

deployment, the unit contributed to three major offensive operations by transporting troops and supplies in some of the most difficult conditions for aviation operations.

In early October 2006, the unit returned to Pakistan for Operation Promise Keeping, a mission to commemorate the 1-year anniversary of the earthquake. The unit delivered more than 87 tons of steel sheets, cement, and construction materials to help with rebuilding efforts in Pakistan.

This weekend, at the Army Aviation Association of America's annual convention, the unit is being recognized as the Army Reserve Aviation Unit of the Year. The Pakistani people will forever remember the servant hearts of these military members. It is with an overwhelming sense of gratitude that I wish to recognize these fine service members and their families for their dedication to the cause of freedom and congratulate them on their much deserved award.●

#### RETIREMENT OF MARGARET SPRING

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a member of my staff who retired from service to the Senate after dedicating 8 years to the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. Margaret Spring, Democratic general counsel for the Commerce Committee, left the Senate for love. In doing so, she will be leaving behind a record of accomplishment that will be difficult for anyone to match. During her 8-year tenure on the committee, more than 10 major ocean and coastal initiatives, which she was heavily involved in drafting, have been enacted into law, including the National Sea Grant College Program Reauthorization, the Oceans and Human Health Act, Coast Guard Reauthorization Acts, the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Amendments Act, the Tsunami Preparedness Act, and the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act. Probably most notable are the first and last pieces of legislation Margaret worked on. The first was the Oceans Act of 2000, and the final bill was the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act.

What is clear from the passage of all these bills is both Margaret's ability to successfully negotiate and work in a bipartisan fashion, regardless of whether she was in the minority or the majority, and her unwavering commitment to making the world we live in a better place for today and for the future. Her trustworthiness and constant striving for perfection provided a process where every staffer who worked with her believed the final product was a true reflection of negotiations and discussions, and the outside parties that had an interest in the legislation, whether environmental or industry groups, while not necessarily agreeing

completely with the ultimate outcome, felt like their voices were heard. The best example of her abilities is the Magnuson-Stevens Act, which passed by unanimous consent with support from the fishing industry and environmental groups, a rarity in this day.

A hallmark of Margaret's legacy will be a cleaner and healthier environment for generations to come. The Oceans Act, which passed in 2000, created the Ocean Commission, consisting of this country's leading ocean experts. Without the legislation enacted through her efforts, Congress and the administration would be without a landmark blueprint. Margaret's work, in combination with efforts of other dedicated members and staff, has given us guideposts for what we must do to sustain the ocean environment for future generations.

While Margaret has left the Senate, she has not left her call to public service, to preserving the coastal environment, or to improving the planet for the next generation. While she and her new husband have decided to move to the West coast, she also decided to continue her passionate interest in the marine environment with a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve environmental diversity through the protection of lands and waters. The Commerce Committee, the Senate, and this country have benefited from Margaret's dedication during the past 8 years, and while she will be missed, the country will continue to benefit from her commitment, dedication, and tireless efforts to improve the world we live in.

On the eve of Margaret Spring's wedding to Mark Bunter, we wish her well as she embarks on a new chapter of her life.●

#### TRIBUTE TO GREG STEVENS

● Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the late Gregory Clark Stevens—an incredible political strategist, loyal Republican, wonderful husband and father and a terrific friend to me and my wife Janet.

Last month, our Lord took Greg from us after 58 years on Earth. Greg's last days weren't easy on him or his family as he suffered from brain cancer. But he was able to find an inner peace that I know helped him in his final days.

Looking back, Greg had a full and accomplished career—a career that led to many people, including myself, getting elected and doing immense good for our Nation.

After graduating from the University of Maine in 1971, he spent half a decade as a reporter in New Jersey, and was then hired as President Gerald Ford's reelection campaign press secretary. He was hired by former New Jersey assemblyman turned campaign manager for Ford, Thomas Kean. Kean later returned to New Jersey and, after a defeat running for the same office, he was later elected Governor and hired Greg to be his communications director.

When Kean was reelected in 1981 he made Greg his chief of staff.

A fellow Ohioan, Roger Ailes, hired Greg in 1988 to work on Vice President George H.W. Bush's campaign for the Presidency. Then, 2 years later, Greg ran my successful campaign to be Governor of the great State of Ohio.

A few years later Greg opened his own consulting business in the Washington suburbs and had many clients. I remained one of them, with Greg running my multimedia campaign in 1994 for my second term as Governor, then in 1998 and 2004 for my current Senate seat. He did a marvelous job and we became good friends. And it meant a great deal to Janet and me that we had someone working with us who cared so much about us personally. We always said hiring Greg was the best decision we ever made.

But it was his genuine caring for me and my family that translated into his incredible television ads that helped get and keep me elected. Greg always "got us," we used to say, and got our values. And he communicated those values through his commercials in a way that no one else could.

Over the years Greg has worked for many famous people and been involved in numerous historic and epic political battles. But that is not how I really remember him. I remember Greg as a fine man and good friend.

As time goes on and we get older, and our families seem to grow and grow, our free time seems to shrink more and more. So there wasn't a lot of time for me to make it up to Maine to see my friend Greg. But I did take the time to send him a letter right before he passed.

In that letter I reminded him of the good work he did on behalf of me and the Nation, and about how I cherished our friendship and fighting the good fight together, but also about how worried I am about our kids and grandkids and what kind of opportunities they will have in the future. I told him I would love to talk to him about these things again soon but, unfortunately, time ran out.

Greg Stevens meant a lot to a lot of people. And he did so much good while he was with us here on Earth.

A minister's son, I know Greg found comfort knowing this life was not all there was. I concluded my letter to Greg with this: "I'm sure you are comforted by the thought that you will be with our Father, eternally happy, and that one day we all will be together again."

I look forward to seeing my good friend Greg once again.●

#### HONORING DEL GREENFIELD

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, those of us entrusted to represent our States in the Senate are so unbelievably fortunate thanks to the wonderful people we meet and work with along the way. These encounters remind us on a regular basis of the inherent goodness of