

Many of us, perhaps all of us, attended the services for Officer Chestnut and Agent Gibson. I think one of the things we all agreed on is there were many ways we were going to honor these officers. One of them was to make sure we provided the utmost support and security for them, much less security for the Congress and the citizens who visit the House and the Senate.

What I have noticed is that we have still been having single posts, where you have one officer at a very busy post with many people streaming in. I have raised this question for quite a few months now. I have never spoken about it on the floor of the Senate, but I am intending to try to put some pressure on as a Senator because we have to do something about this.

I know the Senate Sergeant at Arms feels strongly about this. I have talked to many police officers whom I think all of us respect, and we owe them a real debt of gratitude for their service. Frankly, this is no way to say thank you to the Capitol Police—to have one officer at a station where you have all sorts of people coming in, it is an impossible security situation. It is impossible. I have seen this with my own eyes. I have had police officers come up to me and say, "This is just intolerable. We thought there was going to be a change."

I want to say on the floor of the Senate—and I have waited month after month to do this, but again I see it with my own eyes, and police officers come to me about this—I believe there has to be change. I don't think there can be any possible excuse for not living up to our commitment that at least two police officers be at every one of these posts.

One example: One officer was at a post where during his shift 700 people came in—one officer. This is unacceptable, absolutely unacceptable. I think we have to do much better.

I am not going to be a know-it-all, I am not going to tell you that I know how much additional money needs to be spent, or whether this is a systems or management issue, or whether there is some slowness on the House side. I don't know what is going on. I just know there is no excuse for it.

We did a supplemental appropriation after these two officers were slain, murdered, of a little over a million dollars, about \$50 million each year. That was for weapons, vests, for security enhancement, and for overtime staffing up in ways that we need to staff up. I don't know what has happened with this appropriation, whether we need more money, more authorization, or something. The only thing I know is we have a situation right now—after two officers were murdered—where we have at some of these posts just one officer. There should be two officers at every post. I believe that is a commitment we have made. I speak on the floor of the Senate to say that we have to do better for these police officers, and the sooner we do, the better.

I say to my colleague from Virginia, I think I will come back every day and speak to this situation that exists. I will defer to my colleague from Virginia and I say to the Chair that I hope to come back this evening.

SENATE PASSAGE OF IMPORTANT HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEASURES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, unfortunately this statement was inadvertently left out of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the end of last session. Therefore, today, I would like to recognize that on November 19th the United States Senate unanimously passed much needed legislation to protect some of America's most threatened historic sites, the Vicksburg Campaign Trail and the Corinth battlefield.

S. 710, the Vicksburg Campaign Trail Battlefields Preservation Act of 1999, is a bipartisan measure that authorizes a feasibility study on the preservation of Civil War battlefields and related sites in the four states along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail.

As my colleagues know, Vicksburg served as a gateway to the Mississippi River during the Civil War. The eighteen month campaign for the "Gibraltar of the Confederacy" included over 100,000 soldiers and involved a number of skirmishes and major battles in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee.

The Mississippi Heritage Trust and the National Trust for Historic Preservation named the Vicksburg Campaign Trail as being among the most threatened sites in the state and the nation. S. 710 would begin the process of preserving the important landmarks in the four state region that warrant further protection. I appreciate the cosponsorship of Chairman MURKOWSKI, Chairman THOMAS, and Senators LANDRIEU, BREAUX, COCHRAN, HUTCHINSON, and CRAIG on this measure.

Mr. President, the Senate also approved S. 1117, the Corinth Battlefield Preservation Act of 1999, a measure that establishes the Corinth Unit of the Shiloh National Military Park.

The battle of Shiloh was actually part of the Union Army's overall effort to seize Corinth. This small town was important to both the Confederacy and the Union. Corinth's railway was vitally important to both sides as it served as a gateway for moving troops and supplies north and south, east and west. The overall campaign led to some of the bloodiest battles in the Western Theater. In an effort to protect the city, Southern forces built a series of earthworks and fortifications, many of which remain, at least for now, in pristine condition. Unfortunately, the National Park Service in its Profiles of America's Most Threatened Civil War Battlefields, concluded that many of the sites associated with the siege of Corinth are threatened.

S. 1117 would give Corinth its proper place in American history by formally linking the city's battlefield sites with the Shiloh National Military Park.

Mr. President, I want to thank Senators ROBB, COCHRAN, and JEFFORDS for cosponsoring this measure.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Chairman THOMAS for his ever vigilant efforts on parks legislation, and in particular, for moving both the Vicksburg Campaign Trail and Corinth battlefield bills forward.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize Chairman MURKOWSKI for his continued stewardship over the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. President, I also want to recognize Ken P'Pool, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Mississippi; Rosemary Williams, Chairman of the Siege and Battle of Corinth Commission; John Sullivan, President of the Friends of the Vicksburg Campaign and Historic Trail; and Terry Winschel and Woody Harrell of the United States Park Service for their support and guidance on these important preservation measures.

Lastly, I would like to recognize several staff members including Randy Turner, Jim O'Toole, and Andrew Lundquist from the Senate Energy Committee, Darcie Tomasallo from Senate Legislative Counsel, and Stan Harris, Angel Campbell, Steven Wall, Jim Sartucci, and Steven Apicella from my office, for their efforts to preserve Mississippi's and America's historic resources.

Mr. President, as a result of the Senate's action today, our children will be better able to understand and appreciate the full historic, social, cultural, and economic impact of the Vicksburg Campaign Trail and the Siege and Battle of Corinth.

GREENSPAN CONFIRMATION VOTE

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I was informed that the vote on the Greenspan nomination would be at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, so I had rearranged my schedule to return to my State. As I am unable to be present for the 10:30 a.m. Thursday vote, I ask that the RECORD show that if I were present to vote, I would vote in favor of confirming Alan Greenspan for another term as Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ABSENCE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I want the RECORD to show that I ask unanimous consent to be excused from voting on Thursday and Friday of this week. I am leaving for the West Coast for a matter of urgent personal concern in connection with the airline crash, and I will not be here to vote. I want the RECORD to show why I am not here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the RECORD will so reflect.

PEACEKEEPING THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise to speak about the crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In that

devastated country, we see one of the worst international crises of the last decade. It is a bloody and brutal conflict, one that has drawn country after country into an un-winnable struggle, one that has cost the lives of thousands of civilians and has displaced hundreds of thousands more, and one about which this body has been strangely quiet.

Congo's conflict is as complex as it is destructive. It is born of the long absence of any semblance of political legitimacy in the government of that battered state, it is fed by the horrifying legacy of the Rwandan genocide, and it is intensified by the constant struggle for resources and wealth in the region. The litany of the causes of the war in Congo is a catalogue of the problems that plague the heart of Africa. Its outcome will likely determine the course of the region's future.

Mr. President, we need to wake up and realize that the U.S. has a stake in that future. Our interests in global peace and stability, the rule of law, and respect for basic human rights are bound up in Congo's future. Africans and their potential American trading partners can have no hope of realizing Africa's vast economic potential until the region's cycles of violence come to an end. And America urgently needs to stop the spread of infectious disease, to address environmental degradation, and to build a global coalition to fight international crime—but these needs cannot be met without stability in central Africa.

And Mr. President, global forces of instability will thrive, and their insidious influence will grow, when parties to the conflict in Congo turn to them, in desperation, for support.

Mr. President, central Africa's leaders know that the region cannot prosper while the war in the D.R.C. continues. For that reason, last summer the parties to the conflict signed a blueprint for ending the conflict—the Lusaka Agreement. That Agreement calls for an end to the fighting, for a free political dialogue within Congo, and lays out the path to the withdrawal of foreign forces.

Mr. President, I traveled to many of the countries involved in the crisis at the end of last year. In Angola, Zimbabwe, and Namibia, in Uganda and Rwanda, and in the D.R.C. itself, I personally heard heads of state acknowledge the importance of making the Lusaka Agreement work. They understand the challenge before them, the precious opportunity embodied by Lusaka.

Last week the parties to the Congo conflict renewed their commitment to the Lusaka Agreement in a series of extraordinary meetings at the United Nations in New York. They have all agreed to a facilitator, former President Masire of Botswana, to move the inter-Congolese dialogue forward. And all parties have called for a strengthening of the Joint Military Commission that is at the heart of the framework for peace.

Mr. President, just as the U.S. has a stake in the outcome, the United States also has a role to play in supporting these efforts. The U.N. has already deployed a small team of liaison officers to the scene. Now, the United Nations Secretary General has issued a report laying out the next phase of U.N. involvement. It calls for the deployment of 500 monitors, with a 5,000-strong force providing security and logistical support to their mission. They will have a robust mandate that ensures their ability to protect themselves.

Mr. President, none of the troops would be American, and that is as it should be. In fact, in my meetings with heads of state in the region, I explicitly asked about their expectations with regard to American troops, and I can report that no one has visions of a large American presence on the ground in Congo. But by creating the breathing room necessary to allow the belligerents to move toward peace, these troops will serve American interests.

The U.N. Secretary-General has endorsed a good plan. Its value comes, in part, from what it does not do. The U.N. does not plan to send tens of thousands of troops into Congo to impose peace on hostile parties. Nor does the U.N. intend to stand by while the most brutal elements in Congo seize power through violence and impose their will on civilians.

Instead, the plan that has emerged in New York harnesses international support to the commitment of the parties to the conflict. It recognizes that the only viable peace to be found in Congo is a peace created by the belligerent parties themselves. It acknowledges African responsibility for this African war, and strengthens the Joint Military Commission created by combatants when they signed the Lusaka accords. At the same time, this plan ensures that the international community does not turn its back on Africa.

There can be no double-standard, whereby African conflicts are measured by a different scale than that used for conflicts in Europe or Asia. The plan for the deployment of the monitors and their supporting team has been vetted as thoroughly as any U.N. project. The stakes—in terms of human life and regional stability—are unquestionably high enough to meet the threshold for international action. Now, the U.N. has an opportunity to get it right in Congo.

Supporting this U.N. mission is the least we should do to secure our interests and fulfill our responsibilities as responsible members of the international community. Should we fail to support it, should we ignore this terrible conflict any longer, we will weaken the international community's mechanisms for burden-sharing at the dawn of this new century. And we will lose an opportunity to reinforce a model for ending conflict and embracing a better future.

I want to say, because obviously this has to be true and I am concerned

about it, that the plan is not guaranteed to succeed.

Little worth attempting ever is. Zambian President Frederick Chiluba was right when he said, last week, that no peacekeeping operation anywhere in the world is risk-free. But Mr. President, this is the best chance for shoring up the Lusaka Agreement and helping African states to end the conflict that we are likely to see.

I strongly urge my colleagues to look at this program that is being suggested and to give it their support.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, February 1, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,702,651,446,667.03 (Five trillion, seven hundred two billion, six hundred fifty-one million, four hundred forty-six thousand, six hundred sixty-seven dollars and three cents).

One year ago, February 1, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,588,099,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred eighty-eight billion, ninety-nine million).

Five years ago, February 1, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,810,860,000,000 (Four trillion, eight hundred ten billion, eight hundred sixty million).

Ten years ago, February 1, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$2,994,932,000,000 (Two trillion, nine hundred ninety-four billion, nine hundred thirty-two million).

Fifteen years ago, February 1, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,672,555,000,000 (One trillion, six hundred seventy-two billion, five hundred fifty-five million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,030,096,446,667.03 (Four trillion, thirty billion, ninety-six million, four hundred forty-six thousand, six hundred sixty-seven dollars and three cents) during the past 15 years.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a treaty and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:09 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1023. An act for the relief of Richard W. Schaffert.