

importing States like Kentucky and Indiana from becoming garbage colonies for States who aren't willing to deal with their own waste problems.

Mr. President, this issue has recently come to the forefront of national news with the announcement of the closure of Fresh Kills landfill in New York. This 3,000-acre monstrosity located on Staten Island receives 26 million pounds of garbage daily. The 48-year-old landfill, known as the world's largest garbage dump, is so enormous that it can actually be seen by orbiting astronauts.

Closure of this facility will necessitate an astounding outflow of garbage from New York City that will be absorbed by States as far away as Kentucky. I, for one, refuse to stand by and allow Kentucky to become a garbage colony.

Unfortunately, the House has absolutely stalled on this issue. Hopefully, with the inclusion of the Coats amendment, interstate waste problems will finally be addressed during a conference with the House of Representatives.

Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the interstate waste amendment offered by the Senator from Indiana.

Last Congress, I introduced legislation to give localities the opportunity to restrict the flow of interstate waste into landfills in their communities. In my view, it is essential that local governments be given the authority they need to determine for themselves whether to accept out-of-State waste. I am pleased that S. 534, the legislation which passed the Senate overwhelmingly last year, contained provisions that will help protect communities from being inundated with unwanted garbage generated out-of-State and provide localities with some leverage to deal with landfill developers who seek to dispose of out-of-State trash.

The pending amendment—identical to the one we passed last year—deserves the support of all Members. In my view, it strikes the appropriate balance between importing States and exporting States, and solves a problem which has persisted for too many years. Because this issue deals with interstate commerce, only Congress has the authority to resolve the problem of unwanted out-of-State garbage, as the Senators from Indiana, Michigan, and Montana have discussed. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to reaffirm our support for this legislation, and make passage of this bill a priority during the remainder of this session.

With that, Mr. President, I thank my colleagues and yield the floor.

Mr. COATS. I yield the floor, Mr. President. I 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. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I see the chairman of the committee and the ranking member on the floor. I mentioned earlier that I very much appreciate the statements by them, if they will urge the House to adopt this amendment.

Might I ask the chairman of the committee, along with the ranking Member, if they will, in pushing this, consult with the chairman of our committee, Senator CHAFFEE, as well as the ranking member as you work with the House in attempting to persuade them to adopt the amendment. As we all know, there might be give and take and some modifications. I very much hope that the managers would consult the managers of the authorizing committee.

Mr. DOMENICI. Let me respond. This is not just a Republican bill. So I would say for the Record that we will consult not only with the chairman, but we will consult with the ranking member of the committee of jurisdiction as it moves its way through.

Mr. BAUCUS. I appreciate that. I thank the Senator.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the managers of the bill we passed this morning, the foreign operations appropriations bill. In that measure, one of the amendments accepted by the managers deals with a subject that I have spent many months of my legislative career on. It is an issue that has become easier to talk about, by this Senator, but not easy to talk about. I have spoken a number of times about the issue of female genital mutilation.

I was of course struck last week, Mr. President, when again I read in the Washington Post, and the same article appeared in newspapers around the country, that another young girl died as a result of this barbaric practice. This death occurred in Egypt, an 11-year-old girl.

Mr. President, these brutal, vicious practices take place all over the world. These practices leading to death are not reported often, even though deaths occur frequently. In this instance, the one in the Washington Post last week, the Associated Press:

An 11-year-old girl bled to death after a botched circumcision performed by a village barber, police officials said today.

The officials said the child, whose name was given only as Sara, died Friday in a

Cairo hospital after doctors were unable to stem bleeding.

The girl's clitoris was removed, in line with custom, by a barber in a village in the Nile Delta the day before, when several girls were circumcised during a village celebration. . . .

The government has sought to end female circumcision . . . a ritual aimed at keeping women clean and chaste. It has banned the practice from state medical facilities.

Mr. President, what is this practice that is sweeping the country? It is something that has been in existence for a long time. FGM is the cutting away of female genitals and then sewing up the opening, leaving, many times, only a small hole for urine and menstrual flow. It is performed on children, but it is also performed on girls, and it is also performed on young women, up to age 22 or 23 years old. The initial operation, as indicated in this news article, leads to many health complications, complications that plague these young women most of their lives, if they are fortunate enough to survive the initial cut.

The immediate health risks are not over after a couple of months or even a couple of years after the operation. During childbirth, additional cutting and stitching takes place with each birth, and all this recutting and stitching creates scar tissue and emotional scars that are not seen.

There is no medical reason for this procedure. It is used as a method to keep girls chaste and to ensure their virginity until marriage, and to ensure that after marriage they do not engage in extramarital sex.

In September 1994, I introduced a sense-of-the-Senate resolution condemning this cruel practice and committed at that time to inform my colleagues and the country about this practice. This sense-of-the-Senate resolution was passed. A month later, I introduced a bill to make this procedure illegal in the United States, and called upon the Secretary of Health and Human Services to identify and compile data on immigrant communities that have brought this practice to the United States. I have been joined in this effort by the junior Senator from Illinois, CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN, and the senior Senator from Minnesota, Senator WELLSTONE. I am happy to report my legislation directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services was passed this year in the omnibus appropriations bill. Another amendment which criminalized FGM in the United States is still pending in the immigration bill.

Mr. President, this barbaric practice is now being conducted in the United States because of the inflow of people from around the world. We have had a report in one California community where there were seven of these practices committed on young women. I hope the conferees working on the immigration bill are allowed to proceed and get this very important bill ironed out, and this provision I direct the Senate's attention to.

FGM is a practice that has been around for thousands of years. In fact, some say it was there during the time of Cleopatra. We need to continue to talk about it, insist upon aggressive education of communities, especially African communities that practice it, as well as implementation of laws prohibiting it.

Mr. President, 6,000 young women and baby girls are mutilated each day—6,000. Two million girls are mutilated a year, at least.

I have three little granddaughters and a daughter. To even think about a procedure like this, on these people that I love—it is hard to consider. Six thousand people, just like my little granddaughters and my daughter, are having this done to them each day. It is estimated we have had about 130 million girls and women genitally mutilated. The practice is predominantly practiced in Africa; 75 percent of all cases occur in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, and the Sudan. In Somalia, 98 percent of the girls are mutilated; 2 percent escape.

Today many African countries are sifting through their cultures and revising some traditions while holding on to others. The time is right for the international community to take a stand against this practice, without destroying the cultural integrity of the Africa countries where it is entrenched.

Mr. President, if the international community and some organizations are so concerned about human rights violations, why they do not talk about this—some do—and why there is not an outrage in the international community to stop this, is beyond my comprehension. There are certain practices that take place in some countries. We do not like the way they conduct their prisons. We do not like the way they handle their arrests, their interrogations. For Heaven's sake, why do we not care what they are doing to 6,000 girls each day?

Mutilation is not required by any religion. It is an ancient tradition designed to protect virginity. That is what it is for. In communities where education initiatives have taken place, we are starting to see the death rates are down and the health risks certainly outweigh the dated notion that this procedure will keep girls chaste. In the past, FGM was mishandled on the international level. It was sensationalized and spoken about in a condescending manner. This approach created a defensive reaction, forcing the practice to go underground.

As African immigrants move throughout world, taking this barbaric practice with them, many women are working to halt the practice in their new communities. Few are willing to speak up in their traditional communities. But this is occurring in countries where they immigrate. They are immigrating to the United States, Canada, Australia, France, and the United Kingdom, to name only a few.

The United States, I believe, is a world leader and needs to realize its influence in the world. I do not believe it is our place to go into other countries and dictate their traditions. But, at the same time, we need to show African governments that we take this issue seriously. We need help from others in the international community. We expect those countries to work not only to pass laws stopping this, but to work to educate people about the harms of this ritual and, in the process, take steps to eradicate the practice.

Most often we refer to FGM and women, but we need to look at this, Mr. President, from the eyes of those who talk about child abuse. This is not spanking, this is not correcting children; this is mutilating children, and we certainly have to speak out against this.

Children do not deserve having this done to them. Young ladies do not deserve having this done to them.

We know a lot about the psychological effects of child abuse. We know that because we have had significant studies recently in the United States. Imagine the psychological effect this must have on children from the initial operation throughout adulthood.

Mr. President, I first learned about this from a friend of mine. A mother of six children sent to me a videotape of a program that was on one of the TV stations about this happening in Egypt.

A beautiful little 6-year-old girl comes to a party. She has on a white dress. She is dressed for a celebration—cake, drinks, party. Suddenly, they grab this little girl, spread her legs and cut her genitals out. The little girl, when it is finished, screams, "Daddy, why did you do this to me?"

Mr. President, 6,000 young children each day are screaming, "Why did you do this to me?" The health complications are a constant reminder of the mutilation they underwent.

I had the opportunity and the pleasure to meet a courageous young woman by the name of Stephanie Welsh. Stephanie is a young lady who graduated from Syracuse University and wanted to see the world. She went to work for an international news organization in Kenya.

While there, she became interested in this barbaric practice of female genital mutilation. She tried for a long time to get someone within the community to allow her to view one of these procedures. They do 6,000 of them a day in the world, so they go on all the time in Kenya. She could not get anybody in the city to allow her. They did not trust this non-African from the United States.

So Stephanie went out into the country. She befriended some people, and they allowed her to take photographs of this ritual. A courageous woman. In fact, the day she completed this, they had no water in the village. She couldn't drink the water because of typhoid, and she walked 15 miles without water in the very hot desert Sun in Africa carrying her film.

She had to go to a small community in the bush because communities closer to the cities know the Western view of FGM is torture rather than ceremony and would not allow her to observe.

This is the young girl. Her name is Seita. This beautiful child of 16 was told that if she was going to continue her education, she had to have her genitals cut out, in effect. So she came home and went through this process. This is the girl.

This picture, which I hope you can see, shows five people over Seita. It took five people to hold this strong 16-year-old down while they proceeded to circumcise her, is the gentle word.

This, Mr. President, is the picture that Stephanie Welsh—who, by the way, won a Pulitzer Prize for her courageous photography—this is Seita in the bush looking at herself to see what they have done to her.

Of course, Stephanie describes the scream of this 16-year-old girl. She is checking herself here to see what has been cut away, if enough has been cut away so they do not have to do it again.

The next one is the picture of the instrument of torture: a double-edged razor which you buy in a drugstore. I do not know how many times it has been used or what it has been used for. This is what they used to cut out Seita's genitals. You see the white on her hand. That is what they use to stop the bleeding. It is the fat from a sheep, sheep fat, goat fat, that they use. This is the hand that did the torture, did the brutality.

Here, Mr. President, is something—I am used to the picture now, but I was not in the beginning—this is Seita's foot. This is the blood that is flowing from her body after this torture. The red here is not something on the ground, it is not a blanket, it is not a scarf, it is Seita's blood, the blood on her foot, going up between her toes, on her other foot from her.

The final picture of the Pulitzer Prize-winning series is this girl being comforted by one of the village elders.

The pain will last for a lifetime and complications will last for a lifetime. So I very much appreciate the committee accepting this amendment last night. This amendment will give the U.S. executive director of each international financial institution the power to oppose loans for the government of any country that does not enact laws that make it illegal and enact policies to educate and eliminate this brutality.

I know the custom is deeply embedded in African culture, but that does not mean we should stand by and pretend it is not happening. Simply making it illegal will not be effective. Many of these communities are located in remote areas, and there would be no logical means to enforce the law. Therefore, more than making it illegal, we need to insist upon governments educating people to the health risks and dispelling the myth that FGM keeps women chaste.

Mr. President, I very much appreciate the managers of this bill allowing me to speak on this issue which I feel very strongly about, and I hope the international community will join with us in educating and stopping this brutality of 6,000 girls each day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GORTON). The Senator from New Mexico.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, Senator GRASSLEY wants to speak as in morning business. But before we do that, we would like to adopt the Coats amendment to this bill at this time.

AMENDMENT NO. 5092

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, we have no objection on our side to adopting the Coats amendment, and there is no objection on the Democratic side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the amendment by the Senator from Indiana?

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator ROBB be added as a cosponsor.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 5092) was agreed to.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. COATS. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask unanimous consent that Senator GRASSLEY be permitted to speak up to 10 minutes as in morning business.

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

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I do not think I will use all that time.

MARINE CORPS GENERALS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I want to speak about something that is in conference now between the House and Senate on the fiscal year 1997 defense authorization bill, something I spoke about several times on the floor of this body before. I think I have some new information. In fact, I do have some new information that I was not able to use in the last debate.

This information has a direct bearing on the Marine Corps request for 12 more generals that is a bone of contention in the conference between the House and the Senate—the Senate supporting it, the House, thus far, in their deliberations on the other side being opposed to increasing the number of Marine Corps generals.

I did not have this particular piece of information when I addressed this matter on the floor on June 26 and again on July 17. I spoke on the extra Marine Corps generals during consideration of both the fiscal year 1997 defense authorization bill and the defense appropriations bill. In fact, I offered an amendment to block the Marine Corps request for more generals, but I failed.

These missing documents would have greatly strengthened my case. I want to thank Washington Post writer Mr. Walter Pincus for his alerting me to the fact that these documents existed. I am not talking about some purloined Pentagon documents either.

I am referring to the legislative history behind the current ceiling on general officer strength levels. First, there is section 811 of Public Law 95-79 enacted in July 1977. That established a ceiling of 1,073 general officers after October 1, 1980.

Second, there is section 526 of title X of the United States Code, and this happens to be current law. Section 526 placed a ceiling on the number of general and flag officers serving on active duty at 865 after October 1, 1995.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have these two sections of the law printed in the RECORD, along with other relevant materials.

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

PUBLIC LAW 95-79 [H.R. 5970]; JULY 30, 1977—
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATION
AUTHORIZATION ACT, 1978

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SEC. 811. (a)(1) The total number of commissioned officers on active duty in the Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force above the grade of colonel, and on active duty in the Navy above the grade of captain, may not exceed 1,073 after October 1, 1980, and the total number of civilian employees of the Department of Defense in grades GS-13 through GS-18, including positions authorized under section 1581 of title 10, United States Code, shall be reduced during the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1977, by the same percentage as the number of officers on active duty in the Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force above the grade of colonel and on active duty in the Navy above the grade of captain is reduced below 1,141 during such fiscal year, and during the fiscal years beginning October 1, 1978, and October 1, 1979, by a percentage equal to the percentage by which the number of commissioned officers on active duty in the Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force above the grade of colonel and on active duty in the Navy above the grade of captain is reduced during such fiscal year below the total number of such officers on active duty on October 1, 1978, and October 1, 1979, respectively.

(2) On and after October 1, 1980, the total number of civilian employees of the Department of Defense in the grades and positions described in paragraph (1) may not exceed the number employed in such grades and positions on the date of enactment of this subsection reduced as provided in paragraph (1).

(3) In time of war, or of national emergency declared by Congress, the President may suspend the operation of paragraphs (1) and (2).

(b)(1) Subsection (b) of section 5231 of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(b) The number of officers serving in the grades of admiral and vice admiral under subsection (a) of this section and section 5081 of this title may not be more than 15 percent of the number of officers on the active list of the Navy above the grade of captain. Of the number of officers that may serve in the grades of admiral and vice admiral, as determined under this subsection, not more than 25 percent may serve in the grade of admiral.”

(2) Such section 5231 is further amended—
(A) by striking out subsection (c):

(B) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (c), (d), and (e), respectively; and

(C) by striking out “numbers authorized under subsections (b) and (c)” in subsections (c) and (d) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B)) and inserting in lieu thereof “number authorized for that grade under subsection (b)”.

(3) Subsection (b) of section 5232 of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(b) The number of officers serving in the grades of general and lieutenant general may not be more than 15 percent of the number of officers on the active list of the Marine Corps above the grade of colonel.”

(4) The second sentence of subsection (c) of such section is amended by striking out the period and inserting in lieu thereof a comma and the following: “and while in that grade he is in addition to the number authorized for that grade under subsection (b) of this section.”

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZATION ACT, 1978—CONFERENCE REPORT

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Reductions in Certain Military and Civilian Positions in the Department of Defense

The Senate amendment to the House bill (sec. 302) provided for a reduction in the number of general officers and admirals by 23 below planned levels in fiscal year 1978 and an additional reduction of 47 in fiscal year 1979 to an authorized level of 1,071 and also provided for an alteration of the statutory provisions governing admirals in the Navy and generals in the Marine Corps to place them in a similar position to the Army and the Air Force when the national emergency provisions lapse. The Senate amendment (sec. 502) also provided for a reduction in the number of civilians in General Schedule grades GS-12 through 18, or equivalent, by 2 percent in fiscal year 1978 and by the same proportionate reduction as applied to generals and admirals for fiscal year 1979.

The House bill contained no such provisions.

The conferees agreed to reduce the authorized levels of generals and admirals to 1,073 over a 3-year period beginning with fiscal year 1978 and to apply a reduction to Defense civilian employees in General Schedule grades GS-13 through 18, or equivalent, by the same proportionate amount over the same period. The conferees feel strongly that the reductions in the numbers of top-ranking military personnel should be coupled with a concurrent reduction in the numbers in the top six Defense civilian grade levels. For this reason, Sections 302 and 502 of the Senate amendment have been combined and set out as a separate provision (sec. 811) in the general provisions of the conference report. The conferees also agree that all civilian reductions shall be accomplished through attrition. The conferees concluded that a technical correction of the Senate provision was required to achieve consistency between statutory provisions affecting admirals and Marine Corps generals and the general officers of the other services.