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points out the importance of continuing and expanding such efforts while working for peace around the world. The quality of our defense systems must be continually upgraded, an achievement that can only be produced through research and development as advocated by the State editorial of February 1.

I ask unanimous consent that the editorial entitled "Nation Must Continue Research, Development" be printed in the RECORD.

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

**NATION MUST CONTINUE RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT**

Despite the size of the big defense budget submitted to Congress by President Nixon, there is some indication that the proposed spending will be somewhat short on research and development, at least in contrast with that being conducted by the Soviet Union.

Millions of Americans, fed up with the cost of the Vietnam war in both lives and money, will question the necessity of defense spending (after Vietnam) at a level surpassing that of any other year in history—including World War II.

True, they can appreciate the added costs due to inflation and to the substantially increased pay scale aimed at attracting volunteers into the armed services. But we fear that the public may not realize one of the important spinoffs of our involvement in Southeast Asia—the relative gains made by Russia and other potential adversaries (including Red China) in the development or improvement of weapons systems during recent years.

While billions of American dollars were being consumed in Vietnam for conventional munitions of war and the means of delivering them, Russia and China (especially Russia) were plowing money and brainpower into research and development, nuclear and otherwise. Furthermore, the Vietnam battlefield, north and south, served as a testing ground for their new weapons and techniques.

One evidence of that seems obvious even to the non-military observer: during the cessation of bombing, the North Vietnamese were able to deploy advanced anti-aircraft missiles and improve their fire control methods to such an extent that American aircraft were shot down in discouraging numbers when bombing was resumed.

This destruction, if we were to believe columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak (*The State* of January 30), was accomplished by what they described as the "primitive" Russian SAM-2 missiles. More sophisticated anti-aircraft weaponry, Evans and Novak say, was being poured into Egypt and perhaps other Communist nations of the Mideast.

Here in the hinterland, we have no way of judging the accuracy of the Evans-Novak assessment. But if they are correct, then the United States has all the more occasion to play catch-up with the Soviet Union in surface-to-air and air-to-surface developments.

Mr. Nixon's budget and his messages to Congress and the people included expressions of determination to keep America strong—both for our own defense and for the fulfillment of our commitments abroad. But little was said or implied about the development of brand new weapons systems.

We have the unhappy feeling, for example, that the Russians are moving ahead of America in devising military application of the laser beam, which had its origin in American genius and ingenuity.

We do not question the President's determination to safeguard the security of the United States. But we worry over what seems to be a lessening of stress upon the con-

tinuing and crucial need to keep military research and development on the front burner of the national budget.

**POST-VIETNAM RECONCILIATION
URGED BY ROCHESTER POST-
BULLETIN**

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, the Rochester, Minn., Post-Bulletin for January 24 contains an excellent and thoughtful editorial on the cease-fire and peace agreement in Vietnam.

There is blame enough for all of us in the Vietnam tragedy. But nothing is gained by attempting now to apportion it. That is a task for time and the historians. For our own part, it is a time for binding up the wounds. In the words of the Post-Bulletin editorial:

Now is the time for reconciliation, not recrimination.

I ask unanimous consent that the editorial be printed in the RECORD.

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

THANK GOD IT'S OVER

Those four simple words, voiced last night by Minnesota Sen. Walter Mondale, must perfectly express the feelings of millions of Americans who heard President Nixon's announcement that an agreement has been reached to end the war in Vietnam.

Major terms of the accord, which goes into effect Saturday evening, include an internationally supervised cease-fire, returns of American's POWs and accounting of the MIAs within 60 days, withdrawal of all American military forces within those 60 days, and the guarantee that the South Vietnamese will determine their own future "without outside interference."

No one could possibly be under the illusion that that last point will be automatically achieved. Most knowledgeable observers don't even bother to wonder if the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong will cheat, but only when and where. Just what can be done about it by peace-keeping forces is unknown at this time.

Far, far overshadowing any nagging reservations, however, is the relief that for America this tragic conflict will be over. Not since the Civil War has this nation been so torn apart, and thus the simple word, Thank God It's Over, must pretty well sup up the nation's attitude.

President Nixon called it "a peace with honor," and we believe him. We, like countless others, hoped that the peace agreement could have been reached long ago; but it wasn't and there is no point in continuing to assess "blame" either to Mr. Nixon, who wound down the war, or to his two predecessors who wound it up.

Now is the time to bind up the divisive wounds. In particular, the attitude of the militant antiwar faction will be of crucial importance. For some of them, opposition to the war led to a senseless "hate" of their own country. Now that the war is over, it will be interesting to see if they pitch in and do their part to help unify this nation so that progress can be made on many vital domestic problems. Now is the time for reconciliation, no recrimination.

**REPORT OF THE CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE OF THE UNITED STATES
MISSION TO EUROPE**

Mr. PERCY. Mr. President, last fall the Chamber of Commerce of the United States sent a distinguished factfinding

mission to the European Economic Community headed by the chamber's executive vice president, Arch N. Booth. The chamber mission held 50 formal meetings between September 25 and October 14. The principal objective of the mission was to develop fresh insights into the economic issues outstanding between the Community and the United States, and to serve the chamber as a guide in formulating its own recommendations for U.S. policy with regard to the trade, monetary, and other problems confronting the United States in its relationships with the Community. These recommendations for U.S. policy have been formally presented to President Nixon and I think they should be available as well to Members of the Senate. They are very thoughtful, very useful, guidelines for the development of trade legislation and a trade and monetary negotiating position for the United States. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is to be commended highly for its initiative and the timeliness of its mission as trade legislation will receive highest priority treatment by this Congress.

I ask unanimous consent that the report of the mission of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the items were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NOVEMBER 15, 1972.

HON. CHARLES H. PERCY,
*U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR PERCY: Prior to my departure last September on a National Chamber fact-finding Mission to the European Community, you were considerate enough to convey your best wishes and hopes for the Mission's success. In particular, you urged that we impress upon American businessmen in Europe that their participation could be a crucial factor in efforts to defeat Burke-Hartke and similar legislative proposals.

Our Mission was indeed a success in this and all other aspects and we are pleased to enclose a report of our findings. The report has been submitted to President Nixon.

The report includes a number of recommendations relevant to the type of Presidential negotiating authority that the Congress will be requested to provide. These recommendations have taken into consideration the views of the many Europeans who met with the Mission and consequently reflect a profile of trade negotiations that would be supported by the European business community.

We look forward to opportunities to discuss the Mission's findings with you.

With best wishes,
Cordially,

ARCH N. BOOTH.

**IMPERATIVES FOR UNITED STATES-EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RELATIONS**
(Report of National Chamber Mission to
Europe, September 25–October 14, 1972)

INTRODUCTION

The continued expansion and prosperity of the European Community is one of the most positive developments in the world today. The Community's progress has produced benefits in terms of European political stability, economic growth and increased world trade that convincingly justify the faith and dedication of its founders and supporters.

In particular, the United States has benefited enormously from the Community's