

over higher education issues, I am committed to making higher education more accessible and affordable for students. I applaud the student, school and loan provider groups that have worked with Congress and the administration to develop this “win-win” solution. This legislation is good for students and good for our nation.

HISTORIAN STEPHEN AMBROSE PRAISES MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARDSMEN

HON. GENE TAYLOR

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, my hometown newspaper, The Sun-Herald, based in Biloxi, Mississippi, recently printed a feature by noted historian Stephen E. Ambrose. I found Mr. Ambrose's words to be especially insightful at this time when our American troops are at war in Afghanistan. It is a ringing endorsement of the dedication of our men and women in uniform, as well as a testament to the new American diplomacy—one that encourages cooperation among nations and perseverance in rebuilding communities and restoring peace.

Most importantly, though, Mr. Ambrose pays tribute to a group of men and women who are often over-looked as defenders of our Nation, protectors of freedom and some of America's finest diplomats abroad—our National Guardsmen. Each day our nation's guardsmen are performing missions on or above every continent in the world. They are serving alongside their active-duty counterparts in Operations Northern and Southern Watch. They are also playing a vital role in helping, serving, and supporting peacekeeping operations, a vital part of our National Military Strategy. As stated by former Secretary of Defense Cohen, “Today, we cannot undertake sustained operations anywhere in the world without calling on the Guard.”

And, I am particularly proud that Mr. Ambrose chose to acknowledge the citizen-soldiers from my state, the State of Mississippi. Their work has been tireless, but not thankless. Today, I would like to thank those guardsmen, who continue to represent Mississippi and the United States so well.

[From the Sun-Herald, Dec. 10, 2001]

UNITY CAN RESTORE WAR-TORN COUNTRY

(By Stephen E. Ambrose)

TUZLA, BOSNIA.—My wife, Moira, and I, along with a squad-sized group of veterans of the 29th Division who hit Omaha Beach on D-Day, went to Bosnia for Thanksgiving week. As part of the USO-sponsored trip, we spoke with U.S. Army troops, attended briefings, meals and engagements, and watched former members of the 29th meet the newest members of the 29th here.

But mainly we learned.

We learned how soldiers of different races, backgrounds, and countries can set aside past enmities and work together to rebuild a region. And while we were reminded that American troops served similar functions in the last century, we realized they will serve those roles in this new century with new methods, new aims and new partners from around the globe.

It is a lesson our allies in the war against terrorism would do well to grasp; one we can only hope is soon played out in such Afghan cities as Kabul or Kandahar or Mazar-e-Sharif.

Because of all we learned, and the promise for the future it held, this was the best trip ever.

We witnessed things we never imagined possible. One day, we stood at Eagle Base, headquarters for the 29th Division, surrounded by Black Hawk helicopters, ready to take off but waiting for two other birds coming in.

With us was Major General Steven Blum, the American commander of the NATO peacekeeping operation force here. The troops around us were fully armed. The incoming birds landed. They were Russian, part of the air-landing brigade that serves under Blum's command. They landed about 50 meters away from the Black Hawks. Russian soldiers emerged combat ready in the presence of American soldiers just as ready. But there were greetings, not shooting.

The last time that happened was at the German city of Torgau on the banks of the Elbe River in 1945. With this difference: Now, for the first time ever, an American general was commanding a Russian unit.

There are fighting men and women from 30 nations under Blum's command. I saw Greek and Turk soldiers patrolling, side-by-side, armed and working together. Germans and Frenchmen. Poles and Estonians. Latvians and Swedes. Lithuanians and Brits. Irishmen and Austrians. They serve in the Stabilization Force, SFOR for short. The large curved sign over Eagle Base's gate proclaims: “Home of the Peacekeepers.” Blum's NATO command, the Multi-National Division North (4700 troops) is anchored by the 2672 Americans (down from 20,000 in 1995), part of the 29th Division. It includes regular, reserve and National Guard units.

DEFENDING THE FUTURE

The next day we drove to Forward Observation Base Connor, a small outpost of 120 men, 65 of whom were from the Mississippi National Guard. They were young, professional and spoke with charming accents. They come from a state known for its defense of the past. But they are now preparing for the future.

The Guardsmen wore American flag shoulder patches. They were black, brown, yellow, red, pink, white. All religions and ancestors. When off duty, they wore baseball caps that proclaim on the front, “Hard Rock Cafe: SFOR Bosnia,” and on the back, “Love All. Serve All.” That is not how things used to be in the Mississippi National Guard, but it is now.

The Guard is helping rebuild and restore peace while setting an example for Bosnia's Croats, Serbs, and Muslims on how different people can work, serve, live and survive together.

“That American flag on the troops' shoulders is what the people of Bosnia respect—and they don't mess with them,” Blum said. “Our soldiers have been social workers one minute, combat soldiers the next . . . No other army in the world could do this.”

What these soldiers and their foreign counterparts are doing—all of it—is wholly new. An international force working to keep peace and commanded by an American was a dream of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower a half century ago. Now it is here.

These troops are setting the precedent for much of what lies ahead in modern American foreign and military policy. A similar base in Afghanistan might be built. There will be many others. In Bosnia, American troops are protecting Muslim civilians. While not very

far away, in Afghanistan, we are attacking Muslim terrorists.

UNDER STRONG LEADERSHIP

Blum has a unique task. He is 55. He has made 1500 airdrops and has had open-heart surgery. He speaks so well, thinks so swiftly and knows so much that he reminds me of Eisenhower in 1945, when Ike was 55. At all times, Blum was at full concentration. He is an outstanding military commander and diplomat, as good as Ike was in Germany at the same age—but on a much smaller scale.

“Bosnia has more weapons per person than anywhere else in the world. So many, that to celebrate a wedding they throw grenades and shoot their AK-47s,” Blum said of the region, divided by three peoples and three armies: Muslim, Croat and Serb . . . “Our aim is one country, one army.”

Eagle Base is Tuzla's largest employer, providing construction and service jobs, as well as others, at fair wages. Muslim works beside Serb works beside Croat.

They see in their own eyes, black and white, yellow and brown Americans working together. Clearing mines, for example. The American teams go out to remove them using mine-sniffing dog teams. The fields are everywhere, with mines killing or maiming a civilian a day.

Blum showed us the site of the Visoko airfield raid, called Operation Dragnet. On September 27, elements from the 10th Mountain division of urban warfare specialists carried out a search-and-seize mission. Along with confiscating illegal arms. They arrested six Algerian associates of Osama bin Laden.

On October 28, in Operation Omaha, Blum's troops made a ground-air assault on two sites, where they found illegal weapons, including an underground cache of six surface-to-air missiles.

He also took us to a mass gravesite. “Same thing as 1945,” he said, “just new names.” More than 200,000 people were killed in Bosnia. No one knows how many others were injured. There are now more than a million refugees. To escape shelling, women, children and elderly fled by following the power lines from the cities across the roughest mountains. This was Europe's worst fighting in 50 years.

The 1995 Serb assault on Srebrenica killed more than 7000 people. The town was shelled—including a mortar round that exploded on a soccer field filled with boys. That impelled Western powers to take action, and put the troops there under U.S. command.

RESTORATION AND LIBERATION

The American presence in war-torn countries and its role in helping rebuild, restore, and democratize them goes back to 1945 and Japan, West Germany, and later South Korea. Now it is being carried out in Bosnia with a multinational force. America sends her best young men not to conquer, not to destroy, but to liberate. The American military presence had a most remarkable effect in Japan and Germany from 1945 on, and in South Korea after 1953.

It wasn't the Coke or the blue jeans that left lasting impressions, but rather the understanding of right and wrong, the safeguarding of rights for women and the encouragement to create free and prosperous societies.

The U.S. Army's role in these countries is one of the great success stories of the 20th century. A sequel is happening right now, at the beginning of the 21st century, in Bosnia. And one hope and prays, soon in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere.

RETIREMENT OF FRANK STEWART

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant who is retiring after over 30 years of service to his country and to his community. Frank Stewart is stepping down as the director of the Department of Energy's Field Office at the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, CO.

Frank has directed this office for the last 7 years. During this time he was responsible for promoting the development and commercialization of energy, efficiency and renewable energy technologies by working with industry, for administering the management and operations contract for the National Renewable Energy Lab, and for providing administrative support to DOE's six Regional Support Offices.

Throughout his career Frank has served in numerous positions in DOE and its predecessor agency, the Federal Energy Administration. Frank served for a time as the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and demonstrated leadership as well as broad understanding of renewable energy's potential.

At home and abroad, Frank has been a dedicated supporter of renewable technology and has had a hand in numerous projects that expanded the use of renewable energy. When 30 Federal agencies in Denver wanted to purchase wind power, Frank played an important role in formulating the deal that allowed them to purchase ten megawatts of the renewably generated power. He also has traveled to several African countries to advise those governments on the best use of renewable energy technologies. He even helped to install a solar-powered water purification system on one of his trips.

From this experience, Frank has gained an understanding of the importance that renewable energy can play in our society, enhancing national security, improving the environment, and its potential in helping to rebuild shattered countries. Frank is a strong proponent of using renewable energy to establish the new infrastructure in Afghanistan. Frank believes that renewable energy would be the most cost effective means to power Afghanistan since "it would not require the construction of a massive infrastructure, such as a network of pipelines and wires." Frank believes that the technology that has the best chance of success in undeveloped countries is one that is non-polluting and can create jobs. Renewable energy can be the power behind the rebuilding of Afghanistan and many other developing countries.

Frank Stewart has been a dedicated community servant for over 40 years. He has promoted education and energy technologies that will enhance our children's world rather than pollute it and delete it of resources. Frank has dedicated his career to public service and has sought a way to leave things better than he found them. He deserves our thanks for his service, his dedication, and his commitment. He stands as an example to citizens across the country of how an individual can contribute to society.

HONORING THE 56TH ANNUAL PUBLIC SERVANTS MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 56th Annual Public Servants Merit Award of the Cuyahoga County Bar Foundation, I would like to salute the honorees by entering them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Each honoree has provided over 20 years of faithful service to the bench, bar, and public. These public servants will be honored this year with the distinguished Franklin A. Polk Servants Merit Award on February 8, 2002.

Shannon Donahue, Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court, Administrative Assistant to the Personnel Director. Nominated by Hon. Timothy M. Flanagan, Administrative Judge.

Judith McGinty, U.S. District Court, Cleveland Clerks Office, Operations Specialist. Nominated by Hon. Paul M. Matia, Chief Judge.

Margaret Payne, Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court, Senior Supervisor, Clerk's Office. Nominated by Hon. Peter Sikora, Administrative Judge.

Donna Owen, Ohio's Eighth District Court of Appeals, Judicial Secretary. Nominated by Hon. Diane Karpinski.

James Ruddy, Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Acting Department Head, Pending Files-Civil Division. Nominated by Gerald E. Fuerst, Clerk of Courts.

Mercedes Sport, Ohio's Eighth District Court of Appeals, Court Administrator. Nominated by Cuyahoga County Bar Foundation, Public Servants Committee.

Richard Sunyak, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Assistant Director of Operations. Nominated by Hon. Richard J. McMonagle, Presiding Judge.

Ron Tabor, Cleveland Municipal Court, Clerk of Courts, Director of Criminal Division. Nominated by Earle B. Turner, Clerk of Cleveland Municipal Court.

Theresa Talbott, Cuyahoga County Probate Court, Psychiatric Department. Nominated by Hon. John J. Donnelly, Presiding Judge.

Barbara Washington, Cleveland Municipal Court, Jury Commissioner. Nominated by Hon. Larry Jones, Presiding & Administrative Judge.

IN RECOGNITION OF SEARCH AND CARE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Search and Care, a grass-roots neighborhood agency that has an extraordinarily beneficial effect on homebound elderly living in my district. Search and Care has been a vibrant part of the community in which I live and represent. It is a pleasure to pay tribute to this illustrious organization.

Search and Care is a not-for-profit social service agency that serves the homebound elderly in Manhattan's Yorkville neighborhood. Founded in January 1972, it is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

In 1971, the Rev. Clarke K. Oler, the rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, convinced an elderly parishioner to get badly needed medical attention. He took her to a hospital clinic where she died in the waiting room while waiting for her physician. At around the same time, he learned of an elderly neighbor who died of starvation. Recognizing that other old people would benefit from assistance in accessing available services, Rev. Oler took initiative and established Search and Care. Search and Care's mission is to find and serve the elderly so that they can live safely and independently in the Yorkville community. Rev. Oler secured private funds and enlisted the help of Suzannah Chandler, formerly a member of the staff of the National Council on Aging, to start the program. Ms. Chandler also celebrates her 30th anniversary with the organization.

Search and Care provides a practical response to the difficulties faced by frail older people living alone. In the past 30 years the agency has worked with over 5,500 elderly homebound people. This year the organization will assist 350 men and women whose median age is 82, most of whom have no family living nearby.

Search and Care is an invaluable resource for the elderly citizens of my community. Its dedicated professional staff, interns and volunteers provide crucial help with the myriad tasks of daily living including shopping, paying bills, getting to the doctor, housekeeping and looking after pets. This social service agency also intervenes with skilled care management in health, emotional, and financial situations that might otherwise mean the end of independent living for these senior citizens.

Over the years, Search and Care has accomplished this important work through the commitment of some of the finest and most dedicated citizens of New York. The work of these extraordinary people has developed into a model community-based care management program that meets the individually complex and changing needs of the elderly.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of these outstanding achievements, I salute Search and Care and I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing the great contributions of this tremendously dedicated community organization.

RECOGNITION OF PATRICK SMITH

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishment of Patrick Smith, a senior at Tussey Mountain High School in Saxton, PA. Patrick won first place in the Voice of Democracy essay contest sponsored by the Saxton Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4129. The theme of the contest was "Reaching Out to America's Future." Patrick's essay focused on the ways in which America's youth are taught the values of freedom and are encouraged to become active members of their communities.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy contest is an excellent way in which young people can express their patriotism. The Voice of Democracy contest celebrates