

approved overflight rights for U.S. and other Coalition military aircraft as well as use of Cypriot airports. Important areas of cooperation between the U.S. and Cyprus are spelled out by the U.S.-Cyprus Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty. The treaty has been in force since September 2002 and facilitates bilateral cooperation in the fight against global terrorism, organized crime, drug-trafficking and related violent crimes. Cyprus is the first European Nation to sign on to President Bush's Proliferation Security Initiative, which provides for shipping inspections and intergovernmental cooperation that is designed to stem the spread of weapons of mass destruction. The addition of Cyprus to the PSI is particularly significant because Cyprus has the sixth largest commercial shipping fleet in the world. It is plain that Cyprus and the United States share common goals and common values.

This is a critical time for Cyprus. The two communities of Cyprus are moving together, their economies and peoples forming links like never before. The actions of the U.S. must encourage and foster reunification, not push the communities apart with divisive actions that challenge the sovereignty of the legitimate government of Cyprus. All Americans, whether officials from the administration or from this body, should educate themselves about these important issues before considering a trip to Cyprus though an illegal port of entry.

I ask unanimous consent to print in the RECORD the following letter.

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, June 30, 2005.

Hon. OLYMPIA J. SNOWE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR SNOWE: Thank you for your letter of May 27 regarding the policy and legal basis for allowing U.S. citizens, including U.S. Government officials, to travel directly into northern Cyprus. Our policy approach is based on our assessment of what is most likely to produce progress toward the Cyprus settlement that we all want to see. The Turkish Cypriot community's vote in favor of the Annan Plan in April 2004 marked a historic shift by that community in favor of such a settlement, and thus fundamentally altered the situation on the island.

Denying the Turkish Cypriots direct links with the international community, despite the fact they have done what the world asked of them, would in effect punish them for the fact that the Annan Plan was not accepted by the majority of Greek Cypriots. Such an approach inevitably would weaken Turkish Cypriot support for a settlement. It would also hamper efforts to narrow the economic gap between the two communities, unnecessarily raising the cost to the Greek Cypriots and the world of any prospective settlement.

Based on this analysis, we have taken steps in support of the UN Secretary General's call on the international community to ease the isolation of the Turkish Cypriots. One of the steps we took was to authorize U.S. Government officials to travel directly to northern Cyprus using tourist passports,

for the purpose of establishing the sorts of international links that we believe are appropriate. We regret that some view our limited steps vis-à-vis the Turkish Cypriot community to be in some way directed against the Republic of Cyprus. We continue to work diligently not only to maintain, but to enhance, our good relations with the Republic of Cyprus.

We have taken great care to ensure that our steps are consistent with U.S. and international law. Neither U.S. nor international law prohibits U.S. citizens from traveling directly to the area administered by Turkish Cypriots. Moreover, U.S. citizens are not alone in traveling to that area: Greek Cypriots, other EU nationals, and foreign nationals from non-EU countries regularly fly directly to and from Ercan (Tymbou) airport. In fact, courts in the Republic of Cyprus have explicitly refused to penalize Greek Cypriots who have chosen to so travel.

I hope this information is useful in understanding the policy and legal basis of our decisions and clarifies that our efforts are aimed solely at promoting a comprehensive solution to the Cyprus problem so that all Cypriots can live and work together in peace on a reunified island. If you have any further concerns on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW A. REYNOLDS,
Acting Assistant Secretary,
Legislative Affairs.

CNOOC

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, great concern has been raised by this Senator, and others, in recent weeks regarding efforts by the China National Offshore Oil Corporation, known as CNOOC, to acquire the prominent U.S. oil company, Unocal, based in California. The Unocal Board has endorsed a takeover bid by Chevron, also a California company, which its shareholders will vote on in the coming days.

This Senate needs to be aware, however, that CNOOC, which is essentially an arm of the Chinese government, may well be planning to raise its bid to acquire Unocal, and what greatly disturbs this Senator are reports in the press that they are waiting for Congress to adjourn for August before making a renewed bid—a move that directly challenges the Congress and the authority granted to it by the Constitution to regulate foreign commerce.

Moreover, this renewed bid heightens my concerns about the heavily subsidized nature of CNOOC's financing. When foreign firms compete for assets in the U.S., it is essential that they do so on a level playing field with U.S. companies. Government subsidies tilt this playing field, and in doing so distort competition. This harms U.S. workers, companies and investors.

Congress recently approved an amendment to the Energy Policy Act that requires the Administration to study these issues and report to Congress and the President. This amendment reflects Congress' strong reservations about the PRC's role in financing the acquisition of U.S. energy assets, and about CNOOC bid for Unocal in particular.

CNOOC's decision to increase its bid would heighten my concerns about CNOOC's efforts. If anything, it reinforces my belief that subsidies of this sort raise serious economic policy concerns and leave U.S. firms at an unfair competitive disadvantage. You can be sure that I will not be alone amongst my colleagues, in the Senate and in the House, who will be paying attention to what happens in the coming days, and if need be, will be prepared to act when Congress returns in September.

THE NATIONAL BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I would like to welcome over 30,000 young men to Washington D.C. for the 2005 National Boy Scout of America Jamboree. I would also like to give my sincerest condolences to the families of the four Boy Scout leaders who were tragically killed Monday afternoon in an accident while setting up camp.

Occurring every 4 years, the national jamboree is one of Scouting's grandest traditions. It is a chance for thousands of young men to come together and celebrate our shared values and traditions as Americans. In a world that too often celebrates our differences, the National Boy Scout Jamboree is a unique opportunity to celebrate the qualities we all share as Americans.

It is also a chance for these young men to visit our Nation's Capital to be inspired by the monuments, to learn from our Nation's artifacts, and to see democracy in action. To those of us who work in Washington it is sometimes easy to forget just how amazing it is that a place like this, where free men can gather, debate, and decide their own fates, even exists.

I was recently reminded of the significance of Washington by a young boy scout from Plymouth, MN, named Eyan R. Lason. In anticipation of his trip to the National Boy Scout Jamboree this week, Eyan wrote an essay on what the trip and Washington mean to him. Eyan did not write his essay as a requirement or to win a prize. In fact, until the other day Eyan didn't even know that I had read his essay. No, Eyan wrote his essay because he has a true appreciation for the values and spirit that this city represents.

Eyan began his essay by describing his trip as "A journey back to where America was made, an expedition to see and feel everything that this country was based on, and is destined to become."

Eyan is right. During his time here in Washington he will see our Nation's values. But he would not find them in the architecture of our buildings, or the history on display in the Smithsonian. No, Eyan will find our Nation's values in the hearts of his fellow Scouts.

These young men represent the heart and soul of the American people. They know that courage is not the absence of fear, but strength and capacity to go

ahead in spite of fear. They understand that you can not have justice for one without justice for all. They believe in the equality of opportunity, not results. And they know that freedom is not free.

Boy Scouts are our friends and family, but as Eyan's letter shows us, they are also our role models and leaders.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of Eyan R. Lason's letter be printed in the RECORD.

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

NATIONAL JAMBOREE AND WHAT IT MEANS TO ME

(By Eyan R. Lason)

I start this paper staring at the "Scout Guide" to this trip that I will soon embark upon. I look at my watch and see the date, the time, and realize that my entire world is racing towards a stand still . . . no a start to a voyage which will be sure to last me the rest of my life. A journey back to where America was made, an expedition to see and feel everything that this country was based on, and is destined to become.

Scouting has been a part of my life for more than 10 years now. It has helped form me into the man that I am. Scouting has given me many of the best experiences of my life, many of which can never be forgotten. I have learned so much it is hard to put it into words. I have been fortunate enough to take pleasure in everything that scouting has to offer. From the basic skills of life, to our week long summer camp in Northern Minnesota, to Philmont's mountains in New Mexico, and now most of all the ability to spend two weeks in this Country's great capital.

I sit here in this chair wanting to express the true bewilderment that I feel. Trying to communicate the huge opportunity that has been granted to me in words, still there are too many racing through my head to fully explain what I am feeling. A teacher once told me that if you struggle explaining an object be it a person place or event try using a single word for the task, this time even that advice has rendered me speechless. There is no possible way to express my gratitude to the people who have simply handed me the single greatest opportunity of my life.

One word, a sentence, or even this paper that I am writing cannot express truly how grateful I am for the kindness of others who have given me this opportunity. Truthfully, with all my heart, I thank you.

Now is time for myself to try and explain what this expedition means to me. I have concluded that the best way for me to define this trip to you is use a symbol that every man, woman, and child can recognize, the very flag of this great country that we, the people, have proclaimed The United States of America.

The flag is it's own special kind of genius. You see the stars, stripes, and colors all inspire me in different ways. Fifty Stars, thirteen stripes, and three colors are all part of the master symbol of our country; all has given me more than significant inspiration. Thus I will explain.

Fifty bright white stars represent each and every state of this noble country. A National Jamboree is my destination therefore I will get a chance to meet people from each and every one of those states. An opportunity to experience cultures specific to each region of this country, for each state is represented by 1 of those fantastic stars on the flag of this country.

Thirteen stripes on the banner that is this country, thirteen stripes that embody the thirteen original colonies that formed this country. All of which helped bestow all Americans with the freedoms that we are blessed with. Those colonies fought for what they considered was right, they defended their freedoms. Who knew they were at the threshold of creating the world's greatest country. A country free from gross prejudice of one's ethnicity, beliefs, religion, likes and dislikes.

Nobody in that time had any idea of the immense change those thirteen colonies would make in the world, freedom that today is defended by the greatest fighting force in the world, the United States Armed Forces. The U.S. Armed Forces fight for our country protecting us from people who dislike our ability to be unrestrained in our everyday lives. The U.S. Armed Forces, like the people in those thirteen original colonies, are fighting for what they think is right. Why do they risk their lives? Simple their own, and others, belief in freedom is worth fighting for. After all freedom is not free.

Myself as an American hold my freedom on the highest pinnacle. Those thirteen colonies that started this whole country have granted all Americans with the greatest possible gift. So I am grateful for the ability to go back to many of these great colonies and see what they fought for, experience what they fought and hopefully get a glimpse of what it will become. I am so grateful to be given the opportunity to be able to see the naval ports, see the modern day defenders of our country and how they do what they do.

Red; the color that represents the hardiness and valor of this Nation, red is for the blood, sweat and tears that have gone into making this great country what it is. Hardiness for the millions who have served this Nation with pride. Hardiness for all of those who endured through the cannon blasts of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, hardiness for the ones who spent hundreds of hours in the grueling trenches of World War One. Hardiness for the near Thirteen million United States Soldiers who, once again, proved to the world we will not sit quietly in World War Two, well deserved valor for the individuals in Middle Eastern countries currently defending us from terrorism each day. All of which have proven to the world that we are the true protectors of freedom. Proved to me, and the world, what it means to be hardy and valorous. Red is the color that represents the millions of individual's sacrifices for me, for this Nation. And when I stand at this Nation's capital and look at Old Glory waving, I will remember those individuals and their sacrifices, and I will thank them.

Bright white stripes, six of them on the flag, hold the beliefs of purity and innocence of this Nation. Purity and innocence that in this modern day uphold America as a defender not as an aggressor. In this day America is a world power not a world conqueror. Purity is for those who hold themselves true by using their rights as a good citizen, by supporting their country in what it does, by participating in this country's democracy. We can show purity by respecting other citizens of this country, innocence by living our lives without regrets. Myself as a scout can obtain and uphold this Nation's purity and innocence by living the Scout Oath and Law. I can live the Scout Oath and Law and show others to take pride in themselves and in their country, by being able to go to Washington DC. I can demonstrate these actions and I can influence others to do so.

There is a field of blue on the flag for justice, perseverance, and vigilance. One's peers provide fair justice in this country. This country has for nearly 100 years served in protecting itself and others from assailants.

Providing justice to where it is deserved. From the improper acts of Pre-Revolutionary War Britain, Nazi Germany, the Jungles of Vietnam, or Terrorist occupied Middle Eastern Countries America has proven its evenhandedness. Perseverance is surely this country's most pronounced value. If perseverance were not valued so highly in this country it would simply not exist. Perseverance made this country, made it and has kept it here for the past 229 years.

What if we had not persevered in the Revolutionary war? Would America still be here? The most likely answer is no. The Civil War without perseverance would have ended in the Confederate States of America. Not only in wars must we persevere in life we must. If people do not try hard to complete things, this country, this world would not be the great place it is. Vigilance is simply defined by Webster as "Alert Watchfulness" and I could not label it better myself. America has watched over its people and the world doing its best to keep all safe. In a single week I will see these values and all their meaning when I am in D.C. I will value them every day of my life as I always have as far back as I can remember. I can see the documents that made America free. As far as seeing perseverance, I cannot list all the sights and sounds that are supreme examples to me of that value. Justice can be seen in small things as someone stating their opinion of right and wrong to another individual, or a single person standing before a judge a twelve of his peers, however I will be able to see it on the grandest scale the supreme court of America. I can see vigilance as I will go to Pentagon City and for those opportunities that have been given to me I am truly grateful.

As I have stated in the above topics the values that are presented on the flag are the one's that I will value most on this trip to the United States Capital. The fifty states that hold the values true, thirteen colonies that made it all happen, hardiness, valor, purity, innocence, justice, perseverance, and vigilance are all valued highly by many but the ones who make values more than just a value are citizens of the United States of America. Boy Scouts, doctors, lawyers, auto mechanics, pilots, military personal are all people that make this country what it is, and that is the way it is supposed to be in a democracy. I am eternally grateful to be able to be an American and having this tour to the Nations Capital given to me just reinforces my strong beliefs in this country and the people who belong to it.

I would like to thank the complete organization of the Boy Scouts of America. I would also like to personally thank my Scoutmaster Mr. Jeff Radke, the whole Jungers family, Mr. Mike Simonet, and my parents for letting me go on such an endeavor.

Thank You All So Much.

To the members of the United States Armed Forces, nationwide Firefighters and Policemen and Women, I thank you for the sacrifices that you have made, and are willing to make on behalf of myself and this entire nation. Thank you.

Mr. COLEMAN. In closing, I thank Eyan and all of the Boy Scouts of America for their service not only to God and country, but also to their homes and committees.

IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I bring to the attention of Senators the troubling reality in Iraq that is described in two recent Government reports, one by the Government Accountability Office and the other by the Office of the Special