

year to try the killers of Prime Minister Hariri and other Lebanese victims of political violence. So we call on the Bush administration to redouble its support for the tribunal and to work to ensure that Wednesday's crime is included in its jurisdiction.

These attacks on Lebanon must stop. This resolution expresses bipartisan support for holding accountable any state sponsor or official implicated in the string of political assassinations beginning in February 2005. To many an observer it is no accident that this assassination occurred as we approach the critical period during which Lebanon will choose its next president. Many informed voices, both in and out of Lebanon, are pointing to Damascus. So to the regime of Bashar al-Assad, know that we in Washington are watching events in Lebanon very carefully. Lebanon must be free to choose its next president without intimidation or violence.

Lebanon's enemies must understand that they face a united international front. Saudi Arabia, Egypt, France, and the broader European Union all have lead roles to play. So does the United States. So we call upon the international community to intensify the efforts to support the people and fragile democratic institutions of Lebanon.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc, and that any statements relating to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 328) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 328

Whereas Antoine Ghanem and at least 6 others were killed in a car-bomb attack in the Sin el-Fil suburb of Beirut on September 19, 2007;

Whereas Mr. Ghanem was a member of the Parliament of Lebanon from the Lebanese Kataeb Party representing the Baabda and Aley districts of Mount Lebanon;

Whereas Mr. Ghanem is the 6th member of the Parliament of Lebanon who had opposed Syrian interference in Lebanon to be assassinated since February 2005, including former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik Hariri, former Economy and Trade Minister Bassel Fleihan, Gebran Tueni, Industry Minister Pierre Gemayel, and Walid Eido;

Whereas other prominent figures in Lebanon who have opposed Syrian interference in that country have also been assassinated in the same time period, including politician George Hawi and journalist Samir Kassir, while others have escaped assassination attempts, including Defense Minister Elias Murr, Telecommunications Minister Marwan Hamadeh, and television presenter May Chidiac;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 1757 of May 30, 2007, created a special international tribunal to try suspects in the assassinations of former Prime Minister Hariri and others;

Whereas, by agreement between the United Nations and Lebanon, the special international tribunal can receive jurisdiction for other attacks in Lebanon that "are of a nature and gravity similar to the attack of 14 February 2005"; and

Whereas these continuing assassinations are intended to undermine the sovereignty of Lebanon and damage its fragile democratic institutions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its deepest condolences to the families of Antoine Ghanem and other victims of the attack of September 19, 2007, as well as to all the people of Lebanon;

(2) condemns in the strongest terms this cowardly attack and urges that its perpetrators, including any state sponsor or official, be held accountable for their crimes;

(3) underscores its full support for the special international tribunal and urges the United Nations Security Council to extend its jurisdiction to include the Ghanem assassination;

(4) urges the President to increase coordination with key partners in Europe and the Middle East to more actively support the sovereignty of Lebanon and strengthen its governing institutions and security forces; and

(5) reasserts its strong belief that the people of Lebanon should be permitted to choose their next president, in a process scheduled to begin in September 2007, free from all foreign intimidation, interference, and violence.

CONGRATULATING SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY-EDWARDSVILLE ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 329.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 329) congratulating Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, SIUE, as it marks its 50th year as a center of educational advancement in Southern Illinois. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville marks its 50th anniversary this year with a year-long celebration that begins on September 24, 2007.

SIUE is a public university built by the people of Illinois for the people of Illinois in response to the clear need for a campus of higher education in the Metro-East area of greater St. Louis. Fifty years ago, only three percent of the adult population had completed four years of college. Since there was no nearby higher education center and most families could not afford the cost of sending their kids far away for college, the community appealed to Southern Illinois University to establish a satellite campus at Edwardsville.

Today, SIUE continues to serve the community that initiated its founding and has helped improve the quality of life for all citizens of the area. The university has grown from 1,776 students

to nearly 13,500 students from 101 Illinois counties, 43 other States, and 46 nations. It offers a broad choice of degrees ranging from liberal arts to professional studies. The university gives back to the surrounding community through programs, including its East St. Louis Center, which provides social services to families in East St. Louis and surrounding urban communities. Each year, more than 8,000 individuals benefit from the programs and services housed at the East St. Louis Center. SIUE also contributes to the economic welfare of the entire region as both one of the largest employers in Madison County and a producer of many graduates who remain in the area after college. The number of college graduates in Madison and St. Clair counties has risen from three percent to 20 percent, largely made up of SIUE graduates. These graduates give back to the community every day, and the highly educated, skilled workforce they form is one of the greatest resources in Southern Illinois.

If you visit the campus at SIUE, you will see some of the truly exceptional and innovative educational programs taking place there today. The University's Senior Assignment Program, an integrative learning experience required of all seniors, was ranked as a national model for learning assessment by the Association of American Colleges and Universities in 2007. The SIU School of Dental Medicine, the only Illinois dental school outside Cook County, is rated among the top dental schools in the Nation on national board dental exams and serves as a primary oral healthcare provider for Southern Illinois. SIUE's University Park, an applied research and technology park, is the home to the National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center which explores the viability of alternative fuels. In athletics, SIUE is currently transitioning to NCAA Division I status and proudly brought home the NCAA Division II championship in softball in 2007.

Over the last half century, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has grown to become a tremendous asset to the students and citizens of Illinois. It's my honor to congratulate the University on its 50th anniversary, and I look forward to many more years of excellence in education in the future.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 329) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 329

Whereas Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) will celebrate its 50th

anniversary with a year-long celebration, beginning September 24, 2007;

Whereas SIUE has grown from 1,776 students to nearly 13,500 students from 101 Illinois counties, 43 other States, and 46 Nations;

Whereas SIUE has conferred more than 90,000 degrees in its history and has more than 75,000 alumni;

Whereas the SIUE School of Dental Medicine is rated among the top dental schools in the Nation and provides more than \$50,000 in free oral health care to children annually through Give Kids a Smile Day;

Whereas the SIUE East St. Louis Center is dedicated to improving the lives of families and individuals in East St. Louis and surrounding urban communities;

Whereas the University finished 4th nationally in the United States Sports Academy Directors' Cup among National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II schools in 2006;

Whereas SIUE contributes roughly \$356,000,000 to the regional economy, and more than 37,000 alumni live in the region and contribute to the economy;

Whereas SIUE is the home of University Park, an applied research and technology park located on the SIUE campus that is home to the National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center and the Biotechnology Laboratory Incubator: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) on its 50th anniversary, and wishes SIUE success in its continued service to the Nation as a center of educational advancement in Southern Illinois.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 25; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period of morning business for 60 minutes, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half; that once morning business is closed, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 1585, the Department of Defense

authorization bill; that on Tuesday, the Senate stand in recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. for the respective party conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business from the distinguished Republican leader, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:04 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate Monday, September 24, 2007:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TED POE, OF TEXAS, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

WILLIAM DELAHUNT, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.