

raise serious questions about the U.N.'s ability to administer crucial programs in the future. American taxpayers pay roughly 22 percent of the U.N.'s operating costs. They need assurances that their tax dollars are well spent. This is especially true in light of the fact that the U.N. is playing an increasingly larger role in world affairs.

As a result, we must bring about meaningful and reasonable reform of the U.N. Such reforms must include three elements. First is the concept of "transparency." As Supreme Court Justice Brandeis famously stated, "Sunlight is the most powerful of all disinfectants." Today, the U.N.'s operations are shrouded in mystery—not a single ray of sunlight disinfects the internal machinations of the U.N. The U.N. should be transparent to its member states, and use those rays of sunlight to prevent another episode of massive mismanagement.

Another necessary element for U.N. reform is "accountability." Specifically, U.N. officials responsible for the operation and management of programs, such as sanctions regimes and humanitarian efforts, must be held accountable for their performance. Such accountability should apply to all U.N. officials from the highest to the lowest.

The third element necessary for U.N. reform is effective internal oversight. Simply put, the U.N.'s internal auditor—the Office of Internal Oversight Services, OIOS, needs drastic improvement. The OIOS is woefully underfunded and lacks true independence. With respect to funding, the OIOS receives \$24 million per budget—a paltry pittance when compared to the \$162 million allocated to U.N.'s press office. Without an effective and independent auditor, the U.N.'s operations will continue to be plagued with misconduct and mismanagement.

Those crucial elements are the cornerstones of the proposed Coleman-Lugar bill, the United Nations, Management, Personnel, and Policy Reform Act of 2005. The bill presents a well-balanced and constructive U.N. reform initiative that addresses: (1) a variety of U.N. management weaknesses identified by the subcommittee, a lack of transparency, oversight, accountability, and effective budgetary and personnel systems, and (2) a series of U.N. policy issues that need reform, including peacekeeping and human rights. The legislation strikes an appropriate balance between important goals: effecting crucial U.N. reforms, preserving U.N. administrative discretion, and ensuring limited U.S. government monitoring and oversight.

Our proposed legislation underscores that an effective United Nations is in the interest of the United States and that the United States must lead the United Nations toward greater relevance and capability. The bill also emphasizes that the U.S. push for further reform will require bipartisanship and the joint involvement of the executive and legislative branches so that

the U.S. presents a unified position toward the United Nations. The proposed legislation exhorts the U.S. to use its voice, vote, and funding in the U.N. to accomplish U.N. management, personnel, and policy reforms. It requires the President to submit an annual report on U.N. reform to "appropriate congressional committees." It also authorizes the President to withhold 50 percent of U.S. contributions to U.N. if he determines that the U.N. is not making sufficient progress in implementing reforms described in the act.

While the proposed legislation acknowledges that the U.N. has initiated some reforms, it also recognizes that the U.N. has failed to make many necessary changes. The bill cites past GAO reports on U.N. reforms and recent U.N. reports, including the High-Level Panel Report and the Secretary-General's Report, on the need to expedite existing reforms and implement new urgently-needed reforms. It emphasizes that the U.N. must transform itself to meet current and future challenges and undertake institutional reforms that ensure the effectiveness, integrity, transparency, and accountability of the United Nations system.

The proposed legislation recognizes the important findings of the subcommittee in its Oil for Food Program investigation identifying key internal management weaknesses that led to mismanagement, fraud, and abuse of the program. It also cites the June 2005 Gingrich/Mitchell U.N. Reform Report. The majority of the U.N. management, personnel, budget, and policy issues addressed in the proposed legislation are consistent with many recommendations of the subcommittee and the recent Gingrich/Mitchell report.

The management section of the proposed legislation stems from the many U.N. management weaknesses revealed in the subcommittee's oil-for-food investigation. The section strengthens the power of the Secretary-General to replace top officials in the U.N. Secretariat and recruit only the highest quality individuals, placing emphasis on professional excellence over geographic diversity. It calls for an updated assessment of the U.N. procurement system and the establishment of a new and improved procurement process that embodies the standards currently present in the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, which prohibit officials from making or receiving payments, gifts, or exchanging other promises to secure an improper benefit.

In short, this legislation will help transform the United Nations into a modern and dynamic institution capable of responding to the many complex and varied challenges confronting it. The reforms embodied in this legislation provide the United Nations the opportunity to embrace change and regain its role as a critical institution in today's rapidly changing international environment. This legislation will force the United Nations to be a better

managed, transparent, and accountable organization. This legislation will prevent reoccurrences of scandals like the Oil for Food scandal, peacekeeping abuses, and other managerial failures.

I must reiterate the importance of a robust and effective U.N. for the future of U.S. relations with the international community. The U.N., when properly led and properly managed, can play an important role in promoting global peace and stability. Real reform, and not mere rhetoric, is the proper course of action to ensure an effective U.N.—the mission of the U.N. is simply too important to look the other way.

As I conclude my remarks, I would like to reiterate my thanks to Chairman LUGAR for his leadership on the issue of U.N. reform and for the opportunity to work with him to tackle this important issue.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF KENNETH W. MONTFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Kenneth W. Montfort College of Business at the University of Northern Colorado on receiving the 2004 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the Nation's highest honor for quality and performance excellence.

The Kenneth W. Monfort College of Business at the University of Northern Colorado is the sole business school to receive the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award from the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This award recognizes the outstanding performance and accomplishments of American businesses, schools, and health care organizations that surpass standards of excellence and ethics.

Monfort College of Business offers the only program of its kind in the Rocky Mountain region focused exclusively on undergraduate business education and internationally accredited in business administration and accounting. Monfort is one of five undergraduate-only programs in the United States to hold such accreditations. Students at Monfort score in the top 5 percent on nationwide standardized exit exams and earn a degree in business administration with an emphasis in accounting, computer information systems, finance, general business, management, or marketing. An interdisciplinary degree is also available in nonprofit management. Monfort's student-centered approach is exemplified by its three-dimensional learning strategy: High-Touch, small class sizes taught on an interactive basis, Wide-Tech, exposure to a wide array of business technologies, and Professional Depth, instruction from seasoned professors, including highly placed executives.

Understanding the importance of a well-rounded college education is important if we are to produce the next

generation of our State's and our Nation's leaders. I commend Kenneth W. Montfort College of Business at the University of Northern Colorado for their efforts to promote excellence in higher education. Undoubtedly, their success serves as an example of excellence to colleges and universities around the country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Kenneth W. Montfort College of Business at the University of Northern Colorado for being recognized for their efforts and success.●

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL RAY ALEXANDER

● Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise today to offer my thanks and appreciation, and those of all North Carolinians, to Colonel Charles "Ray" Alexander, Jr., Commander of the Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington, NC district. Today is Colonel Alexander's last day as commanding officer of the district. While we celebrate his retirement with his family, we will miss the impact he has had on North Carolina and the Nation.

Colonel Alexander has distinguished himself with exceptionally meritorious service as district commander since 2002. Under his command, the district continued construction of the Wilmington Harbor deepening project and met the target for delivering deep water to the State port docks in January 2004 despite numerous fiscal challenges. The Wilmington Harbor deepening is the largest civil works project in the district's history and a very important navigation project, providing economic benefit to the State. Additionally, the deeper channel has been an asset to the local military installations in support of the global war on terror.

Under Colonel Alexander's direction, the district has been involved and successful in protecting the Nation's environment. Numerous environmental enhancement projects, including the Roanoke Island Festival Park aquatic habitat restoration and protection project, are testament to this highly successful program.

This and many other projects earned the district the 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award and North Carolina Coast Federal Pelican Award, the 2003 Chief of Engineers' Environmental Award for product delivery team design and construction of an island estuarine habitat, and nomination and subsequent recognition as the North Carolina Conservationist Partner of 2003 by the North Carolina Land Trust Council. A district project delivery team under Colonel Alexander's command also earned an environmental award from the Environmental Protection Agency for its work cleaning up EPA facilities in the Research Triangle Park.

Colonel Alexander also executed a systematic plan to improve relation-

ships with local, State, and Federal entities. Locally, we completed re-nourishment of Kure, Carolina, and Bald Head Island Beaches and a project to reinstitute the use of dredged materials on Bogue Banks. Additionally, the district created a water management committee to meet the needs of over 40 agencies and many private citizens.

Colonel Alexander also led the efforts in 2003 to provide exceptionally responsive emergency management services during Hurricane Isabel in North Carolina, including the highly successful reconstruction of vital road infrastructure for the Cape Hatteras breach. He also led the Wilmington effort in aiding the recovery from the record-breaking 2004 hurricane storm season.

I would also like to commend Colonel Alexander for his support of the Army Corps outside his district and in the war on terror. His selflessness was exhibited by his leadership for the \$84 million recovery effort in 2004 after Hurricane Ivan devastated Alabama. This highly complex operation included providing emergency power, ice, water, housing, debris collection and reduction, roofing, and technical assistance to the citizens of Alabama following the storm, which made landfall 700 miles from the district headquarters. Hundreds of Corps of Engineers employees from all over the Nation were brought in to this well executed operation.

Colonel Alexander's leadership and commitment in the global war on terror is evident in his ability to motivate more than 20 team members to volunteer to serve abroad as members of South Atlantic Division's Forward Engineer Support Teams, Task Force Restore Iraqi Electricity, the Gulf Region Division, and the Afghanistan District. The number continues to grow and several members have served on multiple deployments.

In closing, generations of North Carolinians who have never met Colonel Alexander will benefit from the results of his work. At this special time in his career, I wish him all the best and thank him for a job well done.●

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ELIZABETH J. FRENCH

● Mr. BURR. Mr. President, the Naval Hospital at Camp Lejeune, NC, has selected LCDR Elizabeth J. French to be the hospital's Officer of the Year for 2004. She serves as the department head for the inpatient obstetrics department at the hospital. U.S. Navy Captain Richard C. Welton presented Commander French with a Letter of Commendation for her "dedication to this Command and continual support of superb family centered maternal and childcare services in the Obstetric Department sets the standard."

I am proud of Elizabeth French's outstanding service and I ask unanimous consent that Captain Welton's Letter of Commendation be printed in the RECORD.

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

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

The Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune takes pleasure in commending Lieutenant Commander Elizabeth J. French for service as set forth in the following citation: Upon the occasion of her selection as the Officer of the Year, Calendar Year 2004, Commander French is commended for her dedicated and outstanding performance of duty while serving as the Department Head, Inpatient Obstetrics Department, Naval Hospital, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004. Commander French's dedication to this Command and continual pursuit of superb family centered maternal and childcare services in the Obstetric Department sets the standard. She expertly led 70 military, civilians, and contract personnel in providing quality and safe care for 1,500 births and 4,800 outpatient visits. She chaired the Lactation Council and coordinated lactation services. Commander French implemented a lactation consult call schedule to provide 24/7 lactation services for 300 beneficiaries, which reduced infant readmissions for hyperbilirubinemia and dehydration by 80 percent. Clinically proficient, Commander French provides daily hands-on care to patients in addition to covering critical staffing shortages during off-duty hours. She coordinated the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery's, Family Centered Care training for more than 40 medical and nursing personnel. Commander French saved the Command \$5,000 in Temporary Additional Duty costs when she established a regional testing site for the Maternal Newborn and Inpatient Obstetric Nursing National Certification exam, allowing 10 military and civilian nurses to locally obtain certification. She coordinated the \$5 Million Labor and Delivery, Recovery, and Postpartum renovation project, continuously interacting with Facilities Department personnel, contractors, news media and multiple hospital departments to ensure the project remained within contractual agreements and maintained patient safety and workload. Commander French's professionalism, initiative, and total devotion to duty reflected great credit upon herself and were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service. On behalf of the entire staff, she is extended the traditional Navy "Well Done."

RICHARD C. WELTON,
Captain, Medical Corps,
United States Navy.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORDVILLE, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th anniversary. On July 1-3, 2005, the residents of Fordville, ND, past and present, gathered to celebrate the community's centennial.

Fordville is a city in the north-eastern part of my great State with about 266 residents. Although its population is small, Fordville holds an important place in the history of North Dakota. Medford was founded in 1905 and was an important stop along the Soo Railroad line. Because of confusion caused as a result of other stations along the Soo line with the name Medford, it was decided to combine its name with the rural post office of