

bombs. But today, despite these concerns, there are no statutes which address the government's authority to offer help to other countries regarding dirty bomb threats.

I am pleased to note that the Domenici-Biden amendment to the Senate Armed Services legislation provides authorizations to enlarge the ability of the government to step into such situations. With final passage of that amendment in the Armed Services legislation, we can provide important new tools to our government.

Under that amendment, programs to address dirty bomb issues are specifically authorized, including assistance to any country requesting our aid. And of equal importance, programs to broaden our ability to address fissile material issues around the world, not just associated with the former Soviet Union, are authorized along with new approaches to speed up the conversion of highly enriched uranium to material unusable for weapons.

Even with this amendment, I am sure there will be many opportunities for private groups, like the NTI, to step in and plug gaps in Government programs. But with this amendment, we will vastly simplify future operations at the hundreds of remaining sites.

The Domenici-Biden amendment enjoyed broad support in the Senate, and I appreciate that Senators LUGAR, LANDRIEU, HAGEL, CARNAHAN, MURKOWSKI, BINGAMAN, and LINCOLN joined us in introducing it.

It is my hope that the success at Vinca, along with the sobering realization that we need to repeat this success hundreds of times to fully address the threat of proliferation of materials suitable for nuclear bombs, will encourage the Conferees from both the House and the Senate to ensure that provisions of the Domenici-Biden amendment are in the Armed Services authorization bill that will eventually emerge from Conference.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today, I commemorate the 38th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964, which was signed into law on September 3, 1964, by President Lyndon B. Johnson. The Wilderness Act of 1964 established a National Wilderness Preservation System "to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness." The law reserves to Congress the authority to designate wilderness areas, and directs the Federal land management agencies to review the lands under their responsibility for their wilderness potential.

The original Wilderness Act established 9.1 million acres of Forest Service land in 54 wilderness areas. Now, the wilderness system is comprised of

more than a 100 million acres that are administered by four Federal agencies: the Forest Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service in the Department of the Interior.

As we in this body know well, the passage and enactment of legislation of this type is a remarkable accomplishment. It requires steady, bipartisan commitment, institutional support, and direct leadership. The United States Senate was instrumental in shaping this very important law, and this anniversary gives us the opportunity to recognize this role.

I have been very pleased to see this body return to the tradition of designating wilderness since the 35th anniversary of the act in 1999. The 106th Congress passed, and President Clinton signed, a total of eight wilderness bills adding more than 1 million acres of public land to the National Wilderness Preservation System. This is the largest number of acres of wilderness added to the system since 1994 and is a stark contrast to the 105th Congress, which did not enact any wilderness designations.

While the 107th Congress may not surpass the wilderness achievements of the 106th, there are a number of wilderness bills pending in the 107th Congress, several of which are likely to become law before the end of the year. The designation of the James Peak Wilderness in Colorado and additions to the Black Elk Wilderness in South Dakota have already been approved by Congress and signed into law by President Bush. Bills designating new wilderness areas in Washington, Nevada, and Puerto Rico are likely to move forward this fall, while others, such as those to designate wilderness in Washington State and California, may see hearings or other congressional action.

Many would agree that more must be done to protect our wild places, but much has been done already. In commemoration of anniversaries like this one, the Senate should celebrate our accomplishment, on behalf of the American people, in the protection of these wild places.●

HONORING EARLEEN ALLEN FRANCIS

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I have the privilege and honor of rising today to recognize Ms. Earleen Allen Francis of Clinton, KY. Last month, Ms. Francis was presented with a certificate of honor for her military service as an Army Nurse during WWII by the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs.

Ms. Francis, now 91 years young, is among fewer than 20 survivors of the group of about 60 Army and Navy nurses captured by Japanese forces after the fall of Corregidor, a small fortified island in the Philippines.

In 1942, Japanese troops advanced on the Bataan peninsula. The Army and

Navy nurses stationed at Bataan were evacuated to Corregidor as a safety precaution. However, shortly after being moved, Japanese troops stormed the small island and captured 20 of the 85 nurses, including Earleen Allen Francis. For three long and grueling years, Earleen and the 19 other nurses were starved and locked up by their captors. Their freedoms were stripped from them in the blink of an eye. In many ways, Earleen never quite recovered from this horrific time period in her life.

Ms. Francis' story has been told in books and on television and she was even honored by President Reagan in 1983 for her service to America. It is important that her story continues to be told.

I believe it is vital that we as a nation never forget about heroes like Earleen Allen Francis. Sometimes, we are forced to fight and die for our freedom and the continuation of our unique way of life. Ms. Francis personally sacrificed a large portion of her life to ensure that future generations of Americans are able to enjoy the freedoms she had stripped away from her for 3 years.

Now more than ever, we must learn from the sacrifices others have made. Terrorist states and organizations around the globe are striving to take the word freedom out of America's vocabulary. These terrorists view the world in simple terms of black and white; Islam is on the good side, and the infidels—America, Israel, and the entire Western World—are on the bad side. Freedom and democracy don't always come easy. We sometimes have to fight for what we believe in and stand for.

I ask that my fellow Senators join me in honoring Earleen Allen Francis for her sacrifice and commitment to America—the land of the free.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MARIN CONSERVATION CORPS

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the achievements of the Marin Conservation Corps, MCC, the oldest local, private, non-profit conservation corps in the United States.

Twenty years ago the winter of 1982 brought severe flooding to much of Marin County. Concerned citizens led by Richard Hammond took action by going out and battling the winter storms and working to protect the neighborhoods and natural habitats that were at risk. Since I was a member of the Marin Board of Supervisors at that time, I well remember them.

From this community effort the Marin Conservation Corps was born. It identified its mission as developing the youth of Marin County by providing meaningful employment, education and training opportunities through projects that conserve natural resources, deliver human services and respond to public emergencies.

In the 20 years since its founding, more than 3,000 corps members have

participated in environmental service and educational programs. Youth and young adults between the ages of 11 and 30 receive service and educational opportunities. Participants in MCC may earn their high school diplomas through the MCC charter school, enroll in AmeriCorps programs or pursue lifelong learning programs, gaining valuable education and job training while learning the importance of community service.

Community service projects have included building and maintaining Marin County's hiking trails, clearing and disposing of highly flammable brush throughout Marin to prevent fire hazards, teaching environmental education classes to thousands of students in the Marin County public schools, restoring and clearing creeks and waterways to prevent flooding, establishing recycling programs, and collecting over one million pounds of recyclables from approximately 250 bins that MCC members have built and placed throughout the county.

In the year 2000 the California Charter Academy presented its "Outstanding Program Award" to the Marin Conservation Corps, recognizing MCC's exceptional education program. Programs such as the Marin Conservation Corps enrich our people and our communities and provide a model for similar efforts across our land.●

CELEBRATION OF LAO VETERANS OF AMERICA, MICHIGAN CHAPTER, DAY

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, this weekend the Lao Veterans of America, Michigan Chapter, will gather to commemorate Lao Veterans of America Recognition Day. This tribute is an excellent opportunity to show our appreciation of the Lao people's courageous efforts during the Vietnam War, their love of the United States and their selfless heroism.

During the Vietnam War, thousands of Hmong and Laotian soldiers fought alongside the American forces as part of the United States Secret Army. In fact, the American public only recently learned about the Lao people's courageous efforts throughout the conflict in Vietnam. The Lao veterans served bravely and selflessly from 1961 to 1975 as they risked their lives to avert the spread of Communism throughout the region. They not only fought willingly and valiantly alongside United States forces to prevent the North Vietnamese Army from entering South Vietnam, but also proved to be invaluable in the effort to rescue downed American soldiers in the region. Their heroic actions saved countless American lives. The Lao Veterans and their families deserve our highest respect and gratitude.

It is estimated that at least 35,000 Laotian people lost their lives during the Vietnam War. Over 50,000 Lao were wounded and thousands more are still listed as missing in action. Throughout

the past twenty-seven years, many of the survivors and their families have immigrated to the United States and many Laotian families currently reside in my home state of Michigan. The transition to the United States has not been easy for many of these immigrants, but like many other immigrant groups they have grown and prospered in their new home. It is important that we demonstrate our appreciation for the courageous actions of the Laotian people.

The Lao Veterans of America, Michigan Chapter, their families, friends, and supporters will gather on Saturday, September 7, 2002, to commemorate Lao Veterans of America Day. I know that my Senate colleagues will join me in saluting the Lao veterans' brave and heroic efforts and in recognizing their actions on behalf of the cause of freedom.●

CELEBRATED ARTIST AND NATIVE TENNESSEAN HUBERT SHUPTRINE

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, it is a wellspring of pride for the people of Tennessee that Hubert Shuptrine is a native son. Born in Chattanooga in 1936 and graduated from the University of Chattanooga in 1959 with a degree in fine arts painting, Shuptrine is one of the most celebrated American painters and watercolorists of the last several decades.

From the Low Country of the Carolinas to the Hill Country of Texas to the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee, Hubert Shuptrine's paintings have captured the rustic beauty of the American South. His love for the people of these places—and the places themselves—shines so strongly that one cannot help but share his affection.

What lends such power to Shuptrine's paintings is that they are not conjured from his mind, but grounded in truth. He traveled more than 15,000 miles to meet and talk with the people of the South when illustrating his first and highly successful book, *Jericho: The South Beheld*.

With a stroke of light, a sliver of shadow or a strategically placed prop, Shuptrine sketches the life stories of his subjects. They are pure, simple and unrushed people—a former field hand resting on her front porch, a widower centenarian living off his land, a basket weaver practicing her craft.

Shuptrine's wife, Phyllis, once said, "A good portrait is like a biography." Clearly Hubert Shuptrine has adhered to this code throughout his career. He is an exceptional biographer not only of people of the South, but the South itself.

Though the South has changed irreversibly since *Jericho* was published nearly 30 years ago, the truth and beauty of the people and places of that time will never be lost. For it has been captured and will be honored in perpetuity by a native son of Tennessee, Hubert Shuptrine.●

FARRAGUT NAVAL TRAINING STATION

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Farragut Naval Training Station.

Mr. President, over the past year, Americans have rediscovered the importance of our military and renewed their patriotism for our country. I am sure these were not reactions the terrorists desired.

We were once again reminded that millions of our fellow Americans have fought, and many died, for the freedoms we enjoy. Freedoms our Founding Fathers found to be self-evident—freedoms we have been fighting to retain ever since, here and abroad.

World War II was one of the most significant of those fights, and this Saturday, in Idaho, we are looking back and recognizing the contribution Farragut Naval Training Station made to our efforts. At Farragut, the U.S. Navy built the second-largest naval training facility in the world. Representative of the work ethic evident across America during WWII, 22,000 men, many of them Idahoans, united together and built 776 facilities across 4,000 acres in just 9 months.

Then, in just 15 months, Farragut trained nearly 300,000 recruits to be sailors.

This Saturday, September 7, 2002, many of those graduates and personnel will be returning to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Farragut Naval Training Station.

Just like 60 years ago, they will come from all corners of the country and will arrive with varied memories and expectations. But, one thing is for sure, they will all come because their experience at Farragut affected their lives in profound ways.

I am proud and grateful for the men and women who trained and served at Farragut Naval Training Station. Their sacrifice for our freedoms is priceless. As the years go by, fewer and fewer veterans of WWII are around to hear our thanks. For those who are, I hope they hear us loud and clear: Thank you. We are all so grateful.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the president of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)