

were written. Since 1992, more than 20 such maps have been created and added to the collections of the Library of Congress. To remind Americans of the importance of reading to individuals and to the nation, the Center for the Book of the Library of Congress has chosen *Building a Nation of Readers* for the Library of Congress's national reading promotion campaign for the years 1997-2000. The Library also wants to identify local historical collections that should be linked with the National Digital Library.

Favorite Poems

Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky will take the lead in the "favorite poem" project, which will feature approximately 100 Americans from all walks of life choosing and reading aloud a favorite poem. The resulting audio and video archives, in Mr. Pinsky's words, will be "a record, at the end of the century, of what we choose, and what we do with our voices and faces, when asked to say aloud a poem that we love."

Commemorative Coin and Stamp

Legislation has been introduced for a Bicentennial commemorative coin. The Library of Congress is also exploring a Bicentennial commemorative stamp series, based on its unparalleled collections, to be issued in the year 2000.

Bicentennial Publications

Between the fall of 1997 and the year 2000, the Library of Congress will produce several major publications as part of fulfilling its Bicentennial goal of stimulating creativity and wisdom through greater understanding of the Library and its remarkable collections. Highlights of the Bicentennial publishing program include:

1997

Eyes of the Nation: A Visual History of the United States

A pictorial and narrative history published by Alfred A. Knopf, *Eyes of the Nation* contains more than 500 full-color and duotone illustrations from the Library's collections. The book marks the centennial of four of the Library's major collection divisions: *Prints and Photographs*, *Manuscript, Music and Geography* and *Map*. An *Eyes of the Nation* CD-ROM is also available.

The Library of Congress: The Art and Architecture of the Thomas Jefferson Building

Published by W. W. Norton, *The Art and Architecture of the Thomas Jefferson Building* features essays and 280 illustrations, 185 of them in color, depicting the architecture and decorative elements in this magnificent building. The book commemorates the centennial of the building's opening.

1998

The Jefferson Building: A Guide for Visitors

This publication will provide visitors a compact, but fully illustrated book.

1999

The Library of Congress: A Bicentennial History

Published by Yale University Press, the volume will be a well-illustrated popular history and interpretation of the Library's 200 years of service to Congress and the nation.

Encyclopedia of the Library of Congress

The illustrated, one-volume reference work will contain 12 topical essays and approximately 150 brief entries about the Library and its activities.

2000

The Library of Congress in American Life, 1800-2000

The Library of Congress in American Life will be a four-volume documentary set, featuring the Library's chronology, biographies of the Librarians of Congress, documents and re-

sources for the study of the Library, and current scholarly research about the Library and its role in American life.

VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE THOMAS JEFFERSON BUILDING

A *Virtual Tour of the Thomas Jefferson Building*, with photographs and moving panoramas of the splendid public spaces and other rooms of this historic building, is currently being prepared for the Library's World Wide Web site.

OTHER BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Among other Bicentennial projects in the early planning stages are major exhibitions, *Jefferson Knowledge, and Democratic and America at Play*, and national television programming.

Jefferson, Knowledge, and Democracy Exhibition

This major exhibition is being planned for April-October 2000 and will use Jefferson's personal books that he sold to the Congress in 1815, his personal papers, his architectural drawings, his personal artifacts (such as his original "reading machine," a revolving reading stand which he designed) to examine his ideas. A secondary theme will be how these ideas—in architecture, the arts, law, science, politics, music, geography, agriculture, and other subjects—have influenced America and the world.

Jefferson's idea on the relationship between knowledge and democracy are as vital today as when he first enunciated them. This is clearly evident in the intense debate on those ideas among contemporary Jeffersonian scholars, which will be explored in the exhibition. Jefferson's coupling of knowledge and freedom also are at the root of the current impassioned demand for an information "superhighway" whereby knowledge can be speedily and universally disseminated.

The exhibition will be the centerpiece for a series of events and multi-media projects that will help make Jefferson's ideas (and the Jefferson-Library of Congress connection) understandable to a wide audience. Interpretive brochures, a catalog, educational materials, a summer institute for teachers, a concert of music in Jefferson's time, films, and various videos will enhance the exhibition.

America at Play Exhibition

America at Play is the second exhibition to celebrate the Library's 200th anniversary; through it visitors can see and enjoy how Americans have amused themselves over the past two centuries. Drawing on the Library of Congress's extensive and unique collections, the exhibitions will take its cue from prints, photographs, maps, travel literature, recorded audio and visual materials, manuscripts, and books to cover topics such as the exploration of the west and the rise of tourism; the development of recreational areas in the country; the growth of spectator and recreational sports; the importance of recorded music and film classics; and the golden age of television.

To link these separate elements, the exhibition will select from its unparalleled collection of political cartoons and drawings and the writings of American humorists. These visual commentaries will further illustrate and put into context the "amusements" covered. The exhibition, on display from the Fall of 2000, will be accompanied by a catalog, and educational and outreach programs, including a series of musical comedy and film presentation and live performances.

PROPOSED BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

A variety of Bicentennial projects have been proposed, including local newspaper

surveys to identify the most influential book and film of the century, an international conference on comparative constitutional law, a Library-related photography contest with an exhibition of winning photographs traveling around the country, a conference about national libraries at the Library of Congress, and the joint celebration of National Library Week and the Library's Bicentennial in April of 2000.

SUPPORT FOR THE BICENTENNIAL

The Bicentennial projects will be privately funded, with substantial support from the *James Madison Council*. The Madison Council will be established in 1990 to help the Library share its unique resources with the nation and the world.

LOOK FOR UPDATES TO THE BICENTENNIAL PROGRAM

The Library of Congress Bicentennial home page will be changed as the program develops. Check in at this address—<http://www.loc.gov/bicentennial/>—for the latest information on Bicentennial activities and events.●

WORKPLACE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to support a bill introduced by my colleagues Senators KERRY and COATS to protect workplace religious freedom.

I have long championed the rights of individuals to freedom of religious observance and practice. I believe individual Christians, Jews, Muslims, and others should be able to honor their religious beliefs without fear of losing their jobs.

For example, employees should be able to observe Good Friday, the Jewish Sabbath or wear clothing required by one's religion. I've met with many constituents who have expressed their concern to me that they have been discriminated against because of their religious practices.

My State of Maryland already has many employers who are sensitive to the needs of religious accommodation. However, there is room for improvement. One Arab-American woman from my State told me she cannot wear her traditional Muslim garb at her place of employment. I know there are other stories like this which cut across all faiths.

If an employee's religious practice does not cause an undue hardship on an employer, an employee should be given the freedom to observe or practice a religious custom.

I am dismayed that many individuals are discriminated against in our society, because of their religious beliefs. Our country was founded on the premise that everyone has a right to religious freedom. We need to preserve this doctrine.

Unfortunately, the courts have interpreted title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 very narrowly when it comes to religious practices. This bill would restore the basic tenet of religious freedom to thousands of individuals who have met with discrimination at the workplace.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 1164, the Workplace Religious Freedom

Restoration Act. I believe religious accommodation is a cherished right that we must protect. •

SITUATION IN IRAQ

• Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, the United States is once again facing a decision about whether and how to respond to Iraqi intransigence over the issue of its continued development and concealment of weapons of mass destruction and their associated delivery systems. It is imperative that we not back down, as has already been the case to an alarming degree.

All countries act out of their own economic self-interest. The United States is no exception. We should not, however, acquiesce in such conduct in the case of Iraq. Russia, which seeks compensation for weapons it sold to Baghdad during the Soviet era as well as the hard currency and access to oil that Iraq represents, and France, which similarly pursues contracts for the development of Iraqi oil, have led the way in arguing for a relaxation of the economic sanctions levied against Iraq as a result of its 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Countries like Egypt and Kenya have demonstrated growing sympathy for Iraq's economic situation.

The reason why the United States should stand firm and not continue to adopt essentially meaningless positions on the question of sanctions is quite simple: Iraq has to a remarkable degree always held its destiny in its own hands. Little was asked of it other than to come clean on the extent of its efforts to develop weapon systems capable of threatening stability in the world's most volatile region. And, yet, it has consistently, for more than 6 years now, refused to do that, repeatedly challenging the international community and miscalculating the ramifications of its actions.

With regard to its efforts at developing chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons and the missiles to deliver them, a particularly illuminating episode occurred back in August 1995. It was then that Saddam Hussein's sons-in-law, one of whom had been in charge of overseeing the development of those weapons, defected to Jordan. Anticipating the intelligence coup for the United Nations that was to come, the Iraqis decided to preempt the damage the defectors could cause by revealing a wealth of documents—over half-a-million pages—detailing their biological weapons program. Mr. President, 150 steel trunks and boxes stuffed with documentation that was to have been turned over in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf war, yet would likely have remained hidden indefinitely had the defections not occurred, suddenly and miraculously appeared.

Iraq's refusal to abide by the rules of civilized society and to test the will of the international community has been manifested in other ways also. In October 1994, it moved thousands of troops toward the Kuwaiti border, precipitat-

ing a costly but essential deployment of United States military forces to the region to deter a repeat of the 1990 invasion. Whether Iraq intended to invade Kuwait at that time is highly unlikely; whether a failure to respond on the part of the United States would have emboldened Saddam is beyond dispute.

Two years later, Iraq launched a large-scale concerted ground campaign against Kurdish enclaves in the country's north. Saddam was able to exploit longstanding, violent divisions within the Kurdish population to reestablish a measure of control over territory denied it since the Gulf war. In so doing, it sent a resounding message to the Kurdish population, including that part to which it allied itself during its military incursion, that it was willing and capable of asserting itself within its borders. Particularly disturbing, if totally in character for Saddam, his intelligence service utilized the opportunity to hunt down and execute Kurdish factions hostile to his brutal rule, including hundreds of individuals who had cast their lot with the United States.

The Clinton administration's response to that incursion into territory supposedly under U.N. protection was to launch a small number of embarrassingly ineffectual cruise missile launches in an entirely different region and to expand the no-fly zone in the south. If our intent was to prevent a horizontal escalation of the conflict, we succeeded. The fact that there was not apparent intent on the part of Saddam at that time to conduct military operations in the south was purely academic.

The most recent incident started out considerably more ambiguous, but is no less damaging to the U.N.'s ability to enforce its provisions over the protracted periods of time necessary to get results. Iraq clearly violated the no-fly zone, but only after Iranian attacks against bases of the People's Mojahedin of Iran situation on the Iraqi side of the border. There is a noticeable dearth of sympathetic parties here, but the bottom line is that the no-fly zone was violated, and the administration was correct to respond. Iraq's apparent retaliatory measures, in effect, the refusal to permit United States citizens to participate in the U.N. inspection teams enforcing Security Council resolutions, has been appropriately rejected by members of the Council.

The problem lies in the political environment Council members France and Russia continue to create that encourages Saddam to believe he can act with impunity. It is absolutely imperative that the administration communicate to these countries, as well as to others sympathetic to the plight of the Iraqi people, that the sanctions must remain in place until Iraq finally does what it has resisted doing for 6 years: abide by the conditions of the cease-fire. Saddam himself holds his coun-

try's welfare in his hands. All that is asked of him is to place that welfare above his drive to threaten his neighbors with chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons. The fact that he has been unwilling to accept that very basic condition illustrates the need to maintain the sanctions in perpetuity if necessary. The international community was willing to isolate South Africa for an indefinite period of time until fundamental changes were implemented. It is entirely reasonable, and essential for the future of our friends and allies in the Middle East as well as for our own economic well-being, that the international community demonstrate the same steadfastness in the case of Iraq that it did with South Africa. Morally and practically, it is the only option available to us. •

PROMOTION OF JOHN H. OLDFIELD, JR.

• Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the promotion of John H. Oldfield to Brigadier General of the Georgia Air National Guard and applaud his lifelong service to the State of Georgia and to the U.S. military.

Mr. President, Mr. Oldfield, who was born and still resides with his wife and one son in Savannah, GA, has received numerous distinguished military awards and decorations over his career in the Armed Services. These accomplishments, as well as his lifelong dedication to the well being of the State of Georgia, have led to his recent promotion, which was unanimously approved by the U.S. Senate on October 30, 1997.

Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brigadier General Oldfield and wish him continued success in his new position. •

FAREWELL TO JOHN STURDIVANT

• Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, yesterday, the Federal employee community said a final goodbye to John Sturdivant, the president of the American Federation of Government Employees. John lost his battle with leukemia on October 28.

John Sturdivant led the American Federation of Government Employees—AFGE—since 1988. In fact, in August he won reelection to another term. To say that he will be missed is an understatement.

Although we did not always agree over the years, there was never any question of John's ultimate goal—protection of the interests of Federal employees.

John Sturdivant was a strong leader and forceful defender of the rights of Federal employees. He recognized the need for public servants. Federal employees provide a necessary and valuable service to our country. They should not be misunderstood or mistreated or maligned. John was himself a good public servant and worked hard to be a strong advocate. •