

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

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HELP AFRICANS HELP THEMSELVES IN SUDAN
(By Jeremy Barnicle)

WEST DARFUR, SUDAN.—As a white foreigner visiting a displacement camp here, I was greeted with the chant, “khawaja no kwa.” “The foreigners say no,” they sang, meaning international intervention helped curb the violence and ease the suffering in Darfur. The song was a gesture of thanks and respect.

The wealthy world fulfilled the first part of its obligation to the people here when it finally started sending emergency aid over a year ago. The second part of that obligation—helping African Union (AU) soldiers provide security for the 2 million people driven from home by the conflict—would consolidate humanitarian gains in Darfur and, as important, serve as a long-term investment in the stability of the entire continent.

In Darfur, the international community—specifically NATO and the United States—has a unique opportunity to help Africans provide security for their own conflict zones. The village raids have largely subsided, and access for aid workers has improved dramatically in Darfur over the past year, but the countryside is now racked with lawlessness and warlordism. Neither the government of Sudan nor the rebel parties seem able to control the violence.

Within this challenging context, it is critical that Darfurians living in refugee camps start to go home and recover their lives. Peace talks between the government of Sudan and various rebel groups continue in Nigeria, but there is little hope of a durable political agreement in the near future. Meanwhile, the people of Darfur are stuck suffering between no war and no peace.

Their most basic needs are met in displacement camps, but the situation is unsustainable: The longer they are displaced the more expensive it becomes for the international community and the less likely it is that they'll ever get home to rebuild their own communities. Ask a Darfur refugee what she wants and inevitably the answer is “to go home, but only if there is security.”

People will return to Darfur only when they have security assurances they see as credible, and that's where the AU force comes in.

So far, the AU mission in Sudan has surpassed expectations. Displaced women used to be terrified of leaving camps to collect firewood, as armed men would stalk the outskirts of town and prey on them. Now, women can time their trips outside to coincide with AU patrols, which deter assaults. This is a development of which the AU and its backers should be proud.

The problem is that there are currently only about 6,000 AU troops in Darfur, an area the size of Texas. The AU says it plans to ramp that number up to about 12,000 by 2006. That would be too little, too late.

In order to help get Darfurians back home and back on track in safety, the AU would need to hit that 12,000 as soon as possible and be prepared to send at least a few thousand more if necessary. The U.S. and NATO are already providing important logistical and technical support for the AU mission, but standing up this larger force would require a speedy and substantial increase in their financial commitments. The U.S. specifically needs to apply diplomatic pressure to ensure that our allies meet the pledges they have made to the AU.

That commitment is the least the world can do. Consider this comparison. Following the war in Bosnia, the international community secured the country—especially high refugee return areas—by providing more than 18 peacekeepers per thousand Bosnians. In Kosovo, the world came up with 20 peacekeepers per thousand people. In Darfur right now, there is one AU soldier per thousand people, spread over a much larger geographic area. That is disgraceful.

An increased investment in the AU's peacekeeping capability now would also advance a huge shared goal for Africa and the West: to help Africans protect Africans. Several of the continent's conflicts need sustained, legitimate, outside military intervention and history proves that the West is unwilling to commit its own troops in any meaningful way.

Some respected analysts have called for NATO to deploy its own peacekeepers to Darfur. That is an appealing idea, but the fact of the matter is that the government of Sudan will never accept NATO troops on its soil, and their presence could actually further destabilize the region.

An indigenous peacekeeping force legitimized by international support and conforming to international standards is critical to mitigating conflict, enabling humanitarian access, and easing human suffering in Africa.

LIHEAP FUNDING

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, when I was governor of Delaware I was guided by a principle I learned years ago—if something is worth doing, it's worth paying for.

I served from 1993 to 2001, and we balanced the budget every year I was in office.

The principle of paying for the things that are worth doing is not always easy to follow. In fact, sometimes it's quite difficult.

It's especially difficult when we face the choice of how to fund important programs that we know provide vital services.

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, LIHEAP, is one of these important programs.

I believe that LIHEAP is worth funding and I think it's worth paying for.

And we need to pay for it because we are now in the unfortunate situation of having been saddled with record budget deficits for as far as the eye can see.

Unfortunately, more often than not, the current administration has shown us the opposite of good fiscal leadership. Instead of sticking to the motto, “if it's worth doing, it's worth paying for,” this administration has chosen to cut taxes and increase spending more than any other administration in the past 30 years. The result: record budget deficits and a bleak fiscal outlook.

This administration has turned the largest budget surplus in history into the largest deficits in history.

It is for these reasons that we must consider how to pay for increased funding for this vital program and for others as well.

The Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee took an important step

toward providing adequate LIHEAP funds by including \$2.183 billion in their fiscal year 2006 committee-reported bill. This represents a small increase over last year's funding levels. This is a good starting point.

However, we know that energy prices are rising and household heating bills will rise accordingly this winter. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, consumers who heat their homes with natural gas prices—about 55 percent of U.S. households—are expected to see their heating bills rise by 48 percent this winter. Those who heat with oil will pay 32 percent more, those who heat with propane will pay 30 percent more, and those who heat with electricity will pay 5 percent more.

For that reason, I contacted the Appropriations Committee in September to express the need for increased funding. I urged that they provide \$1.276 billion in emergency LIHEAP funding as part of a comprehensive supplemental appropriations bill to address Hurricane Katrina and the effects it has had on energy production and the cost of energy for U.S. consumers. This additional funding would provide an approximately 60 percent increase over fiscal year 2005 levels.

Unfortunately, we have not yet had the opportunity to consider a Katrina supplemental and during the week of October 24, 2005 we were faced with the choice of how to increase funds for LIHEAP as part of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill.

I am not comfortable supporting a \$3.1 billion increase in LIHEAP funding if it is not offset by either a reduction in spending or an increase in revenues. I believe that we can increase funds for LIHEAP but I also believe that we need to pay for it.

As a result, I worked with my colleague, Senator BEN NELSON to search for ways to achieve enough savings to pay for additional funding for the LIHEAP program in fiscal year 2006.

Senator NELSON and I filed an amendment on October 26, 2005 to increase LIHEAP funding by \$1.6 billion in fiscal year 2006. This would provide a 73 percent increase in funding over fiscal year 2005 levels. The increase would be offset with \$1.6 billion from three tax provisions that either close tax loopholes or clarify and bring greater consistency to current law. We believe that these offsets are balanced—all three have gained support in the Senate in the past—and we believe that our colleagues could support their use as an offset for the LIHEAP program.

I would like to add even more funding to LIHEAP, but with the offsets Senator NELSON and I were able to identify, we were able to file an amendment that would increase funds by \$1.6 billion.

Unfortunately, we did not have the opportunity to vote on the Carper/Nelson amendment during consideration of the fiscal year 2006 Labor, Health and

Human Services and Education appropriations bill. I will continue to search for ways to increase LIHEAP funding and likewise will continue to search for additional offsets to help pay for such an increase.

I believe in the LIHEAP program; I believe it serves a vital function in helping as many as 5 million low-income households who need a bit of help paying their energy bills or weatherizing their homes.

However, I also believe that as Americans, we can and must find ways to pay for our priorities. LIHEAP is worth funding, and it's worth paying for.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST CHRISTOPHER T. MONROE

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude to honor the life of a brave young man from Kendallville, Christopher Monroe, 19 years old, died on October 25 in Basra, Iraq. With his entire life before him, Chris risked everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Remembered for his strong family ties and devotion to the Army, Chris was killed while filling in for a friend on a convoy, a change from his typical desk job. After September 11, Chris had yearned to serve his country and follow in the family tradition of military service. He begged his mother to allow him to enlist early at age 17. The 2004 East Noble High School student had been in Iraq for only a couple months when he was killed. Friends and family recounted that Chris was an outgoing, generous young man who had given up his Christmas leave to allow others in his unit to be with their families for the holidays. His mother, Annette, told local media outlets that she was proud of her son and that he died doing what he was born to do. Chris was engaged and was planning an October 2006 wedding.

Chris was killed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was a member of the Army Reserve's 785th Military Police Battalion, based out of Fraser, MI. This brave young soldier leaves behind his father Perry Bolton II; his mother Annette Monroe; and his brothers Greg and Nick.

Today, I join Chris's family and friends in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Chris, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Chris was known for his dedication to his family and his love of country. Today and always, Chris will be remembered by family members, friends, and fellow Hoosiers as a true American

hero, and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Chris's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg:

We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Chris's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Christopher Monroe in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Chris's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Chris.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM O'NEILL

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant and a dear friend, former Connecticut Governor, William O'Neill.

I had the honor of serving the people of Connecticut alongside Bill O'Neill for over 15 years, during which time we shared many of the same views and principles about the future of our great State. When I first took office in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1975, Bill O'Neill was the majority leader of the Connecticut House of Representatives. And, in December 1980, as I was preparing to take the oath of office as a newly elected U.S. Senator, Bill O'Neill became the new Governor of Connecticut, replacing the beloved Ella Grasso, who had resigned for health reasons.

Bill O'Neill had a remarkable ability to connect with the citizens of Connecticut. He was a pragmatic leader, but he also took pains to be forward-thinking. As a result, not only did Bill serve one of the longest gubernatorial tenures in Connecticut history, he also had one of the most influential.

Bill O'Neill understood the immense value of education to both the future of our State and the entire Nation. He fought to pass the Education Enhancement Act, which, among other things, improved the quality of Connecticut teachers and improved student per-

formance. He oversaw the consolidation of the four "State" colleges—Eastern, Western, Southern, and Central Connecticut State University—into a stronger unified system. And he funded critical capital improvements on campuses throughout Connecticut.

He invested in a strong transportation infrastructure. In the aftermath of the tragic collapse of the Mianus River Bridge, soon after he became Governor, he responded not with a quick fix but by making long-term investments that have served Connecticut and the rest of the northeastern United States for decades and that will continue to do so for years to come. He made these commitments despite the devastating effects of the Reagan administration's budget cuts. He looked to impact Connecticut's long-term needs, and, as a consequence, he repaired Connecticut's roadways, overhauled the bus and train lines, and modernized Bradley International Airport.

Bill O'Neill worked hard to protect the environment. He strictly enforced the Clean Water Act, instituted reporting requirements for toxic substances used in manufacturing, and set aside large tracts of land to be used for the benefit of the general public.

Governor O'Neill was also dedicated to bringing the best public servants, regardless of background, into our State government. He nominated the individuals who would become the first woman chief justice and the first African-American justice on the Connecticut Supreme Court. And he appointed the first woman attorney general and treasurer in Connecticut history.

Bill O'Neill will be honored this week on the 15th anniversary of his retirement from public service at Central Connecticut State University, where there is a professorship in "Public Policy and Practical Politics" endowed in his name. The athletic center at Western Connecticut State University, where I recently had the honor of delivering remarks with former President Clinton, also bears the name of the former Governor.

It is fitting and appropriate that Bill O'Neill's name graces these fine institutions of higher learning and others throughout the State of Connecticut, and that he is being honored with this ceremony.

Bill O'Neill has served this country for over 50 years—as a fighter pilot during the Korean war, as a six-term member of the Connecticut House of Representatives, as Lieutenant Governor, and as the Governor of Connecticut for more than a decade.

At a critical time in our State's and our country's history, Connecticut was fortunate to have the leadership of this remarkable patriot. His wisdom, his vision, and his ability to accomplish concrete changes for the good of the people of our State set a standard for public service that inspired me and I know continues to inspire those of us who believe in the value public service.