

Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, testified on terrorism programs, the newly established Office of National Preparedness, and FEMA's plans to enact a nationally coordinated plan for terrorism preparedness. Dr. Scott Lillibridge, the first Special Assistant to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, HHS, for National Security and Emergency Management, discussed the current and future bioterrorism preparedness and response programs within HHS.

They were followed by two expert witnesses, whose testimony and experience were very helpful in laying out what the country should be doing, on a national, State, and local level, to respond to bioterrorism.

Dr. Tara O'Toole, of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Civilian Biodefense Studies, discussed the nature of the threat and the challenges facing response efforts. As she aptly noted, "nothing in the realm of natural catastrophes or man-made disasters rivals the complex response problems that would follow a bioweapon attack against civilian populations."

Dr. Dan Hanfling, a physician in the Emergency Department at Inova Fairfax Hospital, and an active member in regional disaster response planning, shared his views on the ability of local emergency rooms to respond to biological agents. He explained how, with emergency room overcrowding and ambulance diversions, emergency departments and hospitals are operating in a 'disaster mode' from day to day.

Throughout the hearing, I heard three recurring concerns that must be addressed to prepare properly for bioterrorism. First, the medical and hospital community is not engaged fully in bioterrorism planning. Second, the partnerships between medical and public health professionals are not as strong as they need to be. And, third, hospitals must have the resources to develop surge capabilities.

All three will require long-term efforts to correct these problems. However, I believe that we can make considerable progress with some simple measures that can be implemented quickly.

First, we need to improve awareness of the threat among the medical community, thereby increasing engagement with physicians and hospitals. Dr. O'Toole suggested Congressional support for curriculum development for medical and nursing schools. Such support would require funding for the development of biological weapon and emerging infectious disease curricula, which could be shared to educate, train, and retrain medical professionals.

Second, FEMA must ensure that our medical and hospital communities have a place at the table in the planning and implementing of bioterrorism programs. Both Dr. Hanfling and Dr. O'Toole emphasized the necessity of involving the public health and medical communities in response planning for

all acts of terrorism. The medical community is always called upon for assistance in disasters by traditional first responders. For acts of bioterrorism, they become the first responders. This will require funding to provide physicians, nurses, and hospital administrators the resources and time to attend meetings, training sessions, and planning activities.

Third, we can also enhance the surveillance and monitoring capabilities of the local and state public health departments. This is crucial in order to detect outbreaks as early as possible. One step in accomplishing this would be to include veterinarians in current monitoring and surveillance networks. Dr. Lillibridge and Dr. O'Toole agreed that the veterinary community can offer many things to the bioterrorism effort.

For example, most physicians do not have clinical experience with likely bioterrorist agents, such as plague, anthrax, and small pox. However, many veterinarians have field experience with anthrax and plague. Veterinarians could also help in detecting unusual biological events because many emerging diseases, such as West Nile Virus, appear in animals long before humans.

Dr. Lillibridge said HHS is considering some options to actively engage the animal health community. I would suggest creating a senior level position within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention responsible for communicating and coordinating with the veterinary associations, local and State animal health officials, and practicing and research veterinarians on a routine basis. I hope that HHS will act quickly in determining the best course of action.

These three actions can help move bioterrorism response forward. Will they solve all the problems we face? No. But with Congressional leadership, FEMA's coordination, and HHS's implementation, we should be able to improve awareness and engagement by the medical and hospital community. We can also expand partnerships between the medical, public health, and veterinary communities. These are small steps to tackling a problem which, at times, may seem daunting and overwhelming.

Our bioterrorism preparedness effort will be helped by developing new activities and communicating with other interested parties. I look forward to working with the different stakeholders in their efforts to prepare our communities for a possible act of bioterrorism.

IN MEMORY OF CARROLL
O'CONNOR

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay my respects to a great American, Carroll O'Connor, who died June 21, 2001 of a heart attack. Mr. O'Connor was a talented actor who is fondly remembered for his role as Archie Bunker in the television show "All

in the Family," which ran successfully from 1971-1979 and for which he won four Emmys. Everyone will agree that Mr. O'Connor's portrayal of Archie Bunker helped start a dialogue in this country about serious issues that had until then been avoided. Issues such as racism, bigotry, and religious and gender discrimination were tackled by the cast of "All in the Family," and Mr. O'Connor led the discussion. His loyal fans will always remember the contributions he made to changing attitudes in America.

As much as I admired Mr. O'Connor for his role in bringing social issues to the forefront of American thought, today I would like to talk about another important issue that Mr. O'Connor helped bring to the attention of the American public. Mr. O'Connor was a tireless advocate for preventing kids from using drugs. He spoke publicly about the importance of keeping illegal drugs away from our kids. He passionately pleaded for parents to get between drugs and their kids so as to avoid the heartache that he himself suffered while witnessing his son Hugh struggle with his own addiction to cocaine and ultimately, as a result of his addiction, commit suicide. At a time when many would retreat in their own sorrow and grief, Carroll O'Connor mustered the strength to speak out about the dangers of drug abuse. He was a true public servant who undoubtedly touched the hearts of millions through his public service announcements that intimately described how he lost his son to drug addiction. I truly believe that his moving announcements prompted many parents to talk to their children about drugs.

I was fortunate to meet several times with Mr. O'Connor to discuss our country's drug control strategy. He had many interesting and innovative ideas as how to best solve the problem. In fact, just a few months ago he appeared via satellite at a Judiciary Committee hearing I held to testify in favor of S. 304, the Drug Abuse Education, Prevention, and Treatment Act of 2001, which I introduced along with Senators LEAHY, BIDEN, DEWINE, THURMOND, and FEINSTEIN. I want to quote a passage from his opening statement, which I believe exemplifies his dedication to the issue of drug abuse.

We only know that there is hardly a family in America, on any level of life, that has not been wounded lightly or severely or fatally by the assault of the drug empire upon our country. The loved ones of insensate addicts, like my own poor son, write to me every day imploring my help, as if I, being well-known, might persuade our leaders to protect and defend them in this war, or at the very least help them care for their wounded and dying. This Committee, by this legislation, is now directing serious attention to the care for the wounded and dying.

I deeply regret that Mr. O'Connor will not be here when the Senate passes S. 304, but importantly, his legacy is secure in the form of the contribution he has made to publicizing this issue

and the tireless work toward the passage of this legislation. I ask unanimous consent that Mr. O'Connor's March 14, 2001 opening statement before the Judiciary Committee be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT BY CARROLL O'CONNOR TO THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, MARCH 14, 2001

Good morning. My dear Senators, I'm honored by your invitation to be here. I'm deeply involved in our war on drugs but only as a wounded victim of it, without expertise in the conduct of it. I am presuming here simply to speak for five million other victims. Or should I say ten million? Is there a true number? We only know that there is hardly a family in America, on any level of life, that has not been wounded lightly or severely or fatally by the assault of the drug empire upon our country.

The loved ones of insensate addicts, like my own poor son, write to me every day imploring my help, as if I, being well-known, might persuade our leaders to protect and defend them in this war, or at the very least help them care for their wounded and dying. This committee, by this legislation, is now directing serious attention to the care of the wounded and dying. This is a good bill. This war against the drug empire is a good war, and except for some who call it a lost war, who would legalize drugs and turn the country over to the invader, the American people are not clamoring to withdraw from this war.

This war is raging in the streets around them. They tell me in their letters that they don't understand why we are not fighting this war and winning it. They understand that they are spending billions to raise blockades and sanctions against so-called enemy countries like Libya and Cuba, and to fly bomber patrols over Iraq to prevent the Iraqis from making chemical weapons to use against us, but they know that the only country in the world attacking us daily with the poisons it makes is Colombia, the key country in the drug empire; Colombia which says to us "Control your own deadly habits; we don't create them, we merely supply them. Meanwhile can you let us have two billion dollars and some American troops to deal with our rebels down here?"

If this is an unsophisticated picture of our foreign relations, it is nevertheless starkly real to our despairing people. The picture might better be presented to some other committee of the congress, but it is impossible to leave it out of any consideration of the drug war. I cannot guess how our people will receive the proposals advanced by this good legislation, and I am afraid that the expenditures here proposed for treatment and rehabilitation are not going to be enough by half. I would have said that we needed new, free rehabilitation centers in all of the major counties of our fifty states. How many? Two hundred, three hundred? At what cost? Perhaps a billion? a low guess? just to start the program.

Addicts cannot help themselves; they have to learn control, to re-regulate brain cells in expert medical facilities, places with living facilities closely available that will receive them without delay when they are ready to offer themselves. Our people are not ungenerous but they are not well informed. Care and rehabilitation of thousands and thousands of junkies is not something they are ready to pay for on a grand scale. But that must be done, and now when we are at the flood tide of our national wealth is the only possible time to do it.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, July 30, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,733,200,036,425.98, five trillion, seven hundred thirty-three billion, two hundred million, thirty-six thousand, four hundred twenty-five dollars and ninety-eight cents.

Five years ago, July 30, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,183,983,000,000, five trillion, one hundred eighty-three billion, nine hundred eighty-three million.

Ten years ago, July 30, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,560,957,000,000, three trillion, five hundred sixty billion, nine hundred fifty-seven million.

Fifteen years ago, July 30, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$2,071,424,000,000, two trillion, seventy-one billion, four hundred twenty-four million.

Twenty-five years ago, July 30, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$624,547,000,000, six hundred twenty-four billion, five hundred forty-seven million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion, \$5,108,653,036,425.98, five trillion, one hundred eight billion, six hundred fifty-three million, thirty-six thousand, four hundred twenty-five dollars and ninety-eight cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL THOMAS F. GIOCONDA

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly great American, Brigadier General Thomas F. Gioconda, USAF. General Gioconda has served this Nation with distinction for 31 years.

A native of Philadelphia, PA, General Gioconda is a graduate of St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA, class of 1970. He has earned two masters degrees, one in School Administration from Seton Hall University, and another in Business Administration from the University of Montana. His military career began in 1970 with an assignment to Malstrom AFB, MT, where he served as a missile launch officer. After 4 years as a wing missile operations crew instructor, he served as an AFOTC instructor at his alma mater for two years, followed by another two years at New Jersey Institute of Technology. He then served as a missile operations instructor and section chief at the 4315th Combat Crew Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA.

General Gioconda has also served as the principal liaison officer to Congress for both General Colin Powell (Ret) and General John Shalikashvili (Ret) during momentous times in our Nation's history—the end of the Cold War, Operations Desert Storm, Provide Promise, Provide Hope, Provide Comfort, Southern Watch, Deny Flight, and Restore Democracy, and Joint Endeavor, as well as countless other military operations and deployments.

General Gioconda came to Department of Energy Defense Programs in August 1997 to serve as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Military Application (DP-2). During his 4-year tenure, General Gioconda served as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs and later as the Acting Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, for almost as long as he has served in the DP-2 position. Under this leadership, the Stockpile Stewardship Program, one of the country's most challenging scientific and engineering programs is delivering results of the American people, results that make this a safer country for us all. His steady hand, clear vision, decency, candor, and sense of humor has also helped the program overcome profound challenges over the last several years.

At the conclusion of his first tour as Acting Deputy Administrator, his accomplishments were justly rewarded with the presentation of the Department of Energy's highest honor, the Secretary's Gold Medal. General Gioconda has made great personal professional sacrifices to ensure the success of the Stockpile Stewardship Program and the Nation owes him a depth of gratitude for this service. I know that the men and women of the National Nuclear Security Administration will sorely miss his leadership, commitment to excellence, and untiring efforts to look out for their welfare.

In addition to his Department of Energy award, General Gioconda has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (four Oak Leaf Clusters), three Air Force Commendation Medals, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Combat Readiness Medal, the Outstanding Voluntary Service Medal, and the Command Missile Badge. We wish Tom, his wife Anita, and their three sons, Tom, Jr., Anthony, and Timothy, the very best.

It is a great honor and personal privilege for me to present his credentials and this tribute to General Thomas F. Gioconda before the Congress today. I have enjoyed working with the General over the years and I will miss his wise counsel. General Gioconda's extraordinary commitment has helped sustain our Nation's security during his tenure and beyond and reflects great credit upon himself, the Departments of the Air Force and Energy, and the United States of America. His actions reflect the highest professional standards of the Air Force. He is an officer of the highest honor, integrity, and purpose. Please join me in wishing this patriotic American every success in the years ahead.●

DR. FRED CRAWFORD

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, it is a pleasure for me to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Fred Crawford,