

Reyna to become President for a second time in 2004.

President Reyna spoke to us about the border problems that the Dominican Republic was having with illegal Haitian immigrants entering the Dominican Republic. President Reyna explained that, while the Dominican Republic's unemployment rate was 17.4 percent, Haiti's was approximately 50 percent. As a result of this, the Dominican Republic must constantly contend with Haitian citizens coming across the border looking for work. President Reyna stated that it was imperative for the Dominican Republic to encourage the expansion of democratic institutions in Haiti, in the hope that this would lead to political stability.

We returned to Washington on April 16 to use the second week of the recess to work on the immigration bill.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

STAFF SERGEANT KEVIN P. JESSEN

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to SSG Kevin P. Jessen of Paragould, AR. To those who knew him best, he was a loving husband and proud father whose life was filled with love and laughter. To his fellow soldiers serving on the battlefields of Iraq, he was a hero who, in the course of saving countless American and Iraqi lives, sacrificed his own.

His lifelong interest in military history and explosives led him to a career as an explosive ordnance disposal technician. It came as no surprise to friends and family that the young Arkansan, who spent countless hours as a child playing with G.I. Joe toys and bottle rockets, would become a soldier. He joined the ROTC while in high school and upon graduation enlisted in the National Guard before ultimately joining the U.S. Army.

Staff Sergeant Jessen's first of three tours in Iraq occurred shortly after Operation Desert Storm when he helped dispose of explosives left over from the war. In 2004, he returned through service in Operation Iraqi Freedom, only to return for a third tour 6 months after his second was completed. While serving in a foreign land seemingly worlds away from home, his heart and thoughts were undoubtedly never far from his wife Carrie and his 2-year-old son, Cameron. Between tours of duty, this battle-hardened soldier was often found changing diapers or handling bottle feedings in the middle of the night. It was the proud duty of a man who loved his family so very much, and it was symbolic of his devotion to them.

Throughout his time in Iraq, Staff Sergeant Jessen's role as an explosives ordnance disposal technician ensured that he was often called upon to disarm roadside bombs. Although it continually placed him in the line of danger, he selflessly saw it as his duty to help protect the lives of his fellow soldiers as well as the lives of Iraqi civilians. Tragically, while serving on a postblast

investigation on March 4, 2006, he was killed by a secondary explosion in Rawah, Iraq.

At Staff Sergeant Jessen's memorial service, he was laid to rest with full military honors. Hundreds of family, friends, and those wishing to pay their respects joined together to remember this young Arkansan and to honor the life he led. Along his funeral procession, members of a grateful community endured the cold weather to honor this fallen hero, many with hands held over the hearts and waving American flags. At the cemetery, the American flag that had draped Staff Sergeant Jessen's casket was folded and presented to Carrie and Cameron as a token of remembrance of the man they loved and the sacrifice he made on behalf of us all.

Although the 28 years that Kevin Jessen spent with us were far too short, I am hopeful that his friends, family, and loved ones find some solace knowing that he touched the lives so many. He set examples of devotion to family and country that we should all follow, and he led an honorable life of love and selflessness that will continue to serve as an inspiration to us all.

My thoughts and prayers are with Carrie, Cameron, and all those who knew and loved this fallen hero.

STAFF SGT. BROCK A. BEERY

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 Warsaw, IN. SSG Brock Beery, 30 years old, died on March 23 when his armored vehicle struck a land mine 80 miles west of Baghdad. With his entire life before him, Brock risked everything to fight for the values we Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Brock decided to pursue a career in the Army in 1994, immediately following his graduation from Tippecanoe Valley High School. Remembered as a good student and a good husband, Brock took great pride in his work. He remained close to his family throughout his time in Iraq and planned to attend his younger sister's high school graduation in June. His father recounted to a local newspaper, "[Brock] liked his job. He liked challenges; he put his best foot forward every time. He gave his best to his family, too."

Brock was killed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was a member of the Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 123rd Armored Division, based in Bowling Green, KY. This brave young soldier leaves behind his mother and father, Pamela and Roger Beery; his wife and 7-year-old daughter, Sara and Elissa; his sister, Hope; and his brothers, Joel and Tobey. He was serving his third overseas tour of duty.

Today, I join Brock'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 Brock, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Brock was known for his dedication to his family and his love of country. Today and always, Brock 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 Brock'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 Brock's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Brock A. Beery in the official 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 Brock'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 Brock.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

In March 2006, Gregory Pisarcik was sentenced to life in prison in Santa Ana, CA for the murder of Narciso Leggs, a gay man. During the attack, Pisarcik repeatedly hit Leggs over the head with a champagne bottle. When police later found his body one ear had been cut off and anti-gay slurs were written all over his body. According to sources, police feel that sexual orientation was a motivation for the attack.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend

them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law we can change hearts and minds as well.

GENOCIDE IN SUDAN

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today is Holocaust Remembrance Day. Each year, our Nation commemorates this tragic event with a week-long period of remembrance, and this Thursday, I will join several of my colleagues in a ceremony honoring the victims of the Holocaust in the Capitol Rotunda. The theme for this year's "Days of Remembrance," the "Legacies of Justice," honors the courage and fortitude of those who testified during the trials of Nazi war criminals.

As many of my colleagues know, I have a personal connection to those trials. My father, Senator Thomas Dodd, then a young lawyer, was asked by the chief counsel for the United States at Nuremberg, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, to join his prosecutorial team. My father served as vice-chairman of the Review Board and as executive trial counsel, and his experiences at those trials greatly influenced his thinking on human rights and the importance of international justice for the rest of his life.

One of the major accomplishments of the prosecutors and witnesses at Nuremberg was publicly exposing the scope of depravity of Nazi crimes. My father and his colleagues went to great lengths to meticulously record that evidence, and their efforts formed the basis of much of our current knowledge about the Holocaust. According to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, for example, it was during the Nuremberg trials that the world first heard the estimate of 6 million Jewish deaths.

I believe that my father and his colleagues placed so much emphasis on revealing the extent of Nazi crimes in large part because they understood that the Nuremberg proceedings had the potential to reach an audience that far exceeded the four members and four alternate members of the Tribunal sitting in judgment of the defendants. These trials would reveal to the world and to future generations that such unthinkable crimes were possible, and that the international community must, therefore, stand up to injustice and abuse wherever they occur.

The evidence uncovered by the Tribunal was truly horrific. Indeed, the crimes committed by the Nazis were so heinous that they required a new lexicon to describe them. These crimes were prosecuted under the legal terminology of "crimes against humanity," but later, an entirely new word describing them was formalized: genocide. Genocide refers to certain actions committed with the "intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group."

Sadly, the crime of genocide is not unique to the Holocaust. In Bosnia, Cambodia, and, of course, Rwanda, too many innocents died while the world looked away. And today, in Darfur, Sudan, escalating violence is claiming thousands of additional lives in a conflict that the Congress unanimously declared genocide almost 2 years ago, in July 2004. Secretary of State Colin Powell made that same declaration in September of that year.

Several weeks ago, I received a DVD about the situation in Darfur made by a group of Danbury, CT, high school students. The DVD, entitled "The Promise," is truly a wake-up call. The title, of course, refers to the promise made by the world after the Holocaust—the promise of "Never Again."

Yet, as these students so vividly portray, the people of Darfur continue to suffer while the world takes too little notice. By some estimates, as many as 300,000 people, many of them civilians, may have lost their lives in Darfur since the start of the conflict. The Government of Sudan has refused to curtail, and in many instances has actively supported, the activities of Jingawit militias that have attacked and targeted tribal groups of African decent.

In a particularly moving segment of their DVD, the Danbury students display some of the artwork of children who have fled their homes in Darfur. As the students say, so much can be learned through the eyes of a child, and these images, produced by the children without any prompting, are of war, fire, and death. I think of my own children and shudder to imagine them suffering through the terror that afflicts the children of Darfur every day. Indeed, despite all that we have learned since Nuremberg, I am sad to say that the promise of "Never Again" remains a promise unfulfilled.

But while the story of Darfur is clearly one of tragedy, it is also one of hope. Since the start of the conflict, I have been impressed by the dedication and advocacy demonstrated by the people of Connecticut on this issue. If we are ever to fulfill "the promise," it will be due to the extraordinary efforts of dedicated individuals such as these Danbury High School students. I am proud that these students, just like the brave individuals who stood up to testify at the Nuremberg Tribunals 60 years ago to demand justice, are standing up to demand action in Darfur today.

In their DVD, the Danbury High School students cite a famous statement by Ghandi: "Be the change you wish to see in the world." I can think of no greater compliment to these students and the numerous individuals in Connecticut and across this country who have advocated for increased international action in Darfur, than to say that they have lived up to that admonition. I ask unanimous consent that the names of the Danbury students who made this DVD be included in the record following my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. DODD. Today is a day of remembrance, but in remembering, we are also called to action. This week, we are debating the President's emergency supplemental request. To his credit, the President has included in that request substantial funds to support the African Union peacekeeping operation in Darfur and new humanitarian assistance.

Moreover, the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations is scheduled to brief the Security Council tomorrow, on potential U.N. missions in Darfur. It is my hope that they will advocate a strong United Nations Peacekeeping force, despite Sudanese objections. It is also my fervent hope that we in the Senate actively support an increased international role in Darfur. Because only with our support can any international force hope to meet the enormous challenge of protecting the civilian population and providing a safe environment to supply humanitarian relief.

Finally, just as at Nuremberg the international community enforced justice where justice had too long been blind, I call on the Bush administration to actively support the work of the International Criminal Court in prosecuting those individuals who have committed crimes against the people of Darfur and against all humanity. I know the ICC is not popular in some circles of the Bush administration, but I believe it is the best tool we have to enforce the vision of universal justice that was inspired by Nuremberg.

Following the trials of the major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, President Truman declared: I have no hesitancy in declaring that the historic precedent set at Nuremberg abundantly justifies the expenditure of effort, prodigious though it was.

Individuals such as my father expected that the historic precedent described by President Truman would long inspire nations to take action against crimes such as those prosecuted at Nuremberg. The lesson of Nuremberg to these individuals was indeed the promise of "Never Again." I hope that on this somber day of remembrance, we will commit ourselves to renewing that promise.

EXHIBIT 1

BACKGROUND—A DANBURY HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

"The Promise" is a Danbury High School student video about genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan. After school for three months at the end of 2005, a group of students worked with assistant principal Tim Salem on the project. The result is an eight minute documentary meant to raise awareness about the genocide and motivate action. The name "The Promise" is a reminder of the promise the United Nations and the world made in 1945 to hold people accountable for crimes against humanity. With the backdrop of the Holocaust, narration, images and quotations, the focus is on the plight of