This is Congressman Nick Rahall.

During this season of the year, our thoughts turn to preparations for family gatherings, Christmas shopping, and holiday decorations. It is indeed a time for celebration, and a time for joy.

Amidst all the hustle and bustle of this happy season, we sometimes lose sight of what we are actually observing---which is peace on earth, and good will to all men.

As a nation, we can be thankful that no American soldier anywhere in the world is presently engaged in combat. While international tensions may exist---we are at peace.

Christmas is indeed a special time of year, and on behalf of myself, my wife Helen, and our two children Rebecca and Nicky, we extend holiday greetings and best wishes for the New Year to all our friends in southern West Virginia.

This is Congressman Nick Rahall.