

Nation's defense at this time of tragedy and attack was from North Dakota but that we sent our very best and that our very best are America's very best.

GROWING PROBLEM OF PIRACY AT SEA

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to call attention to the growing problem of piracy at sea. The days of Blackbeard and Captain Kidd may be gone, but pirates are still with us.

In February 2001 the International Maritime Bureau, IMB, of the International Chamber of Commerce reported that piracy attacks jumped 57 percent from 1999 to 2000. The IMB reported a total of 469 attacks on ships either at sea, at anchor, or in port. Today's pirates prowl the sea in speedboats, armed with automatic weapons, satellite phones, and global positioning devices. They are often backed by organized crime syndicates, making use of forged registration documents and bills of lading to offload hijacked cargo. Rarely are hijacked ships recovered or pirates arrested.

We should be concerned with this because U.S. trade and national security depend upon maritime transportation. Ninety percent of the world's cargo is carried over the seas. In addition to its role in foreign commerce, our Nation's merchant shipping fleet provides vital national security sealift in the event of war or other crisis. Crews and cargo are coming under increasing attack from pirates. Through violence or the threat of force, pirates are boarding vessels and looting cargo. Last year, there were 72 reported deaths of mariners and 99 injuries due to pirate attacks.

Maritime crime, in general, can take many forms including low-level assaults, thefts, armed robbery, organized hijacking, environmental crimes, and smuggling of humans or contraband. Criminals use violence or the threat of violence to target seafarers, cargo, and ships. Attacks may occur while at dock, in territorial waters, or on the high seas. Piracy can result in immediate loss of life and property and may present a threat to navigational safety.

Under international law, piracy is defined as theft or other illegal acts of violence committed on the high seas for private gain by the crew of a private ship against another ship, or the persons or property on board. The phrase "on the high seas" is a legal term of art. It is any area not within the territorial sea, or sovereignty, of another state. Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, a state's territorial sea extends 12 nautical miles from its coastline. Piracy on the high seas is considered a crime against all nations. Accordingly, under international law every state has the right to seize pirate ships on the high seas and arrest pirates who are subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the state which carried out the arrest.

The true scope of the piracy problem, however, is not known. Despite numerous press reports, current sea piracy statistics are incomplete. There is no consensus among reporting organizations on what constitutes a reportable piracy attack. Although the definition under international law requires that the attack occur on the high seas, some organizations include attacks at port. In addition, it appears that instances of piracy among noncommercial vessels such as yachts and regional fishermen may be significantly underreported.

Although the risk of attack on U.S. flag ships is not significant, piracy is a problem for our trading partners in Asia. The nations of this region account for more than \$435 billion in trade with the U.S., more than any other region in the world. Approximately 98 percent of this commerce moves by sea. The Malacca Straits, separating the Malay Peninsula with the island of Sumatra, is one of the most important shipping lanes in the world. Surrounded by the nations of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore, it is the shortest route between the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea. Asian allies, dependent on oil imports from the Arabian Gulf, rely upon ships passing safely through the straits. It also happens to be a pirate hot spot.

The piracy problem in Southeast Asia has resulted in several regional responses. In July 2000 Indonesia set up a special court to try piracy cases. In November 2000 the Japanese sent a coast guard vessel to India and Malaysia to participate in joint exercises. In January 2001 Malaysia launched an operation to reduce piracy in the Malacca Straits in cooperation with Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand. In June 2001 the Japanese Coast Guard announced that it is planning to send patrol boats to the region periodically to participate in joint training exercises.

The U.S. has also responded to this issue through the U.S. Coast Guard, USCG. The Coast Guard's Deepwater Program is responsible for conducting operations 50 miles or more out to sea. The Coast Guard is leveraging its maritime law enforcement expertise by providing training to foreign maritime law enforcement agencies to combat sea piracy. For example, in June 2001 the USCG led a cooperation afloat readiness and training, CARAT, exercise on maritime law enforcement techniques with the Royal Thai Navy. CARAT is an annual series of bilateral exercises between the American military and that of several Asian nations including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, and Brunei. Although well-suited for this mission the Coast Guard is currently ill-equipped. It is in the process of modernizing its aging fleet to carry out more deepwater missions. The current plan calls for the replacement of approximately 100 cutters and more than 200 aircraft in the Deepwater Program.

The rise in the number and seriousness of pirate attacks has drawn the

attention of the United Nations' International Maritime Organization, IMO. The IMO encourages cooperation among governments in the area of regulations and standards concerning maritime safety. Since 1998, the IMO has sponsored a series of seminars around the world to study the piracy problem and heighten awareness. At a June 2001 meeting the IMO renewed its call for all governments and industry to intensify their efforts to eradicate sea piracy and encouraged regional agreements supported by appropriate national piracy laws and adequate enforcement and prosecutorial capabilities. The IMO also approved a draft resolution for submission to the U.N. General Assembly session in November 2001.

As the Bush administration reviews its policy on the issue of sea piracy, I strongly encourage consideration of the following points: (1) We need better statistics on pirate attacks to assess the national security risks. More detailed reporting and analysis is needed to determine the appropriate response to this problem. (2) The U.S. should commend those nations in the region that are attempting to police the waters within their jurisdiction and reduce the number of pirate attacks. (3) The U.S. should encourage further regional cooperation, such as the recent agreement between Japan and Southeast Asian nations regarding joint training exercises. (4) Finally, the U.S. should continue to support the actions of the United Nations in addressing the issue of sea piracy. This would include determining the scope of the problem, whether regional actions are adequate, whether further legislation is needed in some countries, and how the U.N. can be of assistance in drafting these new laws and encouraging more effective enforcement capabilities.

Modern-day piracy must be stopped, and the United States can and should be an active partner in the fight against pirate attacks.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred August 26, 2001, in Portland, OR. Lorenzo Okaruru, according to detectives, died after being savagely beaten about the head and face with a blunt instrument, most likely by a man who picked up someone he thought was a woman and was angered to find out Okaruru was a man. Law enforcement officials have said they believe Okaruru was killed based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The Washington County Sheriff's Office last week classified

Okaruru's August 26 beating as a hate crime, the first such killing in the county.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF NANCY T. NORTON

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today for the Senate to recognize the dedication and professional contributions made to the United States Senate and the Commonwealth of Virginia by one of my valuable staff members, Nancy T. Norton.

For 2 years Nancy has effectively served as my Legislative Assistant for Military and Foreign Affairs. She has worked tirelessly in this position to provide sound counsel to me in the formation of military and foreign policy.

More importantly, Nancy brought to this position endless energy and a wealth of compassion and caring as she worked on legislation to improve the quality of life for the men and women of the armed forces, our nation's military retirees and our veterans.

Nancy's distinguished professional career is one of many accomplishments. After having graduated from the United States Naval Academy, Nancy began her service to the country as a Naval Officer and aviator flying the C-130 aircraft. Among the positions she held during her military career, she served as a pilot instructor for the E-6A aircraft and flew worldwide logistic support missions for the Department of Defense, including those in support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in and around the Pacific Theater. Later, Nancy served as a Congressional Liaison Officer and a Department of Defense Legislative Detailee in the offices of Senator SUSAN COLLINS and former Virginia Congressman Norman Sisisky.

After a time in the private sector, Nancy returned to public service as a member of my staff. She has been a tremendous asset to me as she brought her integrity and professionalism to every task she undertook. All of the members of my staff join me in wishing her every success in the next chapter of her career.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ALBUQUERQUE COOPERATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM CLINICAL RESEARCH PHARMACY COORDINATING COUNCIL CENTER

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Cooperative Studies Program Clinical Research Pharmacy Coordinating Council Center in Albuquerque, NM. This center will soon be awarded the Robert W. Carey

Quality Award by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. This award is VA's highest recognition for quality achievement. The Carey Award honors VA offices that demonstrate organizational effectiveness and high-quality service to our Nation's veterans. The award encourages efficient management by prominently honoring the VA's highest performing offices.

The Albuquerque Pharmacy Coordinating Council Center truly deserves this great honor. The center was founded in 1972 as a part of VA's Cooperative Services Program. This program is responsible for planning and conducting the large multicenter clinical trials within VA, and the Albuquerque center manages all of the pharmaceutical aspects of these trials. The center plays a critical role in planning VA's clinical trials, packaging clinical trial materials, and monitoring the implementation of clinical trials. These trials have benefitted not only our Nation's veterans, but have improved the health of our entire Nation, by contributing to the rapidly increasing body of medical knowledge.

The center has a staff of over 60 highly trained and experienced pharmacy and management professionals and technicians. Through the efforts of these outstanding employees and under the excellent leadership of Director Dr. Mike Sather, the center has developed a solid reputation within the medical research community. In fact, the center has contributed to ground-breaking medical research in developing treatments for a wide range of diseases from cancer to heart disease to mental illness. The center has also demonstrated its proficiency in its successful collaborations with such institutions as the National Institutes of Health, specifically the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the National Institute of Mental Health, as well as the centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The recognition of the Albuquerque center by the VA should come as no surprise to anyone familiar with its history. In fact, the center has previously been recognized for its achievements by Quality New Mexico and has received both the Roadrunner Recognition and the Piñon Award. I congratulate the exceptional leadership and the devoted staff of the Albuquerque Pharmacy Coordinating Council Center on this fine achievement, and I look forward to their future accomplishments in improving the health of our Nation and demonstrating our continued commitment to our Nation's veterans.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:35 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 joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 22. Joint resolution expressing the sense of the Senate and House of Rep-

resentatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001.

At 2:15 p.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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2882. An act to provide for the expedited payment of certain benefits for a public safety officer who was killed or suffered a catastrophic injury as a direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty in connection with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 225. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that, as a symbol of solidarity following the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, every United States citizen is encouraged to display the flag of the United States.

At 4:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2884. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for victims of the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The following enrolled joint resolution, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, was signed today, September 13, 2001, by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

S.J. Res. 22. A joint resolution expressing the sense of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2884. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for victims of the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2833. An act to promote freedom and democracy in Viet Nam.

H.R. 2291. An act to extend the authorization of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program for an additional 5 years, to authorize a National Community Antidrug Coalition Institute, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 13, 2000, she had presented to the President of the