

efforts of the innovators of this world and organizations such as the March of Dimes that make this occasion possible. The people of Virginia thank you, the people of the United States thank you, and most importantly the world thanks you.

TRIBUTE TO BEN H. BELL III

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, Members of Congress, it is not often we have an opportunity to recognize a senior executive in the United States Government as a leader, loyal soldier and a patriot. Ben H. Bell III epitomizes these traits after dedicating his adult life to serving this great country in several impressive capacities. Ben protected and defended our Nation during his 21 years as an officer and leader in the Marine Corps. He safeguarded our borders for 9 years, holding his last position as Assistant Commissioner for Intelligence with the Department of Immigration and Naturalization Services. For the next 2 years, Ben helped design the Foreign Terrorism Tracking Task Force just after 9/11 under Presidential directive and direction from the Attorney General.

Soon after, Secretary Mineta and Deputy Secretary ADM James Loy recruited Mr. Bell to establish and lead this Nation's first Office of National Risk Assessment, ONRA. This congressionally mandated office and its mission define our Nation's newly emerging need to manage and mitigate extreme risk for the protection of our homeland from terrorism.

It is through great dedication, unconditional loyalty, leadership, and passion that Ben H. Bell III has protected and defended our way of life every day without ever giving it a second thought.

On behalf of my colleagues in Congress and myself, we thank you, congratulate you, and salute you on such an accomplished and dynamic career.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL WILLIAM GROVES

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the United States Air Force, an individual that a great many of us have come to know personally over the past few years—Colonel William “Bill” Groves. Colonel Groves, who currently serves in the office of Air Force Legislative Liaison, will retire after 21 years of active duty Air Force service. During his time in Washington, and especially with regard to his work here on Capitol Hill, Colonel Groves epitomized Air Force core values of integrity, selfless service and excellence in the many missions the Air Force performs in support of our national security. Many Members and staff have enjoyed the opportunity to meet with him on a variety of Air Force issues and came to deeply appreciate his character and many talents. Today it is my privilege to recognize some of Colonel Groves’

many accomplishments, and to commend his superb service he provided the Air Force, the Congress and our Nation.

Colonel Groves entered the Air Force by Direct Appointment in 1983 with a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Akron School of Law. During his 21-year career, he served three tours as a Staff Judge Advocate, with assignments at the 6th Air Refueling Wing, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and the Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center. In 1990, he completed a Masters of Law program in Government Procurement at George Washington University, in Washington, DC. He has completed two overseas tours in Germany and was deployed in 1994 as the Legal Advisor for the Combined Air Operations Center, Vicenza, Italy, during Operations DENY FLIGHT and PROVIDE PROMISE. Just prior to his current assignment, he served as Assistant General Counsel for Procurement, Missile Defense Agency here in Washington, D.C.

In 2001, Colonel Groves was selected as Chief, Programs and Policy Branch for the Air Force Directorate of Legislative Liaison. During this period, Colonel Groves led 14 liaison personnel responsible for all Air Force interactions with the Armed Services Committees on personnel issues, readiness, depot maintenance, environmental compliance, airspace and range operations, force structure, base closure, health care, inspector general matters, military construction, and acquisition policies. Additionally, he directed the process used for USAF activities worldwide to submit legislative proposals to Congress. In his years of working with the Congress, Colonel Groves provided a clear and credible voice for the Air Force while representing its many programs on the Hill, consistently providing accurate, concise and timely information. His integrity, professionalism, and expertise enabled him to develop and maintain an exceptional rapport between the Air Force and the Congress. The key to his success, I believe, was his deep understanding of congressional processes and priorities and his unflinching advocacy of the programs essential to the Air Force and to our Nation. I am greatly appreciative of Colonel Groves’ 21-year service to his Nation and offer my sincere wishes for a happy and prosperous retirement. On behalf of the Congress and the country, I thank Colonel Groves and his wife Joanne for the commitment and sacrifices that they have made throughout his honorable military career. I know I speak for all of my colleagues in expressing my heartfelt appreciation to Colonel Groves for a job well done.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY DISEASES AWARENESS WEEK

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today in support of National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. The national awareness week took place the week of April 19th. Primary immune deficiency diseases PIDD, are genetic disorders in which part of the body's immune system is missing or does not function properly. The World Health Organization recognizes more than 150 primary immune diseases which affect as many as 50,000 people in the United States. Fortunately, 7 percent of PIDD patients are able to maintain their health through regular infusions of a plasma product known as intravenous immunoglobulin. IGIV helps bolster the immune system and provides critical protection against infection and disease.

The Immune Deficiency Foundation, which is the Nation's leading organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for PIDD patients is located in Towson, MD. The foundation was founded in 1980 by parents of primary immune deficient children and their physicians. At that time, there were few treatments for many primary immune deficiency diseases, and the treatments that were available were painful and not very effective. There were no educational materials for patients, no public advocacy initiatives, and little research was being done. Over the past 24 years, the foundation has made tremendous strides.

Recently, the foundation entered into a historic research partnership with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health. The establishment of the “US Immunodeficiency Network” represents the most significant advancement in primary immune deficiency research in our Nation's history. Despite the recent progress in PIDD research, the average length of time between the onset of symptoms in a patient and a definitive diagnosis of PIDD is nine and a half years. In the interim, those afflicted may suffer repeated and serious infections and possibly irreversible damage to internal organs. That is why it is critical that we raise awareness about these illnesses within the general public and the health care community.

I commend the Immune Deficiency Foundation for its leadership in this area and I am proud that I was able to join them in recognizing the week of April 19 as National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. I encourage my colleagues to help improve the quality of life for PIDD patients and their families.●

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE

• Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the International Republican Institute on the 20th anniversary of its founding. As an IRI Board member since 1999, I have witnessed IRI's tremendous success in helping build democracy across the globe.

The International Republican Institute was founded in response to a 1982 speech by President Ronald Reagan, in which he called for a broad commitment to helping developing countries build democratic institutions. IRI began its work in Latin America. When the cold war ended, IRI expanded its programs to the states of the former Soviet Union.

Through its work today in more than 50 countries, IRI reinforces the American belief that all people can achieve freedom through the development of democratic political parties, good governance, and transparent election processes. IRI's success in teaching those in emerging democracies to build and manage democratic institutions does not stop at these countries' borders. Volunteers from Romania, Serbia, and other countries where IRI has worked are now helping to build a civil society in Iraq.

IRI also provides citizens from across the U.S. the opportunity to volunteer their skills to assist countries undergoing democratic transition. IRI volunteers teach others how to run political campaigns, increase the participation of women and youth, monitor elections, deliver government services, and communicate effectively with the public.

I congratulate and thank the International Republican Institute for its commitment to helping strengthen democracy around the world.●

CHRISTOPHER B. ELSER

• Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina. Mr. President, Christopher B. Elser of Camden, SC, died on the afternoon of April 18, 2004. Christopher, a student at John Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD, died from stab wounds he received from an early-morning intruder who entered the room where he was sleeping. Christopher had spent the night in a fraternity brother's room after a party so his friend would have a quiet place to study.

Christopher was a junior in the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences at the University. He was also a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and played soccer his freshman year. He was known as a consummate gentleman, both on campus and off. As one of his fraternity brothers said, "We all strived to be gentlemen, but we never had anyone embody it as much as Chris." His memorial service on April 19, 2004, drew more than 1,000 friends and family members to honor

his life. Their numerous stories and memories further cemented Christopher's status as a gentlemen and also demonstrated the tremendous positive impact he had on everyone he met.

At an early age, Christopher developed an affinity with the thoroughbred horse business, nourished by his father's occupation as a thoroughbred trainer and consignor. As a precocious 10-year-old, he began his tenure on the Stable Crew at the August Yearling Sale in Saratoga, NY, serving with young men twice his age. Until his death, he worked in Saratoga for two weeks every August and was known for his infectious smile and inexhaustible spirit in both his work at the sale and in numerous after-hours adventures.

Christopher's memorial service in Camden, SC, was held outdoors at the Carolina Cup Steeplechase Museum on April 23, 2004. In an atmosphere reminiscent of his easygoing fun-loving demeanor, Christopher's friends and family gathered to celebrate his 20 years of life. As tales about his life unfolded, it became clear to all present what had made Christopher so special: his love for life. This trait brought more than 100 people together to honor an extraordinary young man's life and to mourn his untimely death. After the service, friends and family ate, drank, and told more stories of Christopher and, as he would have wished, there was more laughter than tears on this beautiful, South Carolina morning.

Christopher is survived by his father, Kip, his mother, Rhetta, and his sister, Taylor.●

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:24 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker, on April 22, 2004, has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 2022. An act to designate the Federal building located at 250 West Cherry Street in Carbondale, Illinois the "Senator Paul Simon Federal Building".

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently today, April 26, 2004, by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2348. A bill to extend the Internet Tax Freedom Act.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on April 27, 2004, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 2022. An act to designate the Federal building located at 250 West Cherry Street in Carbondale, Illinois the "Senator Paul Simon Federal Building".

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DODD, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2350. A bill to establish the Long Island Sound Stewardship System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 2351. A bill to establish a Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services and a Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. INOUE, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2352. A bill to prevent the slaughter of horses in and from the United States for human consumption by prohibiting the slaughter of horses for human consumption and by prohibiting the trade and transport of horseflesh and live horses intended for human consumption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. Res. 343. A resolution calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to respect all universally recognized human rights, including the right to freedom of religion and to participate in religious activities and institutions without interference or involvement of the Government; and to respect the human rights of ethnic minority groups in the Central Highlands and elsewhere in Vietnam; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. BIDEN):

S. Con. Res. 100. A concurrent resolution celebrating 10 years of majority rule in the Republic of South Africa and recognizing the momentous social and economic achievements of South Africa since the institution of democracy in that country; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 874

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 874, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to include primary and secondary preventative medical strategies for children and adults with Sickle Cell Disease as medical assistance under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 896

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 896, a bill to establish a public education and awareness program relating to emergency contraception.