

McCool was said to be an extraordinary test pilot. He did small things well, too. He liked to make people happy. Capt. Clyde Villemez, who was the naval officer representative for cross-country in the early '80s, remembered him tenderly escorting his 8-year-old daughter onto the dance floor at a wedding reception. Villemez retains a vivid image of the two. "She was dancing on top of his feet," he said.

Ronnie Harris, who ran the 5,000 meters for Navy, missing the 1996 U.S. Olympic team by just 25 hundredths of a second, had the idea for a memorial. He was serving in Florida when he heard of Columbia's fate. He did what many former Navy runners did as they thought of their friend. "I went for a run," he said.

Now he was back on his favorite course, standing close to where the marker will go. "This is a very beautiful spot. It's absolutely gorgeous," Audrey McCool said.

It is not just any spot. It was chosen for a reason.

The last radio communication from the Columbia was received about 15 minutes before the scheduled completion of the mission. The crew of seven was 15 minutes from home.

McCool's friends measured back 15 minutes from the finish line of the cross-country course based on McCool's fastest time, in a meet with Georgetown and Syracuse on Oct. 2, 1982. As it happened, they came to an idyllic setting, at the top of a grassy hill, on a brief level stretch before a slope leading to a narrow path through the trees.

That's where they will build the monument.

That's when he was 15 minutes from home.

TRIBUTE TO LTG GENERAL JOHN S. CALDWELL, JR.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of LTG John S. Caldwell, Jr., Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology at the Pentagon. After 36 years of exemplary commitment and dedicated service to the United States Army, General Caldwell is retiring.

General Caldwell's career has been vast in the command and staff positions he has held. Beginning as a Platoon Leader at Fort Meade, MD, in 1967 until his current assignment at the Pentagon, he has been a steady and dedicated member of the United States Armed Forces.

A graduate of the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY, General Caldwell's career has been one of dedication, service, and sacrifice. Upon graduation, he was commissioned in the Armor/Cavalry. He has commanded armored cavalry units from platoon through battalion, had combat duty with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam, and served two tours in the Federal Republic of Germany.

He has held a variety of other assignments including: Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development and Acquisition, Headquarters, Army Materiel Command; Director, Army Digitization Office, Headquarters, Department of the Army; Assistant Deputy for System Management and International Cooperation, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Research, Development and Acquisition; Assistant Pro-

fessor for the Department of Engineering at USMA; Research and Development Coordinator, Office of the Project Manager, Abrams Tank Systems; Operations and Training Officer, S-3, for 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Operations Staff Officer and Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Plans and Training for the Army Staff; Research and Development Staff Officer, Army Studies Group for the Office of the Chief of Staff, Army; Chief, Strategy Application Branch of the Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate, J-5, for the Joint Staff, and, Project Manager, Abrams Tank Systems.

General Caldwell is often sought after for his knowledge and insight into the critical issues facing our country today. He is a decorated soldier, having received the following decorations and badges: Distinguished Service Medal, with Oak Leaf Cluster, Silver Star, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Ranger Tab, Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, and Army Staff Identification Badge.

On this Veterans Day, I celebrate and applaud the distinguished career of LTG John S. Caldwell. A courageous soldier, fearless leader, and patriot, General Caldwell is much deserving of a relaxing and enjoyable retirement. My best wishes go out to his wife, Judy, his family and friends in this time of celebration.

MEDIA CONSOLIDATION AND DIMINISHING INDEPENDENT CONTENT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, in June of this year, the Federal Communications Commission issued a decision relaxing a number of important rules that limit consolidation in the media industry. In the months leading up to that decision, and ever since, a bipartisan group of Senators has sought to sound the alarm about the dangers of unbridled media concentration. Those efforts eventually led to Senate passage of a resolution to reverse the commission's decision. But the battle continues, and the outcome is uncertain.

Most of the debate on this subject has focused on the details of rules limiting the national reach of broadcasters and the local cross-ownership of television, newspaper, and radio stations. But I would like to call attention to another important dimension of media concentration: the demise of independent producers, who are being bought up or driven out of business by the big networks and big studios.

More and more, the television programming delivered to the homes of American families is controlled by a handful of executives in a handful of corporate boardrooms. Independent writers and producers are growing

scarce. Indeed, there soon may be only two remaining independent Hollywood studios that produce scripted television programming. The others have either disappeared or linked up with one of the major networks.

I think that having all programming produced by a few large media conglomerates could pose some real risks for creativity and diversity. That is why I would like to commend my colleague from Arizona, Commerce Committee Chairman JOHN MCCAIN, for his leadership in agreeing to cohost a dialogue with Chairman BILLY TAUZIN of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and representatives of studios, networks, writers, and producers.

I am confident that under the direction of Chairman MCCAIN, this dialogue can produce positive discussion and concrete results, such as voluntary guidelines to help ensure diversity, competition, and opportunity in the market for television programming. I look forward to participating.

WTO RULING ON STEEL TARIFFS

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, yesterday, the World Trade Organization upheld its earlier ruling that the steel tariffs imposed in March of last year are illegal and in violation of global trade rules. As a result of this ruling, the European Union threatened to impose trade sanctions on American imports sold in Europe, ranging from footwear to fruits and vegetables. The EU has said that it will impose duties of 13, 15, 30 percent on these imports as soon as December 6 or at the latest December 15, if the steel tariffs continue to remain in place. The EU trade sanctions alone would amount to about \$2.2 billion.

Unfortunately though, the EU is not alone. Japan has announced that it will join the EU in retaliatory trade sanctions against the U.S. China, Norway and Switzerland have also notified the WTO that they will possibly impose trade sanctions against the U.S. if the steel tariffs are not removed.

There is plenty of evidence that if the steel tariffs are allowed to continue they will do more harm than good. On September 19, the International Trade Commission released its report on the effects of the steel tariffs on steel consuming industries. Here is what they found.

One-half of the steel-consuming firms that were surveyed reported they had difficulty in obtaining steel in the qualities and quantities they needed.

Almost one-third of these firms relocated or shifted production to foreign plants or facilities after the implementation of the tariff.

One-quarter reported that their customers had shifted to purchasing finished parts or assemblies overseas as a result of the steel tariff.

Almost one-third of these firms also reported their contracts they had in place to purchase steel were broken or modified after the tariff was imposed

and reported a loss in profits due to these problems of approximately \$190 million.

One-third of these firms reported longer lead and delivery times.

In addition, the report further highlighted the particular impact the steel tariff has had on auto-parts suppliers. Tennessee is home to over 950 auto-parts suppliers and they make up about one-third of all our State's manufacturing jobs.

Eighty-five percent of the auto-parts suppliers surveyed said that their steel prices in the US were higher than global prices.

Thirty-one percent reported that customers had shifted purchases to buying finished parts or assemblies overseas as a result of the tariff.

Seventy-four percent reported changes in contract prices for steel and 55 percent reported that steel tariff was the only important factor in these changes in steel prices.

Seventy-nine percent reported an inability to pass on steel price increased to customers.

All of these burdens have meant extra costs to steel consuming firms. Extra costs that have affected steel-consuming jobs all across America. The steel tariff may have saved some steel-producing jobs but it has already destroyed a lot more steel-consuming jobs.

The American economy is beginning to recover and I strongly believe that this recovery is a direct result of the President's jobs and economic growth plan. The last thing we need now is any new cost such as the steel tariff on a major manufacturing sector that slows down economic growth. I fear that if the steel tariff remains that we will see more plant closings during 2004 in Tennessee and across America.

I believe the President has made an honest good faith effort to save steel jobs, but that it has backfired by destroying automotive and other steel consuming jobs. I hope that he decides that the best decision that can make for the American worker is to end the steel tariff.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

MONEY LAUNDERING IN SYRIA AND LEBANON

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, while I support the enactment of the Syria Accountability Act, I am disappointed this legislation does not contain any provisions to stop the scourge of money laundering from Syria and Lebanon.

Recently published reports state that \$3 billion from Saddam Hussein's Iraqi regime are currently being held in Syrian-controlled banks in Syria and Lebanon and that these funds may have been used to finance attacks on American forces in Iraq. If these allegations are proven correct, then the actions by the government of Syria are intolerable and unacceptable and demand a

strong response by the United States government to insure that funds stolen from the Iraqi people are not used to help insurgents attack American forces and destabilize Iraq.

Unfortunately, Syria and Lebanon have had a long history of being involved in terrorism and money laundering. The Secretary of State has designated Syria as a state whose government repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism and has provided designated foreign terrorist organizations, such as Hamas and Hizballah, with sanctuary. The State Department in its March 2003 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report—INCSR—has classified Syria as a country to be monitored for potential money laundering.

Lebanon remains one of the more sophisticated and well-capitalized banking sectors in the Middle East. With its tradition of bank secrecy, the extensive use of foreign currency, the influx of remittances from expatriated workers, and a lack of financial accountability and enforcement, Lebanon has developed a financial environment conducive to laundering the financial proceeds of international crimes such as narcotics, counterfeiting and smuggling. The International Narcotics Control Strategy Report—INCSR—has designated Lebanon as a jurisdiction of primary money laundering concern. The Financial Crime Enforcement Network—FinCEN—has conducted an analysis of the Suspicious Activity Reporting System—SAR—related to Lebanon for the period of January 2002 through October 2003. The FinCEN analysis has revealed 286 SARs that could be linked to transactions associated with suspicious or fraudulent wire transfer activities between Lebanon and other countries. Many of these transactions were structured in an attempt to avoid reporting requirements. Two of the reports indicate possible terrorist activities.

The United States has the largest and most accessible economic marketplace in the world. Foreign financial institutions and jurisdictions must have unfettered access to markets to effectively work within the international economic system.

In 2000, I introduced legislation that became Section 311 of the USA PATRIOT Act which provides the federal government with the authority to leverage the power of United States financial markets to force countries like Syria and Lebanon to reform and enforce their counter-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing laws. Section 311 provides the Secretary of the Treasury with measures that are graduated, discretionary, and targeted, focusing on international transactions involving criminal proceeds, while allowing legitimate international commerce to continue unimpeded.

Earlier this year, I sent a letter to President Bush asking him to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to identify both Syria and Lebanon as pri-

mary money laundering concerns under the authority provided in Section 311. I also asked that U.S. financial institutions be required to provide enhanced scrutiny of financial transactions from Syria and Lebanon to ensure funds linked to international terrorists do not originate from or pass through financial institutions in those countries on their way to the United States.

I also call on the President to develop an international strategy to stop the laundering of funds from Syria and Lebanon within the framework of the Financial Action Task Force—FATF, the European Union, the G-8, and other multilateral forums.

I strongly believe that the United States must take any and all necessary measures to stop international terrorist organizations—such as Hamas and Hizballah—and former members of the Iraqi government who may be residing in Syria, Lebanon, and other countries in the area from supporting terrorist activities in Iraq and elsewhere.

If the United States is to lead the world in the fight against terror, we must effectively use our own laws to cut off the flow of laundered funds from terrorist groups through the international financial system. The measured use of Section 311 authority against Syria and Lebanon provides the United States an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in the fight against international terrorism and money laundering. We cannot afford to fail in this endeavor.●

FUNDING FOR AIRPORT PROJECTS

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, maintaining and improving this country's airports and aviation infrastructure is crucial to economic growth and opportunity at both the local and national levels. That is why it is so unfortunate that Congress has not yet been able to pass the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization legislation.

The fact is, this legislation need not have been controversial. But it was made controversial, because conferees went behind closed doors and made changes that contravene the clearly expressed will of both houses of Congress.

My point today is not to rehash the substantive arguments on the points under dispute. I simply want to stress that in no event should this dispute be allowed to bring important airport and aviation projects screeching to a halt. Instead, the responsible path is to recognize that the controversial elements of the legislation may take some time to resolve. In the meantime, both sides should agree to a short-term extension of FAA funding programs, so that no aviation project is held hostage to politics.

Senator ROCKEFELLER has introduced a bill to provide for a 6-month extension of FAA funding programs, and I am signing on as a cosponsor. I hope that our colleagues will join in supporting this legislation, to ensure that