

conference in June on the most effective ways to deal with the global scourge of human trafficking. The conference was cosponsored by the Vital Voices Global Partnership and the International Labor Organization.

The conference took place several days after the publication of the State Department's annual Trafficking in Persons Report. Japan and other countries were placed on the "watch list" for not fully complying with minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking. Officials from the National Policy Agency of Japan and the Justice Ministry participated in the conference, and several high level officials were among the keynote speakers. Japan announced that it has established an inter-ministerial body to address the challenge through a number of actions, including drafting new legislation to strengthen existing rules and penalties. Representatives from many other countries including India, Cambodia, Thailand, the Philippines, Russia, and Colombia, also participated in the conference, as did U.S. Government officials.

Each year, at least 1 million human beings, predominantly women and children, are shipped across national boundaries and sold into what has become modern-day slavery. Traffickers use fraud, coercion and outright kidnapping to obtain their victims. No country is immune from this problem. Both the United States and Japan are destination countries. Such trafficking is a flourishing criminal industry, second only to criminal drug and arms trafficking. Human trafficking is an urgent global challenge and progress against it is possible only through international cooperation.

As Ambassador Baker said in opening the meeting: "I hope the ideas that come out of this conference help victims all over the world." I commend our two former Senate colleagues for convening this significant conference to raise international awareness of human trafficking and for bringing countries together to exchange best practices and develop effective strategies to combat it. Their leadership is an excellent example of our Nation's commitment to address this global scourge.

DEATH OF HUGH LANGDON ELSBREE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Hugh Langdon Elsbree, who served as the Director of the Library of Congress' Legislative Reference Service, LRS, from 1958 to 1966. The LRS was the forerunner of the Congressional Research Service, CRS. Dr. Elsbree, a resident of the Washington area for more than 50 years, died on August 30, 2004. He was 100 years old.

Dr. Elsbree joined the Legislative Reference Service as a research counsel in 1945 and served as senior specialist in American Government and Public

Administration from 1946 to 1954. After he was promoted to Deputy Director in 1955, he became Director in 1958 and served in that position until he retired in 1966.

Dr. Elsbree was born in Preston Hollow, N.Y., on Feb. 24, 1904. He graduated from Phillips Andover Academy in 1921 and received three degrees from Harvard University: a Bachelors in 1925, Masters in 1927, and Doctorate in 1930. He was also elected a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Dr. Elsbree taught in Harvard's Government Department from 1928 to 1933 and then at Dartmouth University from 1933 to 1943. Dr. Elsbree was a political science professor from 1937 to 1943 and chairman of Dartmouth's Political Science Department from 1937 to 1941.

His Government service began with a short stint as a research specialist for the Federal Power Commission in 1934 and continued during World War II. He moved to Washington and worked for the Office of Price Administration as principal business economist from 1943 to 45 and for the Bureau of Budget as an administrative analyst from 1945 to 46.

During the period of his library service, he was given a special assignment as deputy director of research for the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations from 1954 to 1955, and from March 1957 to September 1958 he served as chairman of the Political Science Department at Wayne State University.

A longtime member of the American Political Science Association, Dr. Elsbree was the managing editor of the American Political Science Review—1952-56. After he retired from the LRS, Dr. Elsbree and his LRS predecessor, Ernest S. Griffith, edited a series of 35 volumes on U.S. Government departments and agencies.

When Dr. Elsbree retired in 1966, the Senator ROBERT BYRD paid tribute to Dr. Elsbree's accomplishments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Senator BYRD said in part: A political scientist of wide repute and a dedicated public official, Dr. Elsbree has earned the respect and the confidence of the Congress through his skillful and competent leadership of the Legislative Reference Service in a period when Congress has experienced its greatest need for research assistance.

To Dr. Elsbree's brother, Willard, his son, Hugh L. Elsbree, Jr. and his family, friends, and former colleagues, I extend the Senate's deepest sympathies.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR ARTHUR H. VANDENBERG

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today I join all of my colleagues in paying tribute to one of the giants of the United States Senate, a son of Michigan, Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg.

Earlier today, the Senate Commission on Art unveiled a wonderful por-

trait, painted by Tennessee artist Michael Shane Neal, of Senator Vandenberg in the Reception Room just outside of this Chamber. The Senate, in 2000, selected Senator Vandenberg for this rare honor, along with Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York. They join only five others, known as the "Famous Five" whose portraits grace the beautiful Reception Room, Senators Henry Clay of Kentucky, Daniel Webster of Massachusetts, John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, Robert M. La Follette, Sr. of Wisconsin, and Robert A. Taft of Ohio.

Arthur Vandenberg was born in Grand Rapids, MI on March 22, 1884. After studying law at the University of Michigan, he worked as a reporter for the Grand Rapids Herald, later becoming the managing editor for the paper. Following the death of U.S. Senator Woodbridge Ferris in March 1928, he was appointed by Governor Fred Green to fill the vacancy, a seat that he was already campaigning for. In November of 1928, he was elected in his own right. He was reelected three times, rose to become chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the President Pro-Tempore of the Senate and served in the Senate until his death, from lung cancer, in 1951. Although he is best known for his views on foreign policy, among his many notable accomplishments was the establishment of the FDIC, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in 1933.

Vandenberg entered the Senate as an isolationist, an advocate of very limited U.S. involvement in international affairs. However, after the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor, he recognized the Nation's greater interest and rose above partisanship to become one of the strongest proponents of a bipartisan foreign policy. On January 10, 1945, in this chamber, he delivered the "speech heard round the world" calling for the establishment of the United Nations. He was largely responsible for drafting the 1945 United Nations Charter, and he steered its passage through the Senate. He played a leading role in constructing the Marshall Plan, and he engineered the Senate ratification of the NATO Treaty.

A couple of years ago I read David McCullough's best-selling biography of Harry Truman. The book makes clear the indispensable role of Vandenberg in forging and maintaining the bipartisan coalition in Congress that supported Truman's successful post-World War II strategy establishing America's place as a leader of the free world and setting in motion the foreign policy which ultimately decades later won the cold war.

Senator Arthur Vandenberg's call to "unite our official voice at the water's edge" resonated for many years, uniting Republicans and Democrats in support of the Nation's foreign policy through administrations of both parties. The impact of his words were all the greater because of his own political roots as a isolationist Republican leader. Vandenberg, himself, often liked to

point out, Pearl Harbor ended isolationism for any realist.

Arthur Vandenberg was a forward-looking man who saw beyond partisan politics and worked for the good of the country. His service in the Senate is an example of true bipartisan leadership, which is so desperately needed today.

I know that all of my colleagues in the Senate and the people of Michigan join me in celebrating the life and works of this son of Michigan, and in congratulating the family of Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. REED. Mr. President, during Senate consideration of Senate amendments 3615 and 3617, I was attending a memorial service for the father of my Rhode Island colleague, Representative JAMES LANGEVIN. Had I been present for these votes I would have voted against the motion to table amendment No. 3615, and I would have voted to waive the point of order against amendment No. 3617.

DEATH OF FIREFIGHTER EVA SCHICKE

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today, it is with a heavy heart that I pay tribute to a fallen California firefighter.

Firefighter Eva Schicke was killed on Sunday, September 12, when her crew was overwhelmed by flames after being dropped by helicopter to fight a wildfire in the Tuolumne River Canyon of the Stanislaus National Forest.

Eva Schicke was part of an elite 7-person helicopter wildfire crew stationed at Columbia Air Attack Base in Columbia, CA. She and the six other members of this helicopter crew selflessly risked their lives trying to protect our communities and our treasured forests.

A graduate of California State University at Stanislaus where she played basketball and majored in criminal justice, Eva Schicke worked part time as a firefighter for more than 4 years. When she died she was beginning to pursue a career in nursing—yet another testament to her generosity of spirit and her desire to serve the community.

Not only was Ms. Schicke one of the few female firefighters to serve, she is now, tragically, the first ever female firefighter from the California Department of Forestry to die in the line of duty.

I offer my sincere condolences to her family, friends, and classmates. I know they must be devastated by the loss of this courageous, young woman.

I take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the search and rescue team that went back in to recover Ms. Schicke's body.

I also extend my gratitude and express my admiration for all of our firefighters, particularly the six members of the Columbia Helitack Team that fought by Ms. Schicke's side and were

themselves injured in that fire. The people of California honor their work. May God bless them for their dedication and service.

WILLIAM MCSWEENEY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, my wife Marcelle and I have been privileged to know Bill and Dorothy McSweeney during the time I have been in the Senate.

During my conversations with them, I have especially appreciated their sense of history. When Mr. McSweeney writes an op-ed piece, based on his knowledge and experience, I think we should pay special attention.

Recently, he wrote one for the Washington Post. Nothing I could say would add to the value of this fine statement, so I ask unanimous consent it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Aug. 18, 2004]

NO DEBATING A SENSE OF DUTY

(By William McSweeney)

I am from that generation of younger brothers who just missed World War II and went to war against communism in Korea in 1950. Many of us became fathers to those who fought in Vietnam and grandfathers to those fighting in Iraq.

I would not presume to speak for a whole generation, but as a veteran of that combat, I say it is time to tell both presidential campaigns to cease their macho posturing and get on with real programs to run—or save—our country.

In our long-ago time, we went to war reluctantly against an unknown enemy in an unknown land.

But, we went.

The conditions were harsh. The fighting—pre-instant TV—was ferocious at the front and mostly unseen at home. When we came back, no one particularly cared, and only one film ("Pork Chop Hill") and a handful of books remain to mark our passing.

That and a free South Korea.

We weren't noticeably upset at men who deferred service and went to college (except those who stole our girls). We didn't come home with rows of medals—although many of us came home with injuries that still warn us of changes in the weather. We didn't do any complaining. We just came home and got on with our lives.

Why did we go? Why did we allow our young bodies and our young psyches to be subjected to a war so forgotten that even today it has not been mentioned by either candidate, both of whom failed to notice the anniversary of its June beginning and July ending?

I believe it was because we knew that we should. Some of us enlisted as regular Army infantry privates and later became combat officers because other men of the "greatest generation" had done it and we should too. It is a young man's reaction to a sense of responsibility and duty, done without much forethought.

That, I believe, is the key ingredient in John Kerry's service in Vietnam—and why both campaigns should drop this contrived issue.

He did not have to go—because he had been. His tour on a destroyer was overseas time enough. But he went to the boats because other young men were there. The men and the boats had a mission—and he com-

manded, because he could. That is enough for me. I couldn't care less whether he received a medal. The rest of it is frosting. There is no honor in this debate for our country. We need to know whether a man can save the economy and slow terrorism, not listen to harangues about who was a shooter and who was a dodger.

Most of the real heroics are performed by young kids and young officers who just accept it as a cost of doing business in the peculiar exchange that is a combat battlefield. The whole place—and it does not matter which war we describe—is one of fear, noise, smoke, confusion and a strange comradeship where you might risk your life for someone you will never see again. I don't know what the expression is in the Navy, but the Army's bittersweet joke is that the two most dangerous words in the English language are "follow me." It takes courage to utter those words and to follow that command—something any veteran of any combat will recognize.

It is time for some of us older veterans to take one last stand and call on both parties to drop this base and meaningless debate. At the end of the day, and the end of the battle, medals are just symbols. And the bravery of thousands of our soldiers has passed into history unheralded by stars and ribbons. By engaging in mudslinging over this issue, both campaigns undermine the bravery and honor of all who serve in times of war and peace. And they distract us from the real issues of this election.

John Kerry heard the siren song of his moment—that fragile call on the wind that is the call to the colors. He went. He came back. I give him credit for that. If he threw some ribbons over the fence, he's welcome to mine. They lie quietly in a desk drawer, entombed with memories of better men who lie in the dirt of faraway fields, where there really is no glory, but where courage and compassion came with the C-rations.

They believed ours was a great country, one that fought not for conquest or for gain but because freedom isn't free and someone has to pay for it. The bill comes due again in this election. Let's hope these two candidates don't leave us paupers.

HUNGARIAN GOLD TRAIN

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, on May 24, 2004, 17 Senators wrote to Attorney General John Ashcroft to urge him to resolve the claims brought by several thousand elderly Holocaust survivors in the matter of the Hungarian Gold Train. These survivors seek restitution and an accounting for the mishandling, loss and theft of their property in the years after World War II. Administrations of both parties have made clear our belief that when faced with evidence of wrongdoing, governments should not rely on legalisms and technicalities to avoid responsibility. Those of us who wrote the Attorney General hoped that our own Government would rise to the same level of accountability when its own conduct was at fault.

Unfortunately, the Justice Department continues to resist these survivors strenuously in court. One disturbing tactic is to try to undercut the Government's own research and admissions. The facts about the Hungarian Gold Train were first brought to light by the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets, chaired by