

RETIREMENT OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN LAFALCE

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, Congressman JOHN LAFALCE, the ranking member of the House Committee on Financial Services, has announced his retirement after 28 years of dedicated service to his constituents in upstate New York and to our country.

I rise today to acknowledge and applaud the interests and accomplishments of JOHN LAFALCE during his long and productive career in Congress, and to wish him the very best in his future endeavors. We served together in the House, and we worked closely on a bicameral basis for many years on a variety of financial, consumer, and community development issues.

By way of background, JOHN LAFALCE was first elected to Congress from the 32nd Congressional District of New York in 1974 as part of the "Water-gate class." His victory was the first by a Democrat since 1912. His constituents then had the wisdom to return him to Washington as their representative 14 times. Since his arrival in the House, his committee assignments have included the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs—the counterpart to the Senate committee I am honored to chair—and the Committee on Small Business, which he chaired from 1987 until 1994. He was elected ranking Democrat on the renamed Committee on Financial Services in 1998.

I know firsthand of JOHN's passion for public policy—and the intellectual vigor he brought to its formulation—because of our common interests and frequent collaboration in such areas as consumer protection, housing and community development, the safety and soundness of the financial system, corporate accountability, financial modernization, and the effectiveness of international lending programs.

Let me offer some illustrations. Congressman LAFALCE was a leader in the longstanding efforts to modernize the Nation's complex financial services system to promote competition between financial intermediaries while protecting consumers and ensuring that financial institutions continue to contribute to community development and provide services to unserved and underserved communities and populations. Early in 1999, working closely with the Clinton Treasury Department, JOHN helped to jump-start serious consideration of financial modernization legislation by garnering administration support for the first time in the recent history of that debate. That bill provided the basis for the eventual bipartisan agreement that led to enactment of Gramm-Leach-Bliley, referred to by The New York Times as "landmark legislation. . . . The pre-eminent legislative accomplishment of the year."

More recently, JOHN has been a leading advocate for strong investor protections. He sounded some of the earliest and most accurate alarms about

conflicts of interest by investment professionals, questionable accounting practices, inadequate enforcement efforts by the SEC, and inadequate agency funding. The colossal failures of Enron, WorldCom, Global Crossing, and other firms, and the devastating impact on investors and on the working men and women of those companies, have more than justified JOHN's concerns.

JOHN was a prime mover of the sweeping corporate accounting reform legislation signed into law by President Bush on July 25, 2002. JOHN actually introduced in the House in early February of this year the first comprehensive legislative solution offered to address the serious problems in the capital markets and corporate boardrooms. JOHN deserves the praise he has received from many consumer, investor, and labor groups for his leadership in helping to achieve these landmark reforms. A comment by AFL-CIO president JOHN SWEENEY is typical of the praise JOHN received: "I particularly want to thank Congressman LAFALCE, who has really stood out these last few months as a leader ready to take on powerful Wall Street and big money interests on behalf of working families."

I want to make one last observation about JOHN's legislative legacy. Over the years, he has been a tireless and committed crusader for consumers and community development.

For example, in the area of financial privacy, where JOHN and I have worked so closely together, it was legislation that JOHN had introduced in 1998 and 1999 that laid the basis for the historic financial privacy protections that Congress included within Gramm-Leach-Bliley. Since then, JOHN and I have continued to work on new legislation to further enhance these financial privacy protections.

Similarly, JOHN has been a leader in the fight against predatory lending. He crafted excellent legislation that would provide real and substantive protections for the many homeowners, many of whom are elderly, minorities, or immigrants who are financially unsophisticated, who fall prey to unscrupulous mortgage lenders and brokers. I have used JOHN's bill as a basis for my own legislation here in the Senate.

JOHN has also been a strong and consistent advocate for the Community Reinvestment Act. During the debate surrounding financial modernization legislation, we opposed those who wanted to either repeal or undermine it. He has been an ardent defender of funding for affordable housing and community development and has taken the lead in enacting into law important elderly housing and homeless prevention provisions. In addition, he has developed major legislative initiatives to expand homeownership opportunities, and reform the mortgage loan process.

I have had the pleasure and privilege of knowing and working closely with JOHN for almost three decades. I do not expect his retirement from elective of-

fice to end either his public service or his significant contributions to our Nation. In fact, I have every expectation that JOHN LAFALCE will continue to be an active, thoughtful, and valuable contributor to public debate on critical national issues.

Finally, I pay tribute to JOHN's staff. JOHN has been the first to point out that he has always surrounded himself with talented people. Jeanne Roslanowick is an outstanding public servant, and we will miss working with her and the rest of his staff.

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 last 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 July 23, 2001 in Thibodaux, LA. Two white teens attacked and injured a black woman by shooting her in the face with a paintball gun. The victim and her husband were walking through their front yard when the two teens attacked. Prior to the assault, the teens were heard to say that they wanted to "shoot black people", and police investigated the incident as a hate crime. The victim was treated for her injuries in a local hospital.

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 and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

SALUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL LEE A. ARCHER, JR., USAF (RET.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, tomorrow night I have the privilege of speaking at the Tuskegee Airmen National Historical Museum's 17th Annual Salute Reception and Dinner in my hometown of Detroit. This event is held each year at the museum to present an outstanding individual with a Distinguished Achievement Award. This year's honoree is Lieutenant Colonel Lee A. Archer, who was one of the original Tuskegee Airmen. He is being honored for his exemplary military, corporate executive, and entrepreneurial careers.

Colonel Archer was born in 1921 and enlisted in the Army in 1941. He received his commission after training at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama and was assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group. He successfully flew 169 combat missions over central and southern Europe and had 4.5 confirmed aerial victories. He modestly shared

credit with another pilot for the first victory but a subsequent review indicated that he deserved full credit and the coveted status of "Ace." He received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with 18 Oak Leaf Clusters and numerous other awards over the course of his Active Duty career, which lasted 29 years.

These tremendous accomplishments would probably satisfy most people. But Colonel Archer has since gone on to have an equally successful business career. After retiring from the Air Force, he joined the General Foods Corporation in 1970 and became a director just 1 year later. In 1975, he was elected corporate vice president of General Foods. Over the years, he also served as president, chairman, and chief executive officer, CEO, of Vanguard Capital Corporation; chairman and CEO of Hudson Commercial Corporation; and Chairman and CEO of Archer Associates, LTF, a venture capital holding corporation. This is just a partial listing, and doesn't include his numerous civic activities and board memberships.

Colonel Archer, along with his fellow Tuskegee Airmen, and the other members of the "Greatest Generation" who fought in the Second World War have earned our Nation's enduring respect and gratitude for their heroic and selfless deeds in defense of our country, our freedoms, and our way of life.

Regrettably, the Tuskegee Airmen faced rigid segregation and a prevailing prejudice that questioned their ability to serve as Airmen and prevented them from training and working with their white counterparts. But they certainly proved their mettle. Led by the recently departed General Benjamin O. Davis, the first black general in the Air Force; Colonel Archer; and so many other valiant men, the Tuskegee Airmen flew over 15,500 sorties, completed over 1,500 combat missions, and downed over 260 enemy aircraft. They even sank a German destroyer in the harbor of Trieste, Italy. Amazingly, no bomber escorted by the Tuskegee Airmen was ever downed by enemy aircraft.

All in all, 992 men graduated from pilot training at Tuskegee during World War II, 450 of whom were sent overseas for combat assignment. One hundred and fifty men made the supreme sacrifice for our Nation and were killed while in training or on combat missions. Thirty-two downed Airmen were taken as prisoners of war.

Collectively, the Tuskegee Airmen received 3 Presidential Citations, 95 distinguished flying crosses, 8 purple hearts and 14 bronze stars.

Upon returning home from war, these Airmen found a society still deeply segregated. The Tuskegee Airmen themselves remained segregated from the larger military and were unable to provide their skills and aptitude to other units that were in dire need of qualified airmen. It was not until President Truman issued Executive Order 9981 that segregation was ended

in the United States Armed Services. This Executive Order played a vital role in the subsequent integration of our Nation. The valor and dedication of the Tuskegee Airmen played a vital role in changing our Nation's attitude toward integration and racial diversity.

The author and historian Edith Hamilton, commenting on the works of the ancient Greek dramatist Aeschylus, said, "Life for him was an adventure; perilous indeed, but men are not made for safe havens." Certainly, life for Lee Archer has been an adventure, perilous indeed. Certainly, Lee Archer was not made for safe havens; nor has he ever sought them. All Americans are the better for it.

CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT, S. 2182

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to comment on the passage of H.R. 3394, the Cyber Security and Research Development Act. I want to specifically congratulate and thank Senators ALLEN and WYDEN for proposing this measure and for working with me to address a few concerns I had relating to ensuring appropriate national security protections.

This important legislation authorizes computer and network security research and development and research fellowships through the National Science Foundation and the Secretary of Commerce for the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This legislation is an important step in protecting our country's computer infrastructure, and will quickly bear fruit by increasing research and development in this critical area.

Our country's computer infrastructure is critical to our nation's homeland defense. This measure is a much needed effort to improve our research and development efforts in this area by enlisting and bolstering research by our universities, colleges, and research entities. At the same time, I wanted to ensure that access to such critical cyber-research information is appropriately tailored to ensure that our national security interests are protected.

Mr. President, I want to highlight the modifications that I proposed and were included in the bill. These include: (1) expanding the purposes for such grants to include research to enhance law enforcement efforts to detect, investigate and prosecute cyber-crimes, including those that involve piracy of intellectual property, and (2) ensuring compliance with the immigration laws by requiring that those who receive funds comply with United States immigration laws and are not from countries that sponsor international terrorism terrorism, unless the Attorney General and Secretary of States make an individualized determination that the individual is not a threat to our national security. Theft of intellectual property on the internet is becoming a serious threat to many

in our creative community and one of our most important exports.

Again, I am grateful that the authors of this legislation were willing to work with me to include these modifications and I strongly support enactment of this legislation into law.

AMERICA'S STRENGTHENED RESOLVE

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, this year, we did not wait passively for September to arrive; we began preparing weeks ago to greet this month with offerings of memorial in hand. At services across the Commonwealth and in remembrances around the country, last fall's attacks have again drawn the focus of our Nation. There is a new sentiment this time around, though, one that is hopeful, grateful, more determined, and less confused.

For all of us, it has been a week of reflection on the losses and lessons of the attack that changed our history and our lives. The destruction wrought by a hateful few was intended to unravel America's strength, but it has only made us stronger. And from this strength, we have come to understand that the tragedy of last September 11 has in fact blessed us with an opportunity. The attacks are still tangible in Pennsylvania, and so we take this opportunity very seriously, proud to have a part in creating a positive legacy for 9/11. It was aboard the plane that crashed in Shanksville that America's response to terrorism first began.

Somerset County, for this reason, will be a symbol of the heroism and sacrifice that a few brave, ordinary citizens chose to exhibit when faced with the most difficult and dangerous situation of their lives. Shanksville, the World Trade Towers, and the Pentagon can all be reminders of what the American spirit is capable of overcoming, of what Todd Beamer meant when he said, "Let's roll," if we as a Nation choose to make it so. The anniversary of September 11 should, therefore, be about the resolve to honor the memories of all those lost to the terrorist attacks by living to make ourselves, our communities, and our country better.

Looking back over the past twelve months, the most inspiring aspect of the national recovery effort was the compassion, cooperation, and concern that citizens across the country shared with one another. Through the charity of time, prayer, blood, consolation, money, and other expressions of support, Americans exhibited a goodwill that is rarely seen so universally, but comes so naturally to us all at times of crisis. As we settle back into our normal, peaceful lives, however, this goodwill tends to steal away from us. As a result, our collective awareness of a common humanity and a world view larger than our own back yards also begins to fade. In the aftermath of 9/11 and the years to follow the shock of terrorism on our soil, we must renew