

people each year, the State Department estimates.

Most victims are civilians in war-torn countries like Angola, Cambodia, Vietnam and El Salvador, but land mines also pose risks to U.S. troops participating in the Bosnian peacekeeping mission.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and the International Red Cross have urged a worldwide ban on land mines. And Canada, Austria, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Mexico, the Netherlands and five other countries already have renounced their use.

But until now, U.S. military officials have insisted they needed the option of using land mines to protect the lives of American soldiers. They also have argued that the United States should not give up a weapon if other nations won't.

Despite Pentagon objections, Leahy pushed through Congress a one-year ban on the military's use of anti-personnel land mines, except along borders and in demilitarized zones. The ban would begin sometime within three years, and President Clinton signed it into law.

"The rest of the world wants the United States to lead on this," Leahy said in an interview Sunday. "If the most powerful nation in the world can't do away with land mines, how can we ever persuade other countries to?"

Shalikhshvili ordered the review of Pentagon policy after he and Defense Secretary William J. Perry received a confidential letter from the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Madeleine K. Albright, the Times said.

Albright, who had just returned from Angola, urged that the current policy on land mines be changed, the Times said. Parts of the letter were read to the newspaper by an unidentified official who received a copy.

Leahy argues that many military officials, both retired and active-duty, also privately support a permanent ban on land mines.

"This is not a Republican-Democratic, liberal-conservative or civilian versus military issue," Leahy said.

The Pentagon estimates Bosnia has 3 million land mines and Croatia another 3 million. Some are sophisticated; others crude or homemade. NATO officials say no more than 30 percent have been mapped.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I see nobody else seeking the floor, so I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The absence of a quorum has been noted. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistance legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I do not see anybody seeking recognition, so I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak as in morning business for 6 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NUCLEAR TERRORISM

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the General Accounting Office has released a report which describes the appalling state of Russia's nuclear waste storage facilities. It described how a GAO investigator was able to enter one facil-

ity without identifying himself, and there was only one guard present, who was unarmed. There are other descriptions of incredibly lax security that even the most inept thief could easily penetrate undetected. It is almost an open invitation.

The implications of this are staggering. A grapefruit-sized ball of uranium, which would weigh about 30 pounds, could obliterate the lower half of the city of New York. A lot more uranium than that is already unaccounted for. We do not know whether it is in the hands of terrorists, or where it is. All we know is that it is missing.

We have already witnessed several instances of nuclear smuggling, in some cases enough uranium to cause incalculable damage. The fact that these attempts were thwarted should not give anyone a lot of confidence about the future because many, if not most, crimes go unsolved.

Mr. President, I mention this today both because of the timeliness of the GAO report, but also because we spend countless hours, sometimes days and months, here holding hearings on arcane topics and debating sometimes relatively meaningless resolutions, unless it is meaningful for someone's campaign, or voting repeatedly on issues that pale in importance to the dangers of nuclear terrorism. We make speeches about it. I am making one now. But when it comes to providing the money and other resources to seriously address this threat, the Congress oftentimes shirks its responsibility.

One good example is in the foreign aid budget. Some Members of Congress were eager to take credit for sharply cutting funds for foreign aid last year over the objection of myself and a minority of other Senators. To his credit, Senator MCCONNELL, the chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, supported funds to combat international crime, as did I. But the budget was cut anyway. In fact, some of those funds could have been used to help safeguard nuclear material in countries of the former Soviet Union. It would be hard to think of an example where foreign aid is more in the interest of the security of the American people.

I want to single out Senator NUNN and Senator LUGAR, who have led the effort in Congress to get funds appropriated to safeguard nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Union. Senator NUNN made the point in today's issue of Defense News, when he said "there is skepticism about spending any money in Russia. Nunn-Lugar funds are often described as foreign aid, in quotes, as if some type of charitable giving was going on * * *. We are talking about dismantling warheads and missiles aimed at us * * * things we spent trillions of dollars trying to arm ourselves against."

We are about to begin the fiscal year 1997 budget process. I hope that the Congress does not make the same mistake twice. I hope Members of Congress

will read this GAO report on nuclear proliferation. Unlike some Government reports that you can read to help fall asleep at night, this one will keep you awake. Cutting these programs is the ultimate example of penny-wise, pound-foolish. I am already hearing rumors that foreign aid may be slashed again this year. If that happens, some of those who vote that way should ask themselves what responsibility they bear.

There is no way to guarantee the safety and security of fissile material, but there is a lot more that we and others can and should do to combat the threat of nuclear terrorism. It is going to cost a lot of money. Budgets are already stretched, but can anyone here say that we can afford to watch this problem get worse? This is about the security of every American, and of future generations.

So I urge the Department of Defense, the Department of State, the Department of Energy, and other agencies with responsibility for nuclear safety to develop an effective program to combat this threat. Tell us what needs to be done, and come to Congress with a request for adequate funding for it.

I wish there were better security controls in the former Soviet Union, but there are not. That is the reality, and it is a reality that a lot of thieves, a lot of would-be terrorists know even better than we do.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KYL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THOMAS. I ask unanimous consent that I be given 5 minutes as if in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THOMAS. I thank the Chair.

CHINA-TAIWAN RELATIONS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I wanted to comment just a moment on an effort we made last week and intend to make again tomorrow relating to the affairs in the Taiwan Strait. All of us know that there has been now for some time a series of threats, a series of missiles, a series of live-ammunition military maneuvers by the People's Republic designed, we believe and I believe, to intimidate the Taiwanese election that comes up this week. Certainly, our country and the world, indeed, has a great interest in what happens in this area, partly because of our efforts to improve our relationship with the People's Republic of China—a relationship that will be increasingly important as time goes by, increasingly important to the Pacific rim and to the Asian

area, increasingly important in the area of trade; 1.2 billion people with an economy growing at 10 percent—partly because of our concern for Taiwan and the development there of a democracy, this election of the President, the first free election that has been held, one of the first areas of success of democracy in an Asian country; partly because of the agreements that we have made with Taiwan and China through the years, three communiques and the Taiwan Act that spells out where we are, spells out the fact that we have supported the one-China policy and continue to support the one-China policy, spells out the fact that basic to that agreement is the agreement that it be pursued in a peaceful way, and that it not be involved in the military action.

So I think it is appropriate that we do have a statement from this Senate. We have put together a resolution. We put it together last week. It has sponsorship by the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee as well as the ranking member, and is sponsored by the leader, BOB DOLE. However, we were not able to bring it up by unanimous consent last week. We have now talked to those who were concerned about it, and hopefully we will be able to bring it up tomorrow and get it passed.

The resolution basically, of course, deplores the notion and the activities of the Peoples Republic in these military actions, the idea that they have fired off missiles very close to Taiwan, close to both the ports of Taiwan, and now are involved in live-ammunition activities there.

We have asked in the resolution for the People's Republic as well as Taiwan to come together to discuss these issues in a peaceful way. We also recognize our obligation, if there is military action against Taiwan by the People's Republic, that we will assist in helping them prepare for themselves to have the equipment to defend themselves.

Hopefully, these activities are simply efforts to intimidate. I believe they are. I believe they are simply an expression of the concern that the People's Republic has had, and I hope that they will discontinue that kind of activity. I further hope the Taiwanese will go out of their way not to create the kind of tension that we have had.

So, Mr. President, we intend to bring again, tomorrow, a resolution that will put the Senate on record in that regard.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA 1995 CONGRESSIONAL BREAKFAST

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, this week in March is a traditionally busy one here in Washington as tens of thousands of children of all ages arrive in the Nation's Capital. They come to the District of Columbia from all over the United States during their spring break vacation to learn about our Government and our history, both of which are unparalleled.

Over the past 4 or 5 days, I doubt that there one Member of this Chamber who has not met several groups of his or her young constituents, boys and girls who have stopped by for Gallery passes, a photo, or just to say "hello." I also doubt that there is one Senator who was not pleased to meet with these children as each of us recognizes that the youth of today represent the future of our country. That recognition clearly guides us as we work to ensure that the United States remains a nation of opportunity and freedom.

While what we do here in the Senate helps our children, there are other organizations out there who dedicate all of their efforts to making the lives of our youngest citizens better. One such group is the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. From coast to coast and from north to south, there are boys and girls clubs in thousands of communities of every imaginable size. The service this organization provides range from recreational activities to counseling, but most importantly, they provide a place for our young people to go and be involved in constructive activities.

Each year, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America hosts a congressional breakfast, and as the Capitol is filled with children this week, I thought this would be an ideal time to share the thoughts and comments of those who spoke at this year's event. Their comments will give those who read them an insight into this organization and the significant work they do.

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

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

1995 CONGRESSIONAL BREAKFAST SENATOR THURMOND

Representative Steny Hoyer, Mr. George Grune, the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Robbie Callaway, the Senior Vice President, Melvin Laird, Arnold Burns, one of the outstanding lawyers of this nation, Judge Freeh, all of the distinguished guests, and ladies and gentlemen, I'm very honored to be here on this occasion. Now, as a Senator, there are a lot of events you are asked to attend. I'm always pleased to attend this breakfast. It's the twelfth year.

I'm a strong believer in the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. There's no more important resource than our children. Boys & Girls Clubs of America work to help protect and promote that resource. This is an organization that is making a difference in the lives of tens of thousands of at risk teens. It provides parks and recreational activities, a safe haven from the mean streets, teaches

kids the importance of work and responsibility, works to get kids into school, into jobs, off welfare roles, out of public housing and away from the temptations of a life of crime.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America is an organization on the move, serving more children each year. Thirteen years ago, they served approximately one million kids. This year, they are serving more than 2.2 million boys and girls. More than 1,700 clubs are in the United States. Last year, they averaged an opening of one new club every three days. This is a group that seeks continued growth. By the year 2001, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America aims to have 1,000 new clubs, 1 million new members, over 3 million kids involved in productive activities.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America is one of the most effective organizations in the nation for supporting our children. It is an organization worthy of the support of everyone in this room. As members of Congress, we are in the position to help the Boys & Girls Clubs and our children. We can support legislation that is beneficial to the Boys & Girls Clubs. One example is the current crime bill. The Boys & Girls Clubs of America is seeking 100 million dollars out of the crime bill over the next five years. The Board of Directors of the Boys & Girls Clubs will match that 100 million from the crime bill. That is 200 million dollars pumped directly into the future of our nation's children.

By attending this breakfast, each of you is demonstrating your support for a worthwhile cause. I urge you to continue to help the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. You can do nothing more worthy. We are proud of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and we're going to keep on working to make it bigger and stronger every year. Good luck, God bless you and God bless the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and God bless our country.

CONGRESSMAN STENY HOYER

One problem with the Strom and Steny show is that I have to follow Strom Thurmond. Thurmond and Hoyer, that sounds like a good name for a firm at some point in time. Strom's show has been running a lot longer than mine, as you know, but I'm always amazed at the energy, his commitment and the verve that he brings to life and the endeavors which he undertakes. And Senator, I want you to know what an honor and privilege it is to co-chair this breakfast on a continuing basis with you. George Grune, your leadership is critically important. General Burns, you've seen General Burns up here, he looks a lot like Colin Powell. I asked him if he was running for President. He's got those four stars on his lapel, here. I'm sure it's got to have something to do with that. He is outranked, of course, at his table by Secretary Laird and the Secretary is keeping him in line, luckily, so they'll be peaceful. Pete Silas, thank you for all you've done and your leadership. We look forward to working with you on a continuing basis. My friend, Robbie Callaway. I think we ought to give Robbie Callaway a big round of applause for the outstanding leadership he brings to this effort on a regular basis. Ken Gordon is here today, too.

Six or seven of the top law enforcement officials in our nation are here. We have Louis Freeh and a group of his distinguished colleagues. They're the ones who lock up and help convict those who break the laws in our country, to keep our communities and streets and schools safe. That's their job. We ask them to do that. They're people that sometimes themselves risk their life and limb to do so. They're here this morning and I reflect on why and what message that brings us. They're here because unless parents and Boys & Girls Clubs leaders and other youth leaders all over this country do