. Donna has held many leadership positions during her distinguished career as well. She has been active for many years in the National Conference of State Legislatures and currently sits on their executive committee. She is also a former chairwoman of the New Hampshire Republican Party and a past president of the National Republican Legislators association.

Donna's position in the state legislature has allowed her to travel the world to promote New Hampshire. She has visited Germany, England, Taiwan, Latvia, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Israel to learn about their cultures and economies while helping them learn a little more about our great state.

Donna and her husband John have been fixtures in their hometown of Salem since they moved there almost 30 years ago. They devote their time and energy to many local organizations including the Salem Boys and Girls Club and the Salem Visiting Nurse Association.

Donna's dedication to her community and the legislature are exemplary, and her accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. The editors of New Hampshire Editors Magazine named her "the most powerful woman in New Hampshire" in 1997.

Once again, I would like to thank Speaker Sytek for her tremendous service to the people of New Hampshire and wish her good health and happiness in her retirement. I am proud to call her my friend, and I am honored to represent her in the United States Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD MASTERS

• Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, I would like to extend my appreciation and congratulations to former Ambassador Edward Masters on the occasion of his retirement on October 18 from his position as President of United States-Indonesia Society.

During his 30-year career in the Foreign Service, in which he reached the senior rank of Career Minister, Ambassador Masters served as U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia and Bangladesh and Deputy Chief of Mission to Thailand. He also held posts in India and Pakistan and an assignment as director of the State Department's Office of East Asian Regional Affairs that involved policy coordination for the entire area.

Indonesia figured prominently in both Ambassador Masters' diplomatic and private sector careers. As Political Counselor of the United States Embassy in Jakarta from 1964–68, he worked on reconstructing U.S. relations with Indonesia at a very difficult time. This included closing out our economic aid, information and Peace Corps programs because of the highly adverse political situation in Indonesia. Toward the end of that period, he worked with various elements of the U.S. Government and NGOs to reinstitute some of those programs but to do so in a way commensurate with Indonesian culture and sensitivities. He is, in fact, particularly known in both Indonesia and the United States for his ability to work effectively in the Indonesian environment.

As United States Ambassador from late 1977 until the end of 1981, one of his major responsibilities was managing a large and very important economic aid program. He worked in particular and in detail on the Provincial Development Program, the programs to expand Indonesia's food grain production and enhance human resources development. Toward the end of his tour he organized various elements of the mission to develop programs to get the U.S. Government more effectively behind the programs to develop Indonesia's private sector and increase cooperation between that sector and the United States.

In 1994, Ambassador Masters was instrumental in forming the United States-Indonesia Society. The Society is the preeminent institution in the United States devoted to developing a broad range of programs aimed at developing greater awareness and appreciation about Indonesia and the importance of the U.S.-Indonesia relationship in all major sectors in the U.S. Ambassador Masters has given briefings throughout the United States to academic institutions and other interested groups. He has provided witness testimony on numerous occasions before the Senate and House Foreign Relations Subcommittees on East Asian and Pacific Affairs on numerous occasions. He has organized conferences and other forums bringing Indonesians and Americans together to discuss short and long-term issues of mutual concern. One such conference he organized last October in cooperation with the Embassy of Indonesia in Washington DC., brought some of the most impressive, influential, and knowledgeable individuals from Indonesia and the United States to discuss the 50 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries and to provide policy suggestions to both governments on how to strengthen ties in the new millennium.

On September 28, 1998 the Indonesian government recognized Ambassador Masters' valuable contributions and decorated him with the Bintang Mahaputra Utama, the second highest