

many academic and athletic honors. In fact, he graduated first in his class. He later received a B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Missouri and a J.D. from Texas Tech University's School of Law.

He previously served for 6 years as my legislative director, during which he became known for his special expertise in natural resources and energy issues.

In the private sector, he has practiced law in both Austin and Dallas, TX, specializing in oil and gas, public lands, natural resources and environmental law.

No recounting of Charles Gentry's life of public service would be complete without noting nearly 11 years in the U.S. Army, where he served with valor as a pilot of fixed and rotary-winged aircraft. When Charles's helicopter was shot down in combat in South Vietnam, he was severely wounded and ultimately medically discharged with the rank of major. His combat decorations include the Bronze Star, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Purple Heart.

Following his years of military service, Charles became a White House fellow and was assigned as a special assistant to the Attorney General of the United States, after which he became Director of the Office of Special Projects at the Environmental Protection Agency.

To summarize our work together in the years that Charles has served me, this institution, and the people of New Mexico is a tough job, especially since I know that our relationship will not end with his leaving my staff. This is not the end of a book, rather merely the close of another chapter rich with memories and packed with accomplishment. I wish him much success and happiness as he opens the door to his new chapter in his life.

My wife, Nancy, and I look forward to many more years of friendship and send our best to Charles and his wife Gerrie, his parents, the Roy Gentrys now retired in Albuquerque, his son Geoffrey and daughter Cheryl.

For his fierce intellect, his incredible capacity for hard work, his political insight and his faithful friendship for so many years, I say from the bottom of my heart, "Thank you, Charles, for a job well done."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri is recognized for 8 minutes.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS REFORM AND RESTRUCTURING ACT OF 1997, ASHCROFT ANTITERRORIST PROVISION

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, the African nation of Sudan is a cradle and safe haven for the world's most vicious and violent terrorists. It is a country internationally renowned as a training base for terrorist groups.

The Armed Islamic Group, Hamas, Abu Nidal, Palestinian Islamic Jihad,

Hezbollah, and the Islamic Group, all practice car bombing and hostage taking on the sands of Sudan's deserts.

Sudan also harbors and protects elements of Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman's Jihad network, the terrorist organization that was involved in the bombing of the World Trade Center.

Furthermore, Sudanese diplomats at the United Nations conspired with Jihad terrorists to bomb the U.N. complex. Sudan also reportedly provided false papers and weapons for assassins who attacked Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

There is no doubt that Sudan is a state sponsor of terrorism, and the State Department is right to classify it as such.

Along with this classification, the State Department should also enforce strict sanctions on financial transactions with Sudan, as it does with other officially recognized state sponsors of terrorism. Unfortunately, the State Department has taken steps to relax sanctions on financial transactions with Sudan. Congress passed legislation last year, the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, designed to prohibit all U.S. financial transactions with governments that support international terrorism.

Unfortunately, the manner in which the State Department implemented the law exempted at least two terrorist states, Sudan and Syria, from this ban. The State Department reads this seemingly clear legislation to prohibit only the financial transactions which might further terrorism in the United States. Transactions which furthered terrorism outside of the United States would be perfectly legal.

The bureaucrats at the State Department evidently believe that transactions which further terrorism against citizens of foreign countries or terrorism against Americans abroad—such as the Pan Am 103 flight which exploded over Scotland killing 270 people—should not be prohibited.

In our debate over foreign policy and foreign affairs reform, we need to clearly define a consistent antiterrorism policy. The United States should not allow financial transactions with state sponsors of terrorism, regardless of whether those financial transactions enhance terrorism in the United States or abroad.

Congress clearly intended to outlaw all financial transactions with these rogue nations. Yet for reasons that have never been clearly explained, the administration has chosen to allow U.S. companies to continue to do business with regimes that are intent on killing Americans and terrorizing people around the globe.

For example, only mounting public concern and increasing congressional pressure prevented this administration from allowing an American petroleum company to participate in a \$930 million oil deal with the Sudanese Government. This oil deal would have provided hundreds of millions of dollars to

this state sponsor of terrorism, money which could easily have funded attacks on U.S. citizens.

The State Department's implementation of last year's antiterrorism law leaves a loophole large enough to drive a truck bomb through, a truck bomb similar to the one that killed 19 American military personnel and injured approximately 500 more in Saudi Arabia last year.

One would expect the State Department to use every tool available to them to curtail and smother terrorism, especially since lives are at stake. The terrorist groups that operate out of Sudan are responsible for hundreds of attacks around the world and the deaths of thousands of people, and yet our State Department refuses to use the full scope of the law to aggressively isolate this criminal regime.

Abu Nidal alone has been responsible for 90 terrorist attacks in 20 countries, killing or injuring almost 900 people. As I mentioned earlier, this terrorist organization uses Sudan as a base of operations.

I have introduced legislation, Senate bill 873, to close the administration's loophole allowing most financial transactions with terrorist states to proceed. This legislation has been included in section 1605 of the foreign affairs reform bill we are debating today and specifically prohibits all U.S. financial transactions with regimes classified as state sponsors of terrorism, regardless of whether or not the terrorist attack might occur in the United States or abroad.

There are some exceptions in the provision which allow certain financial transactions to proceed: transactions for humanitarian assistance; traveling journalists; and a national security waiver for classes of financial transactions that are vital to the security interests of the United States.

As I mentioned earlier, this is unfortunately the second time the Senate has had to consider legislation to prohibit financial transactions with state sponsors of terrorism. If the Clinton administration had chosen to implement this law correctly the first time, all transactions between U.S. citizens and state sponsors of terrorism would already be illegal.

International terrorism is going to be a topic of discussion at the upcoming G-7 summit this weekend in Denver. The financial resources available to international terrorists will be one area of discussion for G-7 leaders. President Clinton will probably speak very forcibly on this issue. I sincerely hope that he will also direct the State Department to implement the provisions in this legislation which undermine the financial resources of terrorist states. I hope the President interprets this legislation in accordance with congressional intent and limits the ability of American firms to provide financial resources to state sponsors of terrorism.

State sponsors of terrorism provide critical refuge and support to nefarious

organizations committed to killing Americans and citizens of other countries. Business as usual should not proceed with such regimes, and President Clinton should not have to be coaxed into aggressively enforcing U.S. antiterrorism laws to isolate these countries. This provision will diminish the financial resources available to terrorist states for their campaign of violence and hatred, and I urge the President's firm support for this anti-terrorism weapon contained in the foreign affairs reform legislation before the Senate today.

I thank the Chair and yield the remainder of any time I might have.

Mr. DURBIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois is recognized.

Mr. DURBIN. Thank you, Mr. President.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHICAGO BULLS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, my colleague, Senator CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN, and I would like to take the floor for 10 minutes to address an issue of great importance, one that is appropriate to consider as we debate the foreign affairs bill, because this is an issue, to us, of worldwide significance.

Is there a spot in the world so removed, so distant, so isolated that if you would go there today and say that you were from Chicago, that the people living in this far corner of the world would not immediately respond: "The home of the Chicago Bulls and Michael Jordan?" I don't think there is a spot in the world where you could find people who are not aware of what happened in the great City of Chicago—for in 5 of the last 7 years, our Chicago Bulls have won the championship of the National Basketball Association.

We believe, quite modestly, that Chicago has become the world's capital of basketball—of course, our chief of State none other than Michael Jordan. Those who watched the NBA finals, particularly that fifth game, will never forget the contribution made by this great athlete. Obviously suffering from some illness—flu or worse—he managed to muster the strength and courage to lead the Bulls to an important, absolutely critical victory. How many times we saw him running down that court, wondering if he could get from one end to the other, only to perform spectacularly when given the ball. That has been his hallmark, but not just as an athlete, but as a person. He is truly a good person. Unfortunately, in the game of sports, you can't say that about all of the champions. You can certainly say it about Michael Jordan.

Of course, the chief of intelligence in this world capital of basketball is none other than Coach Phil Jackson. Michael Jordan and Coach Jackson have a rare relationship, and Michael Jordan has made it clear that when he plays basketball, it will be with Phil Jack-

son. Phil Jackson, along with Jerry Reinsdorf as the owner, and others, can take pride in what the Bulls have brought to professional sports and basketball.

The Bulls' record of 171 victories and 30 losses over the last two seasons has set a new standard of excellence. Michael Jordan, in the last five full seasons, has earned five championship rings and five MVP awards in the playoffs. The numbers speak for themselves.

You could go through the list of Chicago Bulls and find the greatness and sportsmanship and the kinds of leadership we in Chicago are so proud of. I would be remiss to not mention the contributions of Scottie Pippen, Luc Longley, and so many others who are part of this great team, and Steve Kerr's clutch shot in the last game made the difference. He had had a tough time up to that moment, but when he was given the ball, he was there.

Yesterday, there was a big celebration in Chicago. The Sun came out for a few minutes. People gathered for a great rally. I thought the comment made by Michael Jordan was especially appropriate. He said yesterday:

This championship goes out to all the working people here in the City of Chicago, who go out every day and bust their butts to make a living.

Well, Michael Jordan reminded us that so many of us who take pleasure in watching professional sports can identify with all of the effort made on the court and on the field. There are no two stronger fans of the Chicago Bulls on the floor of the U.S. Senate than myself and my colleague, Senator CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN. We want to salute the Bulls. We are proud of them. We are proud of the city of Chicago, the city that works. We are looking forward to making it a six pack next year under the leadership of Phil Jackson, Michael Jordan, and Scottie Pippen.

I yield to my colleague, Senator CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ASHCROFT). The Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] is recognized.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. I thank my colleague from Illinois. I just want to say that the Chicago Bulls have been such a source of joy to those of us from Illinois. But also, because of their longstanding pursuit of excellence and demonstration of excellence, they have become America's team. I don't think there is a single team in this country that can boast 5 years of National Basketball Association championships. We won in 1991 against the Lakers; in 1992, against the Trailblazers; in 1993, against the Suns; in 1996 against the Supersonics; and, of course, recently, against the Jazz.

It has been done because the players on the Chicago Bulls are—in the terms of a great football coach from our town—"Grabowski's." "Grabowski's" are people who work hard and keep fo-

cused and give it their all and their best, even under adverse circumstances. Certainly, that is what this team has proved over and over again that they can do. They can win, whether it is at the old Chicago Stadium, in L.A., in Phoenix, or in the new United Center. It doesn't matter where they play. They bring the same values, talent, and, most important, the same heart to the game. That is why they are world champions. That is why they are America's team.

Of course, in this last game Steve Kerr can distinguish himself with the 17-foot jumper, which was what some might call the "Hail Mary" play. You just held your breath while it was going on. He drew on the spirit of John Paxson and made the game-winning play toward the end of the game. But he could not do it alone; it was a team effort.

My colleague pointed to the special relationship between Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen, two very unique, very special players. I think it can go without saying that Michael Jordan is the greatest player in the history of basketball, and we are really fortunate to have him as a leader of this team.

In terms of leadership, certainly Coach Phil Jackson gets high marks for the kind of calm, deliberative, thoughtful approach he brings to the game, which is more than just a sport. It really is an exercise and demonstration of human spirit and values that takes place out on the basketball court.

I have a special place in my heart for Jerry Reinsdorf, who recently worked out a situation in correcting an injustice. He single-handedly was able to encourage the baseball owners to award pensions to the players of the old Negro League that had been denied pensions, because when they went to the majors, there wasn't enough time to qualify for pensions. At my request, he took that issue up and took it to the owners and, after all these years, they have awarded pensions to those old baseball players. Jerry Reinsdorf, I think, demonstrates the best in sports and sports owners. Again, I know he has every reason to be as proud of this team, as we all are.

At the same time, I think it must be said that the Utah Jazz played a phenomenal game. They were a dignified team, a disciplined team. Karl Malone and John Stockton were the equivalent of Scottie Pippen and Michael Jordan, in a way, from another part of the country. They distinguished themselves in the gentlemanly way in which they handled themselves throughout the series. Utah has nothing to be ashamed of. If anything, they have everything to be proud of in the kind of game they played in the championship competition in which they engaged. They supported themselves very well. Utah and the rest of the country can be proud of them as well. Their coach, I think, has a great future. Working with that team, he has a lot of good material to work with there.