

the United States in an effort to best imitate their ancient democracy;

Whereas Greece is one of the only three nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict this century;

Whereas the heroism displayed in the historic World War II Battle of Crete epitomized Greece's sacrifice for freedom and democracy as it presented the Axis land war with its first major setback and set off a chain of events which significantly affected the outcome of World War II.

Whereas these and other ideals have forged a close bond between our two nations and their peoples;

Whereas March 25, 1997 marks the 176th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution which freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable to celebrate with the Greek people, and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which our two great nations were born: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That March 25, 1997 is designated as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy." The President is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, today I am pleased to submit a resolution along with 43 of my colleagues to designate March 25, 1977, as "Greek Independence Day: A Celebration of Greek and American Democracy."

The Greeks began the revolution 176 years ago, that would free them from the Ottoman Empire and return Greece to its democratic heritage. It was, of course, the ancient Greeks who developed the concept of democracy in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people. Our Founding Fathers drew heavily upon the political and philosophical experience of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy. Thomas Jefferson proclaimed that, "to the ancient Greeks * * * we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness." It is fitting, then, that we should recognize the anniversary of the beginning of their efforts to return to that democratic tradition.

The democratic form of government is only one of the most obvious of the many benefits we have gained from the Greek people. The ancient Greeks contributed a great deal to the modern world, particularly to the United States of America, in the areas of art, philosophy, science, and law. Today, Greek-Americans continue to enrich our culture and make valuable contributions to American society, business, and government.

It is my hope that strong support for this resolution in the Senate will serve as a clear goodwill gesture to the people of Greece with whom we have enjoyed such a close bond throughout history. Similar resolutions have been signed into law each of the past several years, with overwhelming support in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Accordingly, I urge my Senate colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 57—CONCERNING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BOND, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. GORTON, Mr. KERREY, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, and Mr. REID): submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 57

Whereas the Expedition commanded by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, which came to be called "The Corps of Discovery", was one of the most remarkable and productive scientific and military exploring expeditions in all American history;

Whereas President Thomas Jefferson gave Lewis and Clark the mission to "... explore the Missouri River & such principal stream of it, as, by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado or any other river may offer the most direct & practicable water communication across this continent for the purposes of commerce. . .";

Whereas the Expedition, in response to President Jefferson's directive, greatly advanced our geographical knowledge of the continent and prepared the way for the extension of the American fur trade with Indian tribes throughout the area;

Whereas President Jefferson directed the explorers to take note of and carefully record the natural resources of the newly acquired territory known as Louisiana, as well as diligently report on the native inhabitants of the land;

Whereas Lewis and Clark and their companions began their historic journey to explore the uncharted wilderness west of the Mississippi River at Wood River, Illinois on May 14, 1804, and followed the Missouri River westward from its mouth on the Mississippi to its headwaters in the Rocky Mountains;

Whereas the Expedition spent its first winter at Fort Mandan, North Dakota, crossed the Rocky Mountains by horseback in August 1805, reached the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of the Columbia River in mid-November of that year, and wintered at Fort Clatsop, near the present city of Astoria, Oregon;

Whereas the Expedition returned to St. Louis, Missouri, on September 23, 1806, after a 28-month journey covering 8,000 miles during which it traversed 11 future States: Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon;

Whereas the explorers faithfully followed the President's directives and dutifully recorded their observations in their detailed journals;

Whereas these journals describe many plant and animal species, some completely unknown to the world of science or never before encountered in North America, and added greatly to scientific knowledge about the flora and fauna of the United States;

Whereas accounts from the journals of Lewis and Clark and the detailed maps that were prepared by the Expedition enhanced knowledge of the western continent and routes for commerce;

Whereas the journals of Lewis and Clark documented diverse American Indian languages, customs, religious beliefs, and ceremonies; as Lewis and Clark are important figures in American history, so too are Black Buffalo, Cameahwait, Sacajawea, Sheheke and Watkueis;

Whereas the Expedition significantly enhanced amicable relations between the United States and the autonomous Indian nations, and the friendship and respect fostered between the Indian tribes and the Expedition represents the best of diplomacy and relationships between divergent nations and cultures;

Whereas the Native American Indian tribes of the Northern Plains and the Pacific Northwest played an essential role in the survival and the success of the Expedition;

Whereas the Lewis and Clark Expedition has been called the most perfect Expedition of its kind in the history of the world and paved the way for the United States to become a great world power;

Whereas the President and the Congress have previously recognized the importance of the Expedition by establishing a 5-year commission in 1964 to study its history and the route it followed, and again in 1978 by designating the route as the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service; and

Whereas the National Park Service, along with other Federal, State, and local agencies and many other interested groups are preparing commemorative activities to celebrate the bicentennial of the Expedition beginning in 2003: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its support for the work of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and all the Federal, State, and local entities as well as other interested groups that are preparing bicentennial activities to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition during the years 2004 through 2006;

(2) expresses its support for the events to be held in observance of the Expedition at St. Louis, Missouri in 2004 and Bismarck, North Dakota in 2005, and many other cities during the bicentennial observance; and

(3) calls upon the President, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the National Park Service, American Indian tribes, other public officials, and the citizens of the United States to support, promote, and participate in the many bicentennial activities being planned to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

BICENTENNIAL OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

• Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, today I am submitting a Senate resolution to focus national attention to the Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition which will be celebrated during the years 2003-2005. I am pleased that Senators BOND, BURNS, CONRAD, COCHRAN, CRAIG, DASCHLE, GORTON, JEFFORDS, KERREY, MOSELEY-BRAUN, MURRAY, GORDON SMITH, and REID have joined me as cosponsors of this resolution.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition is one of the most remarkable events in our history. In the words of historian Paul Cutright, "the Lewis and Clark Expedition stands, incomparably, as the transcendent achievement of its kind in this hemisphere, if not the entire world." Known as the Corps of Discovery, the expedition traversed a vast expanse of largely unknown territory that was just added to the United States through the Louisiana Purchase.

The expedition was conceived by Thomas Jefferson at his home in Monticello, VA. His primary motivation was to find a water route to the Pacific Ocean for commercial reasons. But President Jefferson was interested in far more than trade routes. He was equally interested in expanding the Nation's knowledge of the flora, fauna, geology, geography, and the native peoples who inhabited this vast expanse of unexplored territory that was recently added to the United States. He specifically instructed Lewis and Clark to carefully record what they found. The historic Lewis and Clark Journals were the result of that Presidential directive. The journals, maps, drawings, and specimens which Lewis and Clark produced vastly enhanced the Nation's scientific knowledge and created a lasting cultural legacy for the Nation.

During their 28-month journey, the expedition crossed 11 future States. All along the route—from St. Louis, MO, to Mandan, ND, to Fort Clatsop, OR—preparations are already underway to celebrate this epic exploration. The National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council was formed to stimulate and coordinate bicentennial activities across the Nation. Its mission is "to commemorate that journey, rekindle its spirit of discovery, and acclaim the contributions and goodwill of the native peoples." In cooperation with, Federal, State, tribal, and local governments as well as other interested groups, the council will undertake educational programs, re-enactments of historical events, essay competitions, symposia, athletic events, and other commemorative activities in observances of the bicentennial of this historic journey.

I hope this resolution will help to focus public attention on this great American adventure and its remarkable achievements.

SENATE RESOLUTION 58—RELATIVE TO THE TREATY OF MUTUAL COOPERATION AND SECURITY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN

Mr. ROTH (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. MACK, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 58

Whereas, the Senate finds that the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the United States of America and Japan is critical to the security interests of the United States, Japan and the countries of the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas, the security relationship between the United States and Japan is the foundation for the security strategy of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas, strong security ties between the two countries provide a key stabilizing influence in an uncertain post-Cold War world;

Whereas, this bilateral security relationship makes it possible for the United States and Japan to preserve their interests in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas, forward-deployed forces of the United States are welcomed by allies of the United States in the region because such forces are critical for maintaining stability in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas, regional stability has undergirded economic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas, the recognition by allies of the United States of the importance of United States armed forces for security in the Asia-Pacific region confers on the United States irreplaceable good will and diplomatic influence in that region;

Whereas, Japan's host nation support is a key element in the ability of the United States to maintain forward-deployed forces in that country;

Whereas, the Governments of the United States and Japan, in the Special Action Committee on Okinawa Final Report issued by the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee established by the two countries, have made commitments to reducing the burdens of United States forces on the people of Okinawa;

Whereas, such commitments will maintain the operational capability and readiness of United States forces;

Whereas, the people of Okinawa have borne a disproportionate share of the burdens of United States military bases in Japan; and

Whereas, gaining the understanding and support of the people of Okinawa in fulfilling these commitments is crucial to effective implementation of the Treaty;

Now, therefore, it is the sense of the Senate that:

(1) The Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the United States of America and Japan remains vital to the security interests of the United States and Japan, as well as the security interests of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region; and

(2) the people of Okinawa deserve special recognition and gratitude for their contributions toward ensuring the Treaty's implementation and regional peace and stability.

• Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself and Senators THOMAS, MACK, and ROCKEFELLER to submit a sense-of-the-Senate resolution expressing our gratitude to the Okinawan people for their contributions toward ensuring the viability of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between the United States of America and Japan. My friend and colleague, Rep. LEE HAMILTON, is submitting a similar resolution in the House of Representatives today.

Mr. President, the Security Treaty forms the core of our bilateral security arrangements with Japan and of our overall security strategy for the Asia Pacific region. Those arrangements have helped provide the peace and stability that have undergirded the region's economic success—from which the United States has benefitted directly.

To help ensure the viability of the Treaty, this past December, the United States and Japan agreed on terms to return roughly 20 percent of the land used by the American military. The Special Action Committee on Okinawa Final Report issued by the United States-Japan Security Consultative Committee sets out timetables for the return of the land. It also calls for training and operational procedures aimed at lessening the intrusiveness of

American forces in Okinawa and improvements in certain procedures of the Status of Forces Agreement.

Even with the coming changes, Japan will continue to provide our forces based in that country with significant amounts of host nation support. And no one in Japan shoulders a more disproportionate share of that burden than the people of Okinawa.

For their many contributions to the United States-Japan relationship and the peace and stability of all the Asia Pacific region, the Okinawan people justly deserve our recognition and our sincerest thanks. That is precisely what this resolution does. But it also goes further: the resolution makes it clear that the continued support of the Okinawan people is crucial if we are to maintain a bilateral relationship that serves both our countries' interests, as well as those of the Asia Pacific and the entire world.

In light of the need for the support and understanding of the Okinawan people, and of the prefecture's continuing economic problems, I hope the Government of Japan gives serious consideration to some of the ideas that have been circulating on making the prefecture into a bastion of free trade and investment. The surest cure for Okinawa's economic ills is a dose of fundamental market reform.

Mr. President, I submitted a similar resolution at the end of the 104th Congress. While that resolution was cleared for passage, Congress adjourned before we could take the measure up for final consideration. Because of the importance of the United States-Japan relationship, I urge all my colleagues to join me in making passage of this resolution possible this year. •

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a series of five workshops have been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management to exchange ideas and suggestions on the proposed "Public Land Management Responsibility and Accountability Restoration Act."

The first workshop will take place on Tuesday, February 25, beginning at 2:30 p.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The topic for this workshop will be titles I (part A), III, and V focusing on how we would restructure the resource management planning, eco-region planning, and Resource Planning Act systems.

The second workshop will take place on Wednesday, February 26, beginning at 2:30 p.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The topic for this workshop will be subpart B title II which addresses changes to administrative appeals and judicial review procedures.

The third workshop will take place on Wednesday, March 5, beginning at