

THE LATE CLARENCE HOLLAND
“ICKY” ALBRIGHT

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an old friend and one of South Carolina's most public minded citizens, Clarence Holland “Icky” Albright, who recently passed away at the age of 93.

To those who knew him, Icky Albright was synonymous with the town of Rock Hill, a small and charming city in the Olde English District of South Carolina. Though a native of Laurens, Icky Albright moved to Rock Hill in 1929, shortly after graduating from Clemson Agricultural College, and became Rock Hill's leading citizen and cheerleader. He essentially spent his entire adult life working tirelessly, as both a private citizen and a public official, to promote what is a quintessential southern and American town.

Icky Albright was fiercely proud of his adopted hometown and set his roots deep there, starting with his 1934 marriage to Rock Hill native, the former Sophie Marshall. Mr. Albright was one of the Rock Hill business community's leading citizens, for years, he was part owner of a hardware store established by his father-in-law and he later started his own business, “Albright Reality Incorporated”. Furthermore, he was active in any number of civic and service organizations. His passion for making Rock Hill the best place possible to live prompted him to get involved in public service, running for and serving on the City Council from 1940-1944, as Mayor from 1948-1954, and as South Carolina State Senator from 1966-1968.

Beyond the many votes he cast as a public servant, the funds he raised for charity, or enthusiastically promoting commerce, Icky Albright's most enduring legacy was the creation of the “Come-See-Me Festival” held every April and timed to coincide with the blooming of the azaleas in the city's Glencairn Garden. A modest man, Icky Albright protested that this successful festival was the idea of many, though everyone knew that he was the one who was truly responsible for this popular event that draws more than 100,000 people each year.

Though it sounds a tad cliche, it is true to say that Icky Albright lived a long, full, and rewarding life, and that through his efforts he touched the lives of many and made a significant difference in his community and our state. All that knew him mourn his passing and our condolences go out to his widow, their two sons “Bud” and Ned, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildrens.

BRIGADIER GENERAL MITCHELL
M. ZAIS

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the service of Brigadier General Mitchell M. Zais, who has dedicated the past three-decades to protecting

the security and people of our nation as a soldier and officer in the United States Army.

General Zais began his career when he graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1969 and accepted a commission in the Infantry. It was at this point in time that the American involvement in Vietnam was at its apex, and the newly minted officer quickly had the opportunity to put to the test the martial skills he had learned at West Point and Fort Benning. Heading to Southeast Asia, then Second Lieutenant Zais assumed command of an infantry platoon in the 101st Airborne Division and began what has been a long and distinguished career.

After emerging from the jungles of Vietnam, this officer held a variety of positions which were progressively more responsible and moved him up the Army's hierarchy. He has served in Asia, Europe, Central America, and the United States, has held command at the platoon, company, battalion, and brigade levels, and has held vital staff assignments including on the Joint Staff.

General Zais is currently serving as Chief of Staff, United States Army Reserve Command, but this will be his last assignment as he is due to retire from the military shortly, ending what has been an impressive career. commendably, General Zais has decided to seek a second career which will allow him to continue to make a difference, that of an educator. I am pleased to report that this man will assume the duties of President of Newberry College in Newberry, South Carolina. I am confident that the General will enjoy his new hometown and his new job. As a former educator, I can assure him that there are few things more rewarding than working with young people.

I commend General Mitchell Zais on his many years of dedicated and selfless service to the nation and the Army, I welcome him to South Carolina, and I wish him the best of health, happiness, and success in the years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICAN
RED CROSS FOUNDING

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the American Red Cross by Clara Barton 119 years ago. This year's theme, “We Touch the World,” describes the compassionate direction the Red Cross is taking locally, nationally, and internationally.

After the brutal battle of Solferino near Verona, Italy, Jean Henry Durant, a Swiss citizen, formed the International Red Cross in 1863 with the intent to alleviate suffering and promote public health. The first Geneva Convention was signed by 16 nations a year later, adopting the red cross as a sym-

bol of neutral aid. Clara Barton recognized the importance of the humanitarian efforts of the International Red Cross in Europe, and cultivated the fundamental principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality into what we know today as the American Red Cross. In addition to alleviating suffering and promoting public health, Ms. Barton also envisioned a need for disaster relief and battlefield assistance.

Founded on May 21, 1881, in Washington, DC, the American Red Cross was able to lobby the U.S. Congress to ratify the Geneva Convention, providing an official basis to associate with the International Red Cross. The U.S. was the 32nd nation to sign the document, agreeing to protect the wounded during wartime. Ms. Barton then continued to serve the Red Cross as its volunteer president until 1904. Over the last 119 years, the American Red Cross has not only served Americans and our allies during wartime, but has brought help to anyone in need of aid.

Its thousands of volunteers provide the American Red Cross with the tools to carry out its vitally important task in times of need. Behind the scenes, in preparation for disaster situations, local Red Cross chapters provide their communities with CPR and First Aid classes and information on health issues, and promote blood donations to provide the medical field with an adequate supply should a crisis arise.

Just a few years ago, in my home state of Minnesota, the Red Cross left its mark by touching the lives of those affected by the floods of 1997 and the tornadoes that tore through towns in the southern part of the state. And during it all, the Minneapolis chapter was without a permanent home to help in the disaster relief. Last month, they opened their doors, the first permanent location since 1996, to a new facility that includes a blood-donor center, space to shelter and feed people in case of a disaster, and an emergency operations center with its own communications and power systems.

Mr. President, ninety-one cents of every dollar spent by the American Red Cross goes directly to programs and services that help people in need. All of the disaster assistance is free, thanks to the generosity of donors and volunteers alike. The ratio of volunteer Red Cross workers to paid staff is nearly 41 to one. I am honored to have this opportunity to commemorate the dedicated work of the late Clara Barton and the contributions of all those who continue to carry out her legacy in the American Red Cross.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OVERSEAS MILITARY PROGRAM

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I want to offer my congratulations and

very best wishes to all those gathered at the 50th Anniversary celebration of the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) serving the United States military in Europe. I am pleased to take part in recognizing the long-standing tradition that this institution continues to uphold in ensuring quality higher education for our servicemembers overseas.

It has always been my firm belief that a democracy cannot prosper and grow without an educated populace, and therefore the education of the individual is one of the most important tasks in our society. The success and growth of UMUC is a critical testament to the importance of educational opportunities for our military personnel in Europe. From its inception, this institution has viewed higher education from a global perspective, an approach which has put UMUC at the forefront of the larger higher education community.

Following World War II, when the United States military invited American universities to provide higher educational programs to servicemembers at military installations throughout Europe, UMUC was the only institution to respond. This began a historic 50 year partnership with the military in Europe and starting in 1956, in Asia as well. The noted British scholar Arnold Toynbee wrote that the UMUC program in Europe is "an American achievement from which the rest of the world has much to learn."

Since the first year, UMUC has offered educational opportunities to hundreds of thousands of our men and women overseas. Even now, it is wonderful to hear that this tradition continues in many locations at long established military installations in Germany, Britain, Italy, and Spain including temporary facilities in Kosovo and Bosnia.

I commend the University of Maryland University College for its 50 year history of unparalleled service and success in the field of education and I look forward to a continued close association with this exemplary institution.●

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES ORAN LITTLE

• Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my good friend and fellow Kentuckian Oran Little on the occasion of his retirement as dean of the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture.

Oran taught at UK for 25 years, and served as a highly-respected and well-liked leader for UK's students and faculty for 12 years as Dean of the College of Agriculture. Under his tenure, new facilities were built, old facilities were renovated, and innovative educational programs were launched. An Agricultural Engineering Building, Regulatory Services Building, Animal Research Center, and Plant Science Building all took root during Oran's 12 years as dean. He also facilitated the creation

of international exchange programs, faculty and student councils, and numerous agricultural development programs. Oran may be leaving UK in body, but the school will benefit from his enterprising spirit and the tangible improvements he made as the College of Agriculture's dean for years to come.

Oran's long list of awards is as impressive as his lengthy list of accomplishments. His knowledge and experience have not gone unnoticed by other Kentucky agricultural institutions. Oran has received awards from the Kentucky Seed Improvement Association, Bowling Green/Warren County Chamber of Commerce, Greater Lexington Convention & Visitors Bureau, Soil and Water Conservation Society, UK Alumni Association, Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky Pork Producers Association, and the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association.

Oran has a long history with UK, serving as assistant professor, associate professor, professor, coordinator of animal nutrition research and teaching, associate dean for research, director of the Kentucky agricultural experiment station, coordinator of graduate programs in agriculture, and finally as dean of the College of Agriculture. Oran earned respect the old-fashioned way, through years of hard-work and a sincere concern for students, teachers and faculty at the University of Kentucky.

Over the years, Oran and I have worked together on many projects at UK. With Oran's wealth of knowledge about the University, he has been an essential resource in targeting the needs of UK and communicating how Congress can help meet those needs. It has always been a pleasure to work with Oran and I will miss him a great deal. I have no doubt, however, that he will stay involved with UK's College of Agriculture and that we will continue to hear from him in the future.

Oran, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, I wish you all the best as you enter retirement and I thank you for your many successful efforts to make UK a better place to work and learn.●

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, it has been more than a year since the Columbine tragedy, and still this Republican Congress refuses to act on sensible gun legislation.

Since Columbine, thousands of Americans have been killed by gunfire. Until we act, Democrats in the Senate will read some of the names of those who lost their lives to gun violence in the past year, and we will continue to do so every day that the Senate is in session.

In the name of those who died, we will continue this fight.

Following are the names of just some of the people who were killed by gunfire one year ago on May 19, 20, and 21.

May 19, 1999:

Clarence Arnold, 32, Knoxville, TN

Troy Blando, 39, Houston, TX

Don T. Huey, 32, Houston, TX

David Johnson, 31, Houston, TX

Booker Miles, 27, Louisville, KY

James Nash, 40, Atlanta, GA

Leon Pickett, Detroit, MI

Mark Thompson, 31, Baltimore, MD

Willie D. Watts, 39, Gary, IN

Cedric White, 19, Atlanta, GA

May 20, 1999:

Eric Michael Allen, 30, Detroit, MI

Roderick R. Brown, 27, Memphis, TN

John Cosgrove, 71, Miami-Dade County, FL

Paul Davis, 28, Chicago, IL

Stephen Entsminger, 49, Davenport, IA

Maria Josefina Eslava, 23, Houston, TX

Curtis O. Green, 17, Chicago, IL

Travis Johnson, 20, Rockford, IL

Demarcus Kelly, 26, Atlanta, GA

Aaron Murphy, Jr., 40, Macon, GA

Kevin Stokes, 27, Atlanta, GA

Male, 56, Honolulu, HI

May 21, 1999:

James Alberts, 35, Bridgeport, CT

Quan Bell, 28, Detroit, MI

Edward Belton, 18, St. Louis, MO

Richard Daniels, 27, Fort Worth, TX

Anthony Houston, 21, Detroit, MI

Michelle Jackson, 21, St. Louis, MO

Steven Jupiter, 19, Baltimore MD

Werner Muense, 81, Minneapolis, MN

John Minaya, 19, Providence, RI

Karl Paul Pitts, 22, Detroit, MI

Michael Marion Raymond, 22, Washington, DC

Osvaldo Rodriguez, 23, Houston, TX

Sheri Thielen, 40, Minneapolis, MN

May 19, 1999 (Houston, Texas):

Police Officer Troy Blando was fatally shot while attempting to arrest an auto theft suspect. Jeffery Demond Williams pulled into a parking lot in a stolen Lexus, and the 39-year-old Blando, working on the auto theft task force, was undercover in an unmarked vehicle. Blando approached Williams after he had run a check on the license plate and discovered the vehicle had been stolen.

A struggle ensued, and Blando put away his gun as he tried to handcuff the suspect's wrists. At that point, Williams pulled out a gun and shot the police officer, who was pronounced dead later that evening after doctors were unable to save him.

Police Officer Troy Blando is survived by his widow who suffers from multiple sclerosis, and his 14-year-old son. Williams has been convicted and sentenced to die.

May 20, 1999 (Conyers, Georgia):

As students mingled before class at Heritage High School in Conyers, Georgia, on May 20, 1999, fifteen-year-old Thomas Solomon pulled out a rifle and a handgun and began to open fire. Six students were injured and an assistant principal had to talk Solomon out of killing himself after he put a gun in his mouth. This incident took place exactly one month after Littleton, Colorado.

May 21, 1999 (Providence, Rhode Island):