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THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DIPLOMACY

EXCELLENCE IN DIPLOMACY AWARD

AND

A BOOK OF DISTINCTION ON AMERICAN DIPLOMACY PRIZE

Washington, DC

December 12, 1995

Your Excellencies, friends, ladies and gentlemen.

This is my first public appearance as Chairman of the American Academy of Diplomacy, and I want to thank this distinguished audience for, albeit inadvertently, helping to make this first event of our nation's election season a peaceful and pleasant transition. I know I speak for my partner, Ambassador Sam Lewis, our new Vice-Chairman, when I say that we appreciate the graceful manner in which Lawrence Eagleburger, our outgoing Chairman, and Roz Ridgway, our most capable outgoing Vice-Chairperson, have abdicated their seats of power and transferred that power to Sam and to me. All that we asked is that Bruce Laingen remain as our President.

This evening, we gather to assert and reassert a fundamental truth which must be appreciated if our nation is to enter the 21st century realizing our aspirations for peace, stability and human dignity. That truth is the understanding that diplomacy and those who practice that noble profession are as essential to the security of our nation as any other institution available to us; and that includes our noble and respected military forces and our distinguished and regrettably less respected political branches of our government.

We assemble tonight to bestow our "Excellence in Diplomacy" award to a most deserving recipient because we intend to help reinvigorate and reiterate the reality that a weakened diplomatic corps and process inevitably saps the strength, energy and vitality of our nation. We must overcome the prejudice of narrow-mindedness and remind the American people and their elected representatives that a dollar spent in a diplomatic initiative may well avoid the expenditure of many thousands of dollars and lives in a later even more costly military operation. Wars begin and debates occur as to whether to use ground troops or air power only when diplomacy has not been effectively utilized or even tried.

As we prepare to enter the 21st century, we have an opportunity to move away from the tyrannical rigidities of the Cold War. Our world is smaller. It has significantly changed. The sound of a whisper or a whimper in one part of the globe can be immediately heard in all parts of the globe. The institutions of science, technology, medicine, communication, and business are increasingly global as we enter a new world of potential opportunity for all peoples. Boundary lines can keep our vaccines, but they cannot keep out germs, or ideas, or broadcasts. This fact has implications for our national security as we search for ways to play a constructive leading role in an international community which is yearning to have its political structures match the dramatic developments of science and technology. This is a challenge for diplomats to face, to explore, to debate, to explain.

Those who would denigrate diplomacy, or relegate it to second-class citizenship, are performing a disservice to our nation and to our values. They will be held answerable not only to history, which will hold them accountable,

but to the American people as well. Now is the time to strengthen the institution of diplomacy and those agencies of government, where that diplomacy is housed. The instruments of diplomacy must be examined and, where necessary, changed to reflect the new dimensions and challenges ahead. That task must be undertaken expeditiously and free of partisanship and institutional rivalry.

Our "Excellence in Diplomacy" award, which we give tonight to Ambassador at Large Robert L. Gallucci, is a vital part of our effort to make the American people understand the importance of diplomacy as an instrument to advance our interests and values. Bob Gallucci, who brought with him to Washington a doctorate in political science and a rich experience as a teacher of political science in a number of colleges and universities, is a career foreign service officer with more than twenty years of experience and an outstanding record of performance which is modestly described in your program. It includes service in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the Bureau of Intelligence and Research at the State Department, the Secretary's Policy Planning Staff, Office Director of the Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, the Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, Deputy Director General of the Multinational Force and Observers in Rome, the National War College, and the United Nations. He is a long-standing member of the Senior Executive Service

Dr. Gallucci has gilded the lily of his illustrious career by earning recognition as one of our nation's most gifted troubleshooters. This started with the United Nations special commission overseeing the disarmament of Iraq, where he served as a representative of our government. More recently, at a time of great international tension, he helped to diffuse that tension as a result

of his creative leadership as our negotiator with the North Koreans, a most difficult and challenging responsibility which opens the door ever so slightly toward possibilities of greater understanding and stability in that part of the world. In the past few weeks, he has been asked by the President and the Secretary of State to assume even greater responsibilities in coordinating all activities relating to the implementation of the Dayton Peace accords affecting the former Yugoslavia.

It will be my privilege and pleasure to present Ambassador Gallucci with our "Excellence in Diplomacy" certificate and the financial token of esteem that goes with it. Before doing so, however, I want to read the following messages of congratulations:

[Read letters from Presidents Bush and Clinton]

Ambassador Gallucci is accompanied tonight by his wife, Jennifer Sims, a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in INR at the Department of State and their two children, Jessica and Nicholas.

Bob, as I hand you this certificate and award, let me read you a statement made by John Adams in 1809: "If I had refused to institute a negotiation or had not persevered in it, I should have been degraded in my own estimation as a man of honor.

Ladies and Gentlemen, our man of honor, Robert Gallucci.