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CEREDO, WEST VIRGINIA +-- IN A SPEECH TO THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DINNER FOR THE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST WINNERS, CONGRESSMAN NICK J. RAHALL, OF WEST VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT SAID, "AS A NATION, WE MUST ALWAYS RECOGNIZE THAT THE BEST WAY TO MEET MILITARY AND IDEOLOGICAL THREATS AROUND THE WORLD IS TO MAKE OUR OWN DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM WORK HERE AT HOME."

"THE STRONGEST DEFENSE," RAHALL STRESSED, "GROWS OUT OF A STRONG HOME FRONT."

RAHALL, WHO WILL BEGIN HIS THIRD TERM IN THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NEXT JANUARY, WENT ON TO SAY, "ALL OF OUR COURAGE, ALL OF SKILL WILL PROFIT US VERY LITTLE IF WE FAIL TO MAINTAIN OUR STRENGTH. A STRENGTH THAT RESIDES WITHIN OUR HEARTS--HEARTS FILLED WITH PRIDE AND PAST ACHIEVMENTS, HEARTS FILLED WITH HOPE FOR A PROMISING FUTURE, HEARTS FILLED WITH COURAGE FOR CHAL-LENGERS THAT STAND BEFORE US."

"IT IS THE DUTY OF EVERY ONE OF US TO ENSURE THAT WE HAVE SOMETHING WORTH DEFENDING IN AMERICA," THE BECKLEY NATIVE SAID.

CONGRESSMAN RAHALL PRAISED THE LOCAL SPONSORS OF THE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST, AND SPECIFICALLY THE V.F.W. "AS THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO FOUGHT SO THAT THIS NATION COULD REMAIN FREE, YOU ARE NOW BUILDING A BASE FOR THE FUTURE, BY HELPING AND TRAINING AMERICA'S YOUNG PEOPLE."

RAHALL, HIMSELF, WAS A VOICE OF DEMOCRACY WINNER WHEN HE WAS A STUDENT AT WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL IN BECKLEY.

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