

Indeed women continue to make great progress. As we highlight their accomplishments in history this month, I believe it is also important to educate present and future generations about gender discrimination so that we do not repeat past mistakes. During my service in Congress, I have strongly supported efforts to address women's issues and eradicate gender discrimination and inequality. These include cosponsoring the Paycheck Fairness Act, the Equity in Prescription Insurance and Contraceptive Coverage Act, and continually supporting an Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution. I am proud of these efforts and I will continue my commitment to bring fuller equality to all women. I am confident that the women of America will continue to excel while continuing their role as advocates for those values and ideals which are at the heart of a decent, caring and fair society.

#### NEXT STEPS: MA AND PA METHAMPHETAMINE LABS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today after hearing several reports of the continued problem of methamphetamine production in rural America. Law enforcement must dedicate more and more resources to the small, "ma and pa" meth labs. These small labs pose a threat not only because of the drugs they produce, but also the serious health and environmental risk caused by the production process.

In years past, methamphetamine production was controlled by skilled chemists or well-educated individuals who were paid significant amounts of money to manufacture the narcotic. Methamphetamine production at times took an entire day to produce. Today, with modern technology and the help of information readily available over the Internet, methamphetamine production can be accomplished within a very few hours. Production no longer takes a highly skilled individual or chemist. Recipes for producing meth can be downloaded off the Internet, complete with step-by-step instructions anyone can follow. These recipes use products available at any number of local retail outlets as ingredients, first reducing them to the needed chemical components and then recombining them to produce meth.

Small cooks, often producing only enough meth for themselves and a few friends, dominate the concerns of rural law enforcement organizations. Several of the narcotics task forces in Iowa report that while they believe over 80 percent of the meth within their jurisdiction comes from outside the State, they spend 80 percent of their time and resources on these small cooks. If we are going to get ahead of this problem, we must change this ratio.

Several years ago we took some important steps in limiting access to many of the precursors needed for meth production. These were good steps, and have proven somewhat effective. But more needs to be done.

Officers from the Southeast Iowa Task Force will tell you stories of suspects they have followed all over the county, stopping at each convenience store, supermarket, and drug store they passed to pick up as much cold medicine as they could. Not because they were sick, but because they needed the ephedrine in these drugs to cook meth. Sometimes it is purchased, but just as often it is stolen. These suspects were followed back to apartments, farm houses, motel rooms, or even deserted areas of gravel roads where the cold medicines were combined with other chemicals like starter fluid, anhydrous ammonia, and drain cleaner solvents for a "cook" of methamphetamine. This is all too common anyplace we find meth being cooked by amateurs using recipes off the Internet.

There are several different recipes for cooking meth. In rural areas, many of the small cooks use a receipt calling for anhydrous ammonia, which is a fertilizer readily available wherever farming occurs. Other recipes call for the use of red phosphorous, the common ingredient in emergency road flares. But all of these recipes need some form of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, a common ingredient in cold medicine.

If we make it more difficult for meth cooks to acquire ephedrine, then it will be more difficult for them to manufacture this poison. Several proposals have been put forth by the DEA and others which would help control access to ephedrine products. Many of these have merit, and I hope we will continue to pursue these proposals.

One method that could be very effective would be to put products containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine behind the counter, such as is currently done with cigarettes. Other proposals would increase the penalties for possession of excessive amounts of precursor chemicals for meth. Some quarters have suggested collecting names or even social security numbers for everyone who purchases products containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine. Clearly, each of these proposed solutions brings its own set of challenges.

But new steps need to be taken. Spending 80 percent of the time on 20 percent of the problem is not a way to get ahead. Increasing the difficulty of getting the products needed to do a small "cook" of meth decreases the likelihood these "cooks" will take place at all. While none of these proposals will stop all of the ma and pa meth operations, the status quo is not acceptable. Our cops are being overwhelmed, and our kids are dying—we cannot remain silent.

#### SUPPORT FOR NATO EXPANSION

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, on March 26, NATO signed the Protocols on the Accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Romania. This is an important step toward the full membership in

NATO for these countries. Soon, the Senate will debate whether to approve admission for these seven new and vibrant democracies. These countries have thrown off the shackles of communism. They are pressing forward, and I am confident their admission to NATO will only make that great alliance stronger and more robust.

The enlargement process presents a historic opportunity for NATO to strengthen security and peace, as well as a significant step toward fulfilling the vision of a Europe whole and free. The new members have proved willing and capable of adding value to NATO's missions, and they strongly reinforce the importance of a trans-Atlantic link.

The aspirant members have long contributed to NATO and allied missions, and they will bolster similar NATO and allied operations in the future. They have provided logistical support and troops in combat or peace support missions in Western Balkans, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Romania, for example, currently has over 1,300 troops engaged in allied missions, including a combat battalion that carries out operations shoulder to shoulder with U.S. forces in Afghanistan, and a NBC unit in Iraq. Additionally, the Romanian Government will shelter up to 1,500 war refugees from Iraq if needed. Romania and Bulgaria are currently providing host nation support at the Black Sea airbase and seaport bases. Moreover, Slovakia and the Baltic countries have provided peacekeeping troops, air surveillance support, as well as NBC specialists.

I look forward to the debate in the U.S. Senate on ratification of the protocols for NATO expansion. NATO expansion will prove beneficial to those countries seeking entrance to NATO and the those countries already in the alliance.

#### TRIBUTE TO GENERAL WALLACE M. GREENE, JR.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to mourn the passing on March 8, 2003, of GEN Wallace M. Greene, Jr., of Waterbury, VT. General Greene served with distinction as Commandant of the Marine Corps from 1964 until he retired in 1967.

General Greene was born on December 27, 1907, in Waterbury, a small city in central Vermont. He began his academic career at the University of Vermont, and after one year he entered the armed forces at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD, graduating in 1930, commissioned as a Second Lieutenant.

After Annapolis, General Greene first assignment was the Philadelphia Navy Yard and from there, his career took him to Portsmouth, NH; San Diego, CA; on board the battleship USS *Tennessee*; Quantico, VA; and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. During World War II, General Greene took part in planning the invasion of the Marshall Islands in 1943

and, in 1944, in the Saipan and Tinian operations.

After the war, General Greene returned to the Marine Corps Headquarters and in 1953, he graduated from the National War College, after which he served as Special Assistant to the Joints Chiefs of Staff for National Security Affairs. Beginning in 1955, he commanded the bases at Parris Island, SC, and Camp Lejeune, NC. After holding the post of Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, General Greene earned his third star in 1960 and became Chief of Staff. In 1964, after his promotion General, he became Commandant of the Marine Corps.

During General Greene's career, he earned myriad citations, commendations, and awards including the Distinguished Service Medal, with one gold star, and prestigious medals from the governments of China, Korea, Brazil, and Vietnam.

I have come to the Senate floor on many occasions to extol Vermonters' contributions to the United States and to our military forces. General Wallace Greene served his country and his people with honor, pride, and dignity. General Greene will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery on Thursday, April 3, 2003, among the many other Americans who have dedicated their lives to public service in the Armed Forces.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF TUNISIAN INDEPENDENCE

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the 47th anniversary of Tunisian independence. On March 20, 1956, Tunisia took its place among the free nations of the modern era.

Shortly after Tunisia's independence, in 1957, the United States stood by Tunisia in a challenging post-independence environment. Through the pledge of economic and technical assistance, the United States helped Tunisia to achieve its national goal of a self-confident and self-sustaining modern nation.

Through the vicissitudes of history Tunisia has sustained the hardness of its Berber forebears as Roman, Vandal, Moor and Ottoman Empires have come and gone. Each has left its cultural mark, but today Tunisia stands independent, and proud of its history. Today, Tunisia has shown its commitment to democratic ideals as a leader in the Arab world in promoting the legal and social status of women.

In this its 47th anniversary of independence, Tunisia and the United States can look back on a much longer and more important relationship. In 1797 Tunisia was among the first countries to recognize the nascent United States of America. This recognition enabled America to make its way in the international community. In the 21st century, Tunisia has also shown support for the United States in the war against terrorism, and our two nations should seek ways to enhance cooperation.

Congratulations on your 47 years of independence, and may you find that each subsequent year brings further peace and prosperity to Tunisia.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### HONORING THE LIFE OF PHIL KAUBLE

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of a fellow Hoosier, Phil Kauble, who passed away on March 24, 2003.

Phil Kauble worked and lived in Kokomo, IN. He was the kind of man who helped to define that hard-working community. Phil was first a steelworker, and later in life a dedicated crusader for pension reform.

Those of us who knew Phil were inspired by his commitment to the cause of pension reform. After his career as a steelworker, Phil became dedicated to protecting retired steelworkers by fighting to correct a discrepancy in the pension laws that had hurt him and others when Continental Steel closed its Kokomo mill in the 1980s.

Phil was tireless in his work to correct this problem. For over 20 years he displayed an unwaivering commitment to help his fellow retired steelworkers and his community by making the pension system fairer. One of the many consequences of his determination is legislation I have authored to require improved notification procedures by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, PBGC, a Federal agency that oversees the maintenance of benefit pension plans, fondly referred to as "Phil's Bill."

Phil never gave up the fight. All who knew him were very proud of his many contributions. Phil always believed in the promise of America and the difference one man can make. He truly made a difference. Later today, I will be reintroducing "Phil's Bill." I know that he would insist that we push on. That is what we intend to do.

Phil Kauble showed us that one person can make a difference. His own life experience led to an extraordinary commitment to correct a serious gap in the pension system and to help his fellow citizens. His tenacity and idealism will be missed.

When we reflect upon the lives of men such as Phil Kauble, we are reminded that we live in a country where the true power to shape the destiny of government is vested in the people. We will all miss Phil deeply, but his memory will serve as a beacon and his life as an example of the virtues of civic involvement.●

##### RETIREMENT OF ADJUTANT GENERAL BOENISCH

• Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man from my home state of Wyoming who has dedicated his life to public service. The Wyoming National Guard has been ex-

tremely fortunate to have MG Edmond W. Boenisch, Jr., to head its ranks for the last 8 years. As the adjutant general for the State of Wyoming, Ed has been responsible for managing Wyoming's Air National Guard and Army National Guard through over 500 deployments around the world and insuring that our citizen soldiers are highly motivated and properly prepared to meet any challenge. No leader can expect to maintain consistently high performance under stress and challenging conditions if the people he leads do not have confidence in him. I believe that the Wyoming Guard's success is a reflection of General Boenisch's personal commitment and dedication to the personnel under his command.

Through 20 years of service, General Boenisch has brought leadership to Wyoming's National Guard. Raised in a home of solid faith and the son of a drill instructor, Ed learned early to value self-discipline and moral conviction. Through his life and over 30 years of marriage, Ed and his wife Linda have shared their strong faith with their family. The challenges of raising two daughters, Laura and Lisa, and an ever demanding career have not shaken Ed and Linda's compass for God, family, and country. As Eucharistic Ministers, they both share their spirituality and are vital members of their church and community.

I would be doing a great disservice if I did not mention Ed's strong ties to the Wyoming education community. Before becoming adjutant general, Ed spent 20 years working in a variety of positions in Laramie County Community College. With a master's degree in student personnel and guidance and a PhD in college student personnel administration, Ed has written several books on stress management. After such a long and distinguished career, I can attest that General Boenisch knows a thing or two about managing stress.

Although we will miss General Boenisch, I am proud that he will continue his public service as deputy director for the Wyoming Community College Commission. As a warrior and a scholar, I know that Gen. Edmond W. Boenisch, Jr. will continue after this post to be a vital asset to our State. I would like to thank Ed on behalf of the people of Wyoming for his years of service and wish him success on the next stage of his career.●

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on Finance:

Special Report entitled "Report on the Activities of the Committee on Finance of the United States Senate During the 107th Congress" (Rept. No. 108-31).

By Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Armed Services:

Special Report entitled "Report on the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services" (Rept. No. 108-32).