

Through its 17 field offices in Asia, the Asia Foundation has made its positive mark. The foundation identifies and supports reform-minded people at every level of society, from presidents and parliamentarians, to grassroots nongovernmental leaders. The foundation has supported educational institutions and libraries, legislatures and judiciaries, civil society and the media, all with the aim of improving the lives and helping to meet the aspirations of the people of Asia.

In every corner of Asia, the foundation's impact is felt through the fellowships it has provided to thousands of Asia's leaders since its founding, the new government and nongovernmental institutions it has supported and the new ideas it has fostered to meet the challenges facing Asia today. In so doing, the Asia Foundation represents America at its best: a private organization working in partnership with government, advancing mutual interests of the U.S. and Asia in supporting vibrant democracies, open economies, and peaceful relations.

As the United States addresses new challenges and opportunities in U.S.-Asian relations, we celebrate the Asia Foundation's history of achievement, and look forward to its continued contributions to the region in the future.●

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY CONNELLY KEGELMAN, NATIONAL AND DELAWARE MOTHER OF THE YEAR

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mary Connelly Kegelman, recipient of the Delaware Mother of the Year and the National Mother of the Year awards. Mary has dedicated her life to raising her 10 children and to the thousands of school children whose lives she has touched.

Mary was born in Massachusetts in 1930. She received her Bachelor's degree in chemistry from Elms College in Massachusetts and went on to Fordham University in New York for her Master's degree in physical chemistry. It was during graduate school that she met her husband, Matthew. The two were married on October 12, 1953, in Massachusetts in front of their loved ones.

Shortly after graduation, Matthew was offered a job at the DuPont Company. The newlyweds moved to Delaware and have lived here for over 50 years. They have 10 children—John, Matthew, Jerry, Joseph, Thomas, Mary, Christine, Bernadette, James and Daniel, and 18 grandchildren.

Mary began teaching algebra part time at Ursuline Academy in Wilmington, DE in 1973. While her children were in middle school at Immaculate Heart of Mary, she saw a great need for algebra education. Two of her children were in seventh and eighth grade, and were not being taught algebra. Mary knew they were capable of learning it. She talked to the school, and began volunteering one day a week to teach

algebra to the top students in the class. One day turned into two days, and soon thereafter, the school asked her to come aboard full time to teach and to start the advanced math program at Immaculate Heart of Mary. With the help and cooperation of students, teachers, administrators and faculty, the curriculum developed into a top-notch program, with each of the top 15 students in grades 6, 7 and 8 participating.

It was after a lifetime of dedication to her family and students that Mary was recognized for her selfless devotion. American Mothers Inc., a non-profit group that promotes motherhood and family, awarded Mary with the Delaware Mother of the Year and the National Mother of the Year honors. The State award was presented to Mary in April, and the national award was announced in early May. Mary was honored for reading favorite bedtime stories, helping with homework and offering friendship when it was needed most. Those who know Mary describe her as embodying the spirit of what motherhood is supposed to be—nurturing, but strong.

Mary is an amazing woman. She has been committed to her family, her students, and her community. Even to this day, she spends several hours a week tutoring students who need help in math. She has helped shape the lives of thousands in the halls of the institutions she served, and in the hearts of those who have been lucky enough to call her their friend. I rise today to honor and thank Mary for her selfless dedication to the betterment of others. She is a remarkable woman and a testament to the community she represents.●

WE THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION NATIONAL COMPETITION

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the students from Central Academy in Des Moines, IA, who participated in the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals in Washington, D.C. The annual competition is the culmination of the students' extensive study of the American system of constitutional democracy. The team from Central Academy won the State competition, earning the honor of representing Iowa in the national finals on May 1-3. I am proud to say that performance of the Central Academy students in the national finals earned them the Regional Award for the central states, which is given to the best non-finalist team in each region. I offer my sincere congratulations to these exemplary students.

I had the opportunity to meet with these students when they were in Washington. They are a remarkable group of politically engaged young people and I am proud to have had them representing Iowa during the national competition.

The "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" program, run by the Center for Civic Education with the help of Federal funding, provides an outstanding curriculum that promotes civic competence and responsibility among elementary and secondary students. Students take away a solid understanding of the origin of American constitutional democracy as well as the contemporary relevance and application of our founding documents and ideals. In short, the We the People program produces better citizens.

In closing, I would like to personally recognize the Central Academy students who participated in this program, Oliver Borzo, Andrew Dahm, Andrew Eilts, Becki Gell, Andrew Greiner, Sean Noonan, Carole Peterson, Paige Richards, Maura Walsh, Shannon Wenck, Emma White, Molly White, Christopher Woods, Ru-Huey Yen, Ru-Shyan Yen and their teacher, Michael Schaffer. They can all be very proud of their knowledge and accomplishments. I would also like to recognize the "We the People" district coordinator, Ivette Bender, and the State coordinator for Iowa, Linda Martin, for all their work in getting an Iowa team to the national finals.●

IN SUPPORT OF LES BROWNLEE, ACTING SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to praise the Acting Secretary of the Army, Les Brownlee, for his wonderful leadership and great job he has done under very difficult circumstances as the Army copes with the stresses of heavy involvement in the Global War on Terrorism, especially in Afghanistan and Iraq, and as he juggles many demands and complex priorities as the Army continues to transform.

Acting Secretary Brownlee is indeed a highly distinguished public servant who has performed with great humility, energy and passion on behalf of all our active and reserve soldiers and their families. I was particularly impressed with the article "Army of One" by Katherine McIntire Peters which appeared in the latest edition of Government Executive magazine and believe that every member should take time to read it. I ask that this article be printed in the RECORD in its entirety.

The article follows.

ARMY OF ONE

Acting Secretary Les Brownlee once again leads troops through tumultuous times. On Christmas Eve 2001, Undersecretary of the Army Less Brownlee took an Air Force C-130 transport plane to Baghram Air Base in Afghanistan, where about 200 soldiers were battling al Qaeda and the terrorist organization's Taliban sponsors. It was a dangerous flight. To reduce their chances of drawing enemy fire, the pilots landed at night, with their lights extinguished. Brownlee spent the evening and following day meeting with soldiers, listening to their experiences and offering encouragement and praise for their service. He had been in office less than two

months when he made the Christmas visit, but it established a pattern. With little fanfare and no press attention, Brownlee has spent every holiday since then in the field with soldiers.

Brownlee's boss at the time, Army Secretary Thomas White, was the public face of the Army, testifying before Congress and participating in Pentagon press briefings with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, while Brownlee was quietly managing an expanding portfolio of responsibilities. In March 2002, Brownlee was made acting assistant secretary of the Army for civil works, taking on oversight responsibility for the Army Corps of Engineers, a position that would last until this past August, when President Bush appointed John Paul Woodley to the job. In the meantime, Rumsfeld fired White last April and Brownlee became acting Army secretary. For four months last year, Brownlee simultaneously held the positions of Army secretary. For four months last year, Brownlee simultaneously held the positions of Army secretary, undersecretary and director of civil works. During this time, the Army went to war in Iraq and began the biggest civil works project since World War II—the \$18 billion program for rebuilding Iraq. Despite his enormous role in what is arguably one of the most profound shifts in U.S. military posture, Brownlee has received very little media attention, a fact that clearly suits him. "He's a humble and completely dedicated man," says John Hamre, deputy Defense secretary during the Clinton administration and a former colleague of Brownlee's when both worked on the Senate Armed Services Committee, Brownlee for Republicans and Hamre for Democrats. "He does not seek press. He refused to let me have a dinner in his honor when he became undersecretary. He just said, 'I don't think that's right.' Les is one of my best friends, and I said 'Les, please, this is for you,' and he said, 'Please don't do it. I know how much you care.'" Hamre recalls. "He completely wants to dissolve his own personal identity into the good of the Army," Hamre says. "Without question, he is one of the finest people I've ever worked with."

A 'GET-IT-DONE FELLOW'

If a Hollywood producer were casting a film about the Army, the service secretary might very well look like Brownlee. In an interview in March he appeared tanned and fit, handsome, square-jawed, blue-eyed, silver-haired. He wore a navy suit, a white shirt French cuffs and a red, white and blue tie, the uniform of official Washington, but for the Silver Star pin in his lapel, a hard-earned award for valorous conduct on the battlefield nearly four decades ago. Brownlee earned two Silver Stars in Vietnam, along with three Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart. He may look like a politician or a banker, but he is a soldier's soldier. Brownlee's bearing is formal and gentlemanly and he speaks in a measured, low voice. After introducing himself at the beginning of an interview, his first comment is: "I've never really done this before." A press hound he is not. Brownlee's résumé is remarkably suited to his responsibilities. A highly decorated infantry company commander in Vietnam, he served a full career in the Army before retiring as a colonel in 1984, after serving as executive officer to James Ambrose, one of the most dynamic Army undersecretaries in modern history. "I thought he was a real comer and a very effective fellow," recalls Ambrose. "I think of Brownlee as a superb organizer—a get-it-done fellow."

After leaving the Army, Brownlee went to work on the staff of Sen. JOHN WARNER, R-VA., a stalwart on the Senate Armed Serv-

ices Committee. Three years later, Brownlee joined the committee staff, where he worked for 14 years, several years as staff director under the late Sen. Strom Thurmond, the committee chairman whose failing health greatly impaired his participation in Senate business. "Les single-handedly ensured the authorization bills were produced in some very difficult years," recalls Hamre. "Had it not been for Les to hold the committee together and move those bills forward . . . there were a couple of years we weren't going to have authorization bills. Les made it happen."

While working for the Senate, Brownlee oversaw some of the most profound changes in military posture since the Korean War. He was a major player in decisions surrounding the reduction in military forces and the cancellation of major weapons programs following the end of the Cold War, and he played a key role in establishing requirements aimed at helping the services navigate the strategically messy decade of the 1990s.

In the summer of 2001, Bush administration officials asked Brownlee if he would take the job as Army undersecretary. He was still mulling it over on the morning of Sept. 11, when he turned on the television in his Senate office in time to watch terrorists fly a second plane into the World Trade Center towers in New York. A short while later he spoke to his son, a U.S. attorney in Roanoke, VA., who told him: "You know you have to take the job now." "I knew he was right," says Brownlee.

SHUNNING PERKS

To get to Brownlee's Pentagon office a visitor must walk past an empty suite of offices designed for the Army secretary. When he became acting secretary a year ago, Brownlee declined to move into the secretary's spacious third-floor suite. Nor would he let his staff change the nameplate on his office door to reflect his position. "The morning I signed the papers to become acting secretary I told my staff I would not be using the secretary's office, I would not use the secretary's car and I did not want my picture up on the wall [with other Army secretaries]. I assumed there would be a nominee. It didn't seem appropriate [to assume the perks of office]. It's a personal thing," he says, when asked about it.

Last July, months after Brownlee assumed the job of acting secretary, Bush nominated Air Force Secretary James Roche to become Army secretary. Some observers saw the move as another sign of Rumsfeld's widely reported discontent with the Army. Almost immediately, Roche's nomination ran into trouble in the Senate, where members have questioned both his role in promoting a controversial deal to lease air tankers from Boeing and his handling of sexual assault cases at the Air Force Academy. Last month, after it became clear the Senate would not move on the nomination, Roche withdrew his name from consideration.

Whether Brownlee or anyone else will be nominated for the Army secretary's position is a topic of speculation at the Pentagon, but in a contentious election year, many are doubtful. "I don't think it really matters," says one senior Army officer who asked not to be identified. "Brownlee is a workhorse. Soldiers respect him and he knows how the Hill works. He's doing the job far more effectively than many of his predecessors who didn't have 'acting' in front of their titles." Brownlee typically works 15 hours a day, six days a week. He says his expectations for the job were largely formed by his work for Ambrose. "He had an enormous appetite for work. The first day I worked for him he came out of his office around 8:30 p.m. and apologized because he was leaving early. The

next day we started at 4 a.m." Brownlee's hours are marginally better. One of his staff officers complains that working for Brownlee is like being on a deployment—he rarely sees his family. When asked what he thinks of Brownlee, he says, "I think the world of him."

SHAPED BY COMBAT

As a child growing up during World War II, Brownlee was fascinated by military history. Although no one in his family had served in the military—his father, an explosives expert, ran a bomb plant in West Texas during the war—Brownlee was drawn to service. He attended the University of Wyoming, a land-grant school where ROTC was compulsory. Brownlee enrolled in the Air Force ROTC program, but failed to pass the flight physical, so he switched to the Army ROTC program. He was commissioned as a lieutenant in the infantry in 1962 and in July 1965, he was a distinguished honor graduate of the intensely competitive U.S. Army Ranger Course. By year's end he was part of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the first major ground unit to enter Vietnam.

"As a soldier, there's one thing worse than going to war—that's not going to war," he says. He wondered if he had what it took to lead men in battle. The rifle company commander got his chance soon enough after deploying to Vietnam. "As we came under fire the first time I heard this steady, commanding voice, and I found it very reassuring. Then I realized it was my voice. It was very strange," he recalls.

The July 18, 1966, orders for his first Silver Star award give some measure of his experience in Vietnam. The award reads, in part: "With complete disregard for his safety, Captain Brownlee dragged his fellow officer to the rear. While performing this heroic action he was seriously wounded in the arm and leg by intense hostile fire. Demonstrating outstanding courage and stamina, he continued to move his wounded comrade and lead his men to the rear. Though seriously wounded, Captain Brownlee refused evacuation until all the others wounded had been evacuated and an attempt at recovering missing equipment had been made."

Pat Towell, the senior defense reporter at Congressional Quarterly for 25 years and now a visiting fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, says Brownlee brings a personal credibility to the job that is important. "The [Army] is under a lot of stress. I think it's especially important for the institution that [soldiers] have the reassurance that the civilian who represents them in the leadership is one of them," Towell says.

Arnold Punaro, who was the Democratic staff director on the Armed Services Committee during the time Brownlee was Republican staff director, says, "One of Les' strengths was that he always worked issues from what was in the interest of a strong national defense and the country and not from a partisan angle." A retired major general in the Marine Corps Reserve, Punaro adds, "He's a true leader. I say that from having worked with him when he was still in uniform."

Punaro says that when Brownlee worked in the Senate, he came up with an important plan, called the Soldier Marine Initiative, to get better fighting equipment to soldiers and Marines. "We were always buying big airplanes and big ships and big submarines, and Les was asking 'What are we doing for the foot soldiers?' He was instrumental in improving body armor for troops and improving the helmet and head protection. He was in the minority at the time. That initiative stuck and has produced a tremendous amount of good for the soldiers and Marines."

The improvements in body armor Brownlee championed while in the Senate proved so successful in saving lives in Iraq and Afghanistan that the Army in recent months faced a public maelstrom, forcing the service to field the protective gear more quickly and broadly than it had earlier planned. Brownlee recently visited an armor manufacturing plant to press managers to further ramp up production. According to one person who was at the meeting, Brownlee left no doubt about his seriousness that the production schedule would have to improve dramatically. "If it involves force protection, then do it with the utmost urgency," Brownlee says. "If you only get it out there one day early, you still might save a life," he says.

"Here's a guy that goes almost every day to visit troops at Walter Reed [Army Medical Center in Washington]," says Punaro. "I don't think many people know that about Les, and Les wouldn't want anybody to know about it. But this is a guy who cares deeply about men and women in uniform and their families. It's not just something that happened since he became acting secretary."•

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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 352. Concurrent resolution recognizing the contributions of people of Indian origin to the United States and the benefits of working together with India towards promoting peace, prosperity, and freedom among all countries of the world.

H. Con. Res. 378. Concurrent resolution calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to immediately and unconditionally release Father Thaddeus Nguyen Van Ly, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 409. Concurrent resolution recognizing with humble gratitude the more than 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the Americans who supported the war effort on the home front and celebrating the completion of the National World II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 352. Concurrent resolution recognizing the contributions of people of In-

dian origin to the United States and the benefits of working together with India towards promoting peace, prosperity, and freedom among all countries of the world; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 378. Concurrent resolution calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to immediately and unconditionally release Father Thaddeus Nguyen Van Ly, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 409. Concurrent resolution recognizing with humble gratitude the more than 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the Americans who supported the war effort on the home front and celebrating the completion of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7555. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7556. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7557. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the position of Assistant Secretary for Installations and Environment, Department of the Army; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7558. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a designation of acting officer for the position of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Materiel Readiness, Department of Defense, to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7559. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7560. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination rejected, withdrawn, or returned for the position of Deputy Under Secretary of Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment, Department of Defense, to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7561. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy for the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration, Department of Defense, to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7562. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the increased cost of the Joint Strike Fighter Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7563. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness,

Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the closure of the commissary located on Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7564. A communication from the Director for Administration and Management, Office of the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the rotation of PFIAB Administrative Assistant; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7566. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's 2003 inventory of activities that are not inherently governmental functions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7567. A communication from the Director, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the details of the Office's 2004 Compensation Plan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7568. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to accessibility for people with disabilities in the Information Age; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7569. A communication from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report to Congress pursuant to The College Scholarship Fraud Prevention Act of 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7570. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Federal Prison Industries Fiscal Year 2003 Management Report and Independent Financial Audit; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7571. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Foreign Intelligence Act of 1978; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7572. A communication from the Vice Chairs, United States Sentencing Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's amendments to the federal sentencing guidelines, policy statements, and official commentary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7573. A communication from the Director of Engineering, Maintenance, and Operations, American Battle Monuments Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Freedom of Information Act for Fiscal Year 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7574. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, twelve recommendations for legislative action; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-7575. A communication from the Office of Regulation, Policy, and Management, Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Board of Veterans' Appeals: Rules of Practice—Notice of Procedures Relating to Withdrawal of Services by a Representative" (RIN2900-AL45) received on May 10, 2004; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7566. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2003 Defense Environmental Restoration Program report; to the Committee on Armed Services.