

programs and the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute. It is essential that ombudsmen do not come in conflict with the role of unions in protecting worker rights. From the case studies examined by the GAO, there appeared to be good relations between ombudsmen and unions in the agencies where employees are represented by unions. As agencies consider this and other alternatives to traditional dispute resolution, there must be assurances that employees' rights are maintained throughout the process of implementing these practices.

I recommend this General Accounting Office report to my colleagues, and I commend Anthony P. Lofaro of the GAO for his contribution to this report, along with Stephen Altman and Katherine Brentzel. It provides excellent background and a best practices blueprint for Federal agencies as they consider employing ombudsman to assist their employees.

AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on American Indian Heritage Month, which is celebrated in Minnesota in May. It is fitting that we take time during this month to recall the contributions, services and heritage of our fellow Native American citizens, and to remember that the enormous contributions and talents of Native American continue to enrich our lives every day.

In our review of these vital contributions, we must acknowledge the courage, talent, determination, leadership and vision of those men, women and children who made an impact on our Nation in the face of incredible obstacles. We should be mindful, as we celebrate the culture, heritage and spiritual contributions of the first Americans, that we must re-dedicate ourselves to preserving the unique relationship between Native Americans tribal governments and the Federal Government.

Many of the basic principles of our Constitution, such as freedom of speech and separation of powers, were embodied in practices already in use by American Indian tribal prior to our Republic. Many of our deepest values, such as respect for the preservation of natural resources, reverence for elders, and adherence to tradition, find root in American Indian traditions.

The relationship between American Indians and the Federal Government is unique and finds no parallel. When the United States was organized as a Nation, government officials continued the practice from the Dutch and British of making treaty agreements with American Indian Nations whenever land boundaries needed to be clarified or negotiated.

All of the land in Minnesota was gained by the United States through a series of treaties with the Anishinabe and Dakota Nations. Sixteen treaties

and four agreements applied to American Indians of Minnesota. One of the earliest treaties to affect Minnesota's American Indians was the Pike Treaty of 1806, which allowed the Federal Government to claim a small section of land near the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers to build a military fort, which ultimately became known as Fort Snelling. The 1825 Treaty of Prairie du Chien created a boundary between the Dakota to the south and the Ojibwe who lived in the woodland country to the north.

In addition to acknowledging the historical context of the relationship between the Federal Government and the American Indians, we should also recognize the various contemporary entities and contributions of these Bands. Their efforts have helped shape the social, economic and political landscape of our region.

In the area of economic development, the Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce has done tremendous work in the area of advanced telecommunications, and other forms of business development to expand economic opportunities for American Indians on reservations as well as in urban areas.

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe was honored by the Harvard Project on American Indian Innovation in 1999 for their Ojibwe Language Program. This is a highly successful effort to revitalize the Band's native language by teaching it to their younger members in innovative ways.

Our community also is extremely privileged to have an organization with the capacity and outreach of American Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center. This organization provides necessary education and job training skills, serving as a bridge between public school and employment or college for its students.

I am also proud to commend the organizations that comprise the Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors for their unwavering efforts to examine and address many critical issues and challenges facing urban American Indians.

Native Americans in my State, and indeed in all fifty States, are justly proud of their heritage and culture. They can be just as proud of their efforts today to preserve that heritage, to protect that culture and to make it relevant for today's Native American children, and it is those efforts that I honor today.

CONFIRMATION OF RESERVE SERVICE CHIEFS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I rise to mark an historic day for our Nation's military, and specifically the reserves. Yesterday, the U.S. Senate honorably carried out its constitutional duty by approving the Presidential nominations of Reserve Service Chiefs to the rank of three-star. Last year's National Defense Authorization Act for

Fiscal Year 2001, H.R. 4205, required the service secretaries to increase the rank of the Chief of the Navy Reserve, Commander of the Marine Forces Reserve, Chief of the Army Reserve, Chief of the Air Force Reserve, Director of the Army National Guard, and the Director of the Air National Guard to Vice Admiral or Lieutenant General. This mandate was very significant to me and many of my colleagues, as well as those who serve in our reserve forces.

Earlier this year, I was greatly honored to be recognized by the Reserve Officers Association in receiving their highest honor—the Minute Man of the Year Award. The Reserve Officers Association, particularly Rear Admiral Stephen G. Yusem USNR (Retired), deserves great credit for its efforts in working with Congress to ensure that this well-deserved change in promotion authority for the Reserve Chiefs became a reality.

It is especially important to me because of the significant changes I have observed in our Total Force, active duty and Reserve Components since the late-1980s to early-1990s when Senator Glenn chaired the Personnel Subcommittee on the Committee on Armed Services and I was the ranking member on the subcommittee. Back then, reservists were truly weekend warriors. That, however, is not the case now—they are much more than that. Today, reservists work considerably more than weekends, and are as critical a part of the fabric of our National Military Strategy as active duty servicemembers.

The all-volunteer military has largely been a success in our country. However, an unfortunate bi-product has been the increasing chasm between those Americans who have served in the armed services and those who have not. Twenty years ago, scores of elected officials in Washington were veterans. Today, the number of Senators and Congressmen who have worn the uniform of the armed services has rapidly declined.

This military-civilian gap, as some have characterized it, is a troubling reality that we must seek to bridge. It is increasingly difficult for many of our fellow citizens to truly appreciate the sacrifices of those who serve in any capacity. That is another reason that the reserves are so important for our national life. Our reserve servicemembers not only protect our liberty, but also serve as the indispensable link to those Americans in civilian life not ordinarily touched in their daily lives by the sacrifice, honor and privilege of military service.

The roles and missions of the Reserve Components have changed over the past several years, as the active duty force has evolved from the downsizing of our military forces during the last decade. For example, in March 2001, the Army National Guard 29th Infantry Division took command of the American peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. The significance of this deployment is that

75 percent of the 4,000 U.S. Army soldiers on the ground will be Army Reserve and Guard soldiers from 17 states—not just headquarters' staff, but operational units as well.

This is just one of many such deployments that have taken place in recent years, but it highlights the ever-increasing role of reservists in defending America's security interests around the world, and marks a radical departure from the past.

The figures are quite staggering when considered in total. Today, reservists and National Guardsmen are deployed under three presidential call-up orders for Bosnia, Kosovo and Southwest Asia. For Bosnia, more than 21,000 U.S. reservists have been called involuntarily since 1995, with another 14,000 having served in a voluntary capacity. For Kosovo, more than 7,100 have been called involuntarily, and these have been joined by more than 4,000 volunteers. For Southwest Asia, 2,800 have been called and some 11,000 have volunteered.

During each of the past five years, Reserve and National Guard servicemembers have performed between 12 and 13.5 million duty days in support of the active force. These numbers are a direct contrast to 1990, when just one million duty days were performed, yet there were 25 percent more reservists.

Reservists also currently make up more than half of the airlift crews and 85 percent of the sealift personnel needed to move troops and equipment in either wartime or peacetime operations. In addition, reserve medical and construction battalions, as well as other specialists, are critical to a wide range of operations. Consequently, efforts by the reserve components to move beyond a traditional wartime backup role and to provide peacetime support to active units are desirable. The Naval Reserve and Air Force Reserve components have made particularly impressive progress in this direction.

Reservists are performing many vital tasks, from patrolling the no-fly zones in skies above Iraq to rebuilding schools in hurricane-stricken Honduras and fighting fires in our western states, from overseeing civil affairs in Bosnia, to augmenting aircraft carriers short on active duty sailors with critical skilled enlisted ratings during at-sea exercises as well as periods of deployment.

I believe that the civilian and uniformed leadership of our Armed Forces and the Congress must recognize this involvement, and, at a minimum, provide equality in benefits for reserve component servicemembers when they put on the uniform and perform their weekend drills as well as all other critical training evolutions. Quality of life is not just an active duty obligation that Congress must provide. Reservists, on duty, who resemble their active duty counterparts during training evolutions and are deployed at times around the world, should be treated

equally when the administration and Congress provide for quality of life benefits.

I am pleased to pay homage to the many wonderful reserve servicemen and women who serve in our armed forces, and in some small measure thank them for their dedicated service to our country by recognizing the confirmation by the U.S. Senate of the Reserve Service Chiefs to three-star rank. Congratulations to Vice Admiral John B. Totushek, Chief of the Naval Reserve; Lieutenant General Dennis M. McCarthy, Commander of the Marine Forces Reserve; Lieutenant General Thomas J. Plewes, Chief of the Army Reserve; Lieutenant General James E. Sherrard, III, Chief of the Air Force Reserve; and, Lieutenant General Roger C. Schultz, Director of the Army National Guard. I am confident that our Reserve Component forces will continue to flourish under your leadership. All of you have already demonstrated that the key to your strength as leaders is in supporting the servicemen and women who work very hard in our military. I trust in your willingness and ability to uphold the honor of our country. Congratulations on your continued sacrifice and service to our Nation.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, May 24, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,660,965,921,275.71, five trillion, six hundred sixty billion, nine hundred sixty-five million, nine hundred twenty-one thousand, two hundred seventy-five dollars and seventy-one cents.

One year ago, May 24, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,676,762,000,000, five trillion, six hundred seventy-six billion, seven hundred sixty-two million.

five years ago, May 24, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,122,025,000,000, five trillion, one hundred twenty-two billion, twenty-five million.

Ten years ago, May 24, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,481,461,000,000, three trillion, four hundred eighty-one billion, four hundred sixty-one million.

Twenty-five years ago, May 24, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$607,559,000,000, six hundred seven billion, five hundred fifty-nine million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion, \$5,053,406,921,275.71, five trillion, fifty-three billion, four hundred six million, nine hundred twenty-one thousand, two hundred seventy-five dollars and seventy-one cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF THERMOANALYTICS, INC.

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge the achievements of ThermoAnalytics, Inc., a small business from my home state of Michigan

that has been once again recognized for its quality products and high tech innovation. On May 9 of this year, ThermoAnalytics was selected by the Small Business Administration as the Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year 2000 for Region V, an area that includes Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. This is the third quality award bestowed upon ThermoAnalytics, Inc. by the Federal Government in the past year.

ThermoAnalytics has worked with the automotive industry and the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM) to develop a world class software tool that is considered standard in the auto industry and Department of the Army. As the Army continues to transform itself into a smaller, lighter and more efficient fighting force, computer analysis tools, such as these, are used to design performance vehicles before they are built and tested. The products designed by ThermoAnalytics are helping the Army achieve this important goal.

ThermoAnalytics developed a computerized model for heat management to aid in the assessment of the susceptibility of Army vehicles to threat sensors. This technology was commercialized into a state-of-the-art image based radiation solver. The commercial product was released in July 1999 and provides engineers with a quick and simple thermal predication tool. A second commercial product was developed for more advanced use by the Big 3 automotive manufacturers and associated automotive markets. The products are used widely by the automotive industry and military labs and contractors.

In addition to the Contractor of the Year Award, ThermoAnalytics received the Small Business Administration's Tibbetts Award for their accomplishments in the area of high technology innovation on October 3, 2000. Tibbetts Awards are presented annually to small technology firms which have achieved excellence under the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program. The winners, one from each state, are selected based on the economic impact of the technological innovation, overall business achievement and demonstration of effective collaborations.

Prior to the Contractor of the Year Award and the Tibbetts Award, ThermoAnalytics received the Army Phase II Quality Award on August 22, 2000. These three awards highlight the ingenuity and innovation that have come to typify ThermoAnalytics.

ThermoAnalytics, Inc. is an outstanding company that has played a vital role in assisting the United States Army and private industry. I know that my Senate Colleagues will join me in congratulating ThermoAnalytics on being named the Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year for Region V. •