

as did other peoples of the former Soviet Union, fulfilling the wishes of generations of Ukrainians.

Eight years have now passed since that dramatic time, and Ukraine and U.S.-Ukrainian relations are stronger than ever. We now have a U.S.-Ukraine Joint Commission, chaired by Vice President GORE and President Kuchma, which seeks to improve bilateral relations on a wide range of issues.

A significant part of this effort is the sister city project to help Ukrainian communities develop more effective local government. I'm proud that the City of Lowell in Massachusetts is a sister city with the Ukrainian city of Berdiansk in this worthwhile project.

I especially commend the members of the Ukrainian-American community for their constant courage and commitment in championing the cause of Ukrainian independence over the years. They never gave up this struggle, even during the darkest days of the Cold War. They can be proud of their achievements. Their efforts in recent years have made Ukraine the third largest annual recipient of U.S. assistance. I'm prouder than ever to support their impressive efforts.

I also commend the Ukrainian-American community for its ongoing work to help American high school students understand that the Great Famine of the 1930s was a man-made terror-famine, used by Stalin to suppress the Ukrainian people. Millions of Ukrainians died in this great crime against humanity.

Sadly, the twentieth century has been filled with too many of these massive crimes. We must never forget the atrocities that have been inflicted on millions of citizens in other lands, including the Ukrainian people. We must do all we can to build a better world in the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE FOR MS. LINDA COLEMAN

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the exceptionally distinguished service of Ms. Linda Coleman, who is leaving Federal Service on September 30, 1999, after 30 years. She has been the mainstay within the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, United States Army for the past 20 years. It is a privilege for me to recognize the many outstanding achievements she has provided the Congress, the United States Army and our great Nation.

Linda Coleman has worked for every Member of the Congress as the Secretary of the Army's legislative liaison within the Army's House Liaison Division, Congressional Inquiry Division, and Programs Division. Initiative, caring service, and professionalism are the terms used to describe Linda Coleman. She has been instrumental in providing information and explaining the diverse programs within the United States Army. Ms. Coleman is an expert in coordinating the interface between the

Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army and Members of Congress. She is an expert at cutting through the red tape of the bureaucracy without losing sight of the fact that taking care of the soldier is the ultimate goal. I have never known of an instance in which Ms. Coleman would back away from doing the right thing for the Army, the soldier or family members, or the Congress she served.

Ms. Coleman has earned a reputation on Capitol Hill as someone who could be relied upon to respond to inquires in a responsive, professional manner. She expanded the Army's understanding of Congress and the Army's role in the legislative process through continuous interaction with Members of Congress and the Army's leadership. Ms. Coleman established procedures to assist in informing and explaining the Army to Congress. Ms. Coleman prepared the Army's senior leaders for all of their meetings with Members of Congress. For each meeting, she prepared the Army senior leader with detailed information on the issues and the interests of the Members of Congress involved in the meetings. Ms. Coleman has been the "go to" person in Army Legislative Liaison. When Members of Congress had a really complex issue, the legislative action officers and assistants would go to her for advice.

Ms. Coleman is able to communicate effectively with both military officials and Congressional staff members and has developed superb working relationships. Her professional abilities have earned her the respect and trust which served her, the Army, and Congress so well.

Mr. President, Linda Coleman is a great credit to the Army and this great Nation. As she now departs after 30 years of Federal Service, I call upon my colleagues to recognize her great contribution to the Nation, and in particular, the Congress. I wish her well in her future endeavors.●

EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS, COMBATS RACISM AND HATRED

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to call the attention of my colleagues to an article published in the New York Times on September 21, 1999. The article describes the efforts by the people of East Peoria, Illinois, to combat racism and hatred in the aftermath of Benjamin Smith's shooting rampage during the July 4 weekend. Mr. Smith, a former member of the so-called World Church of the Creator, targeted Jews, African-Americans, and Asian-Americans, killing two and wounding nine before shooting himself. Matthew Hale, a self-proclaimed white supremacist who established the World Church of the Creator, set up its headquarters in East Peoria.

Mr. President, it would have been easy for the citizens of East Peoria to simply move on with their lives, dismissing this incident as an aberration and passively hoping that future acts

of racial hatred would not plague their community. But the citizens of East Peoria are embracing a proactive approach to combating hatred, fostering tolerance, and celebrating diversity. Mayor Charles Dobbelaire recently announced the creation of a Human Relations Commission, which will guide East Peoria in their campaign to combat hate and teach tolerance.

While we can prosecute crimes motivated by hatred, we unfortunately cannot legislate hate out of the human heart. Each of us has a responsibility to speak out against racism and embrace our differences, rather than use them as a wedge to divide our communities. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the commendable efforts made by the citizens of East Peoria to combat racial hatred and promote tolerance and that an article from the New York Times be inserted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the New York Times, September 21, 1999]

A CITY TAKES A STAND AGAINST HATE (By Jo Thomas)

EAST PEORIA, ILL.—For years, the hard-working residents of this mostly white town on the eastern bank of the Illinois River did not take seriously the white supremacist views of Matthew F. Hate, 27, the son of a retired local policeman.

They recall trying to ignore his leaflets and appearances on public-access television. When he set up the headquarters of the World Church of the Creator in his parents' home, some thought it was a joke.

But after the July 4 weekend, when Benjamin Smith, a former World Church member, went on a two-state rampage against Jews, blacks and Asian-Americans, killing two and wounding nine before shooting himself, the laughter stopped.

"We were sickened," said Dennis Triggs, 54, the City Attorney. "We had the sense that benign neglect must come to an end."

Mr. Triggs called Morris Dees, co-founder of the Southern Poverty law Center, a non-profit civil rights organization, to ask what East Peoria could do.

Mr. Dees sent Mr. Triggs and Mayor Charles Dobbelaire, 59, a copy of the center's publication "Ten Ways to Fight Hate," and advised city leaders to do two things: Speak out immediately and form a broad-based coalition on race issues.

Mr. Dees also put leaders in touch with the Rev. David Ostendorf, a United Church of Christ minister in Chicago who leads the Center for a New Community, a group dedicated to fighting white supremacist ideas and organizations in the Midwest.

Mr. Ostendorf, who believes that "the only way this movement is going to be stopped is if communities stand up and say no and organize to oppose it," added a stop in East Peoria to a civil rights tour that retraced Mr. Smith's deadly trip through Illinois and Indiana.

On July 22, with members of Mr. Ostendorf's caravan and 200 local residents present, the Mayor announced that East Peoria, which has only a few dozen nonwhites in its population of 23,400 would set up a Human Relations Commission "to guide us in combating hate and teaching tolerance."

"We will not surrender the minds of our young to Matt Hale," Mr. Dobbelaire continued.

"I know that still today there are those who believe we should not attract attention

to the hatemongers," he said. "They believe that if we quietly go about our everyday life, those who preach hate will fade slowly into the night. I ask you this: If we do not speak out, loud and clear, when the hate messages spewing forth from this so-called church lead to death, then when do we speak out?"

Mr. Dobbelaire's speech was followed by a prayer vigil in front of the Hale family home. On the other side of the ordinary, tree-lined street, a neighbor had posted a sign saying "Hate Has No Home here."

The Mayor, who grew up in East Peoria and said racial issues rarely crossed his mind, appointed a new Human Relations Commission on Aug. 17.

"We're in this for the long haul," he said.

East Peoria has survived severe blows before, the worst being the closing of a Caterpillar tractor plant that had been its economic cornerstone. But it has enjoyed a comeback in recent years, with a new riverboat casino and jobs in entertainment, tourism and service industries.

The idea that their town might be seen as some kind of hate capital horrified the Mayor and the human relations commissioners.

"This is really causing a bad image for our tri-county area, not just East Peoria," said David Mingus, the commission chairman. "It's unfortunate and unrealistic. Our towns are good town."

Mr. Mingus, 48, a mental health professional, said the commission intended to take a broad look at diversity and tolerance.

"We will keep it open to all areas," he said. "It's something nobody has on the scope all the time. We have to change attitudes."

Another member of the commission, Charles Randle, 53, who is black, said he had lived in an upscale neighborhood of East Peoria for 17 years with no difficulty. But Mr. Randle said he could not forget the searing experience of childhood on a cotton plantation in Mississippi, where two of his brothers, then young boys, were jailed for supposedly whistling at a white woman. To escape that life, their father, a sharecropper, moved his wife and 10 children to Peoria, where he worked at a slaughterhouse and then started a series of successful family businesses.

Mr. Randle, the director of economic development for Illinois Central College, said he saw the Human Relations Commission as a chance for East Peoria "to step outside the box and look around."

Other communities have made similar efforts.

In Boise, Idaho, several years ago, the state's image began to worry the staff at Hewlett-Packard, said Cindy Stanphill, the company's diversity and staffing manager.

"When we recruit, people know about Idaho potatoes and the Aryan nations," Ms. Stanphill said. "The image does not necessarily represent the reality, but you have to deal with both."

For three years, the Hewlett-Packard staff has tried to find ways to insure that people they recruit and employ in Boise feel welcome at work and in the community. Staff members are now trying to organize an Idaho Inclusiveness Coalition, a group of major employers and human rights groups to promote tolerance and celebrate diversity.

In Pennsylvania, the state's Human Relations Commission has helped more than 50 communities form groups to do something about hate. One group stated in Boyertown, a historically all-white community northwest of Philadelphia where the Ku Klux Klan distributed recruitment literature once a month.

Residents formed a unity coalition and asked citizens to pledge 5 cents to 50 cents

for each minute the Klan spent in town. The money went to civil rights groups and helped organize the town's first rally to honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The head of the local Klan complained that the group, which was collecting \$1,051 an hour, was using the Klan's name to raise money, said Louise Doskow, a member of the coalition. But the group persisted. "We have raised over \$11,000," Ms. Doskow said. "We did it every month for 13 months, then they didn't show up again for a year. One person came to the corner at the end of June, so we did another collection."

The experiences of these communities and others, collected by Jim Carrier, a former reporter for The Denver Post, have been added to an updated version of "Ten Ways to Fight Hate." Mr. Carrier said the Southern Poverty Law Center would distribute a million free copies of the booklet and a companion, "Responding to Hate at School." The booklets will go to every school principal, mayor and police chief in the nation, as well as to human rights groups, religious leaders and interested citizens.

One group profiled, Coloradans United Against Hatred, formed after an African immigrant was murdered by a skinhead in 1997. Seeing the use of the Internet by hate groups, the group set up its own Web site to offer an alternative.

"Are we making a huge impact?" said Anita Fricklas, the Colorado director of the American Jewish Committee, which helped underwrite the project. "It's hard to know. But an impact? Definitely."•

RECOGNITION OF ALASKA QUARTERLY REVIEW

• Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, two years ago I rose to highlight a publication of the University of Alaska, Anchorage when it was honored as "one of the nation's best literary magazines." Today, I rise to again call the Senate's attention to the continuing praise for the Alaska Quarterly Review. Specifically, I rise to praise its latest issue, Alaska Native Writers, Storytellers & Orators, The Expanded Edition.

The literary journal, now in its 18th year, for its summer-fall issue has published a 400-page volume including more than 80 original works, many by Alaska Natives. The volume could win my praise simply for taking the step of publishing 15 classic Native stories in both English and in traditional Alaska Native languages. You see, in June 1991, I introduced the Alaska Native Languages Preservation Act (S. 1595). The bill, which became law in 1992 and was implemented in 1994, was designed to provide grants to Alaska Native groups and media for language preservation projects, including research, preservation and instruction to teach Alaska's traditional languages to younger Natives.

There are 20 original Native languages spoken in Alaska—more than 155 nationwide—but only two of them, Siberian Yup'ik and Central Yup'ik are healthy." That means they continue to be spoken by Native children. Thus 18 of the Alaska Native languages face extinction by 2055, unless more is done to preserve them. For example, only a single speaker of Eyak, a language spoken

only in the Copper River Delta in Alaska, is still alive to pass the unique sounds of the language on to new speakers.

Thus the new effort by the review's Executive Editor and Founding Editor Ronald Spatz of Anchorage would win my praise simply because it has published stories in Eyak, Haida, Tlingit, Tsimshian, Ugangan, Alutiiq, Central Yup'ik, St. Lawrence Island Yup'ik, Inupiaq and Dena'ina. But the issue has done much more for classic and modern literature and for the preservation of Alaska's Native history and traditions.

Through its stories, short stories, oral histories, folk tales and poems, the literary magazine has taken a giant step to convey Alaska's rich and diverse Native cultures. It pays tribute to the Native language speakers and tradition bearers that keep their cultures alive through their stories and through their words. And over the years Alaskans have learned that one of the best ways to protect the social fabric of Native Alaskans is to protect their culture, thus maintaining Native residents' pride in their history and their heritage.

Kirkus Reviews, in its Aug. 1, 1999 review of the journal called it, "quite a tidy little omnibus of poems, oral histories, folk tales and stories by Native Alaskans. . . . Sociologists and folklorists will be particularly grateful for the bibliography and source notations, and those unfamiliar with Alaskan culture, will find in the very extensive commentaries a useful orientation to what remains a largely unknown world. . . . offering as they do a glimpse into the history of our Last Frontier."

This is certainly not the first time that the review has won literary praise. Since its inception at the Anchorage campus of the University of Alaska in 1982, the Alaska Quarterly Review (AQR) has served as an instrument to give voice to Alaska writers and poets, while also publishing the best of material from non-Alaskan authors. While the AQR is firmly rooted in Alaska, it maintains a national perspective—bridging the distance between the literary centers and Alaska, while also sharing an Alaskan perspective. This balanced presentation of views has earned AQR local, regional and national/international recognition over the years.

In June 1997 the Washington Post book review section, Book World, called it "one of the nation's best literary magazines." Bill Katz in the Library Journal said "AQR is highly recommended and deserves applause." While Patrick Parks in the Literary Magazine Review said, "It is an impressive publication, comprising as diverse and rewarding an aggregation of work as a reader is likely to find in any literary journal."

The review has won a host of national awards including a 1999 Beacon Best award, a 1997 O. Henry Award, a 1996 award from Scribner for Best