

There are 1,767 individuals who are still classified as Missing in Action from the Vietnam War. Eighteen of these soldiers are from Montana.

They are: David Allinson, Helena; Richard Appelhans, Dodson; Alan Ashall, Billings; Michael Bouchard, Missoula; Alan Boyer, Missoula; Anthony Caldwell, Missoula; William Christensen, Great Falls; Jack Dempset, Helena; Charles Dudley, Bozeman; Michael Havranek, Missoula; Robert Holton, Butte; James Hunt, Missoula; Edward Letchworth, Libby; Patrick Magee, Alder; Lee Nordahl, Choteau; Victor Pirker, Trout Creek; Dean Pogreba, Three Forks; and Robert Willett, Great Falls.

To them and their families, you are not forgotten.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

PRESIDENT'S MEETING

• Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, today President Bush is scheduled to meet with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. These heads of state have met before, but today's meeting comes at a pivotal time in Uganda's history.

After more than 20 years of conflict in northern Uganda in which well over a million people have been displaced and tens of thousands of children abducted and terrorized, peace appears to be within reach. Talks between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army, LRA, have led to genuine improvements on the ground. However, there is still much more work to be done to ensure a lasting peace. The United States must become a more active peace partner with Uganda as it negotiates with the Lord's Resistance Army.

The constructive mediation efforts of U.N. Special Envoy and former Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano deserve sustained, high-level U.S. diplomatic support. Two issues will be particularly difficult. First, Ugandans themselves will have to balance the imperative to make peace with the clear need to hold accountable those responsible for the horrifying abuses of the past. Second, leaders need to keep a spotlight on the vast development needs of the traumatized north. Paper plans and grand announcements will not be enough—the Government of Uganda must be committed to the north's development, and the donor community, including the United States, must be prepared to offer real resources to help.

Sadly, as negotiations to end the threat posed by the LRA continue, a different source of instability—that of lawless militias in Karamoja, and the Ugandan military's often counter-productive, abusive response to them has prevented a more complete consolidation of security in the country. The Ugandan people can never achieve their full potential when they feel targeted by both their own military and marauding criminals.

This visit to the White House follows by days a meeting between President Bush and President Kabila of the Democratic Republic of Congo. I hope President Bush uses both meetings to reassert U.S. support for regional dialogue and stabilization efforts. Uganda has an important part to play in ongoing efforts to bring lasting stability to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly through participation in the Tripartite Plus mechanism. The U.S. should continue to foster dialogue through that process.

Uganda is a major contributor to the African Union's peacekeeping efforts in Somalia. But the undermanned AU peacekeeping contingent cannot succeed in the absence of a broader political and economic strategy to stabilize Somalia. Right now, the Ugandan peacekeepers are in the hot seat, and the rest of the world is failing to advance the peace process and deliver the support that they need. The United States has a responsibility to lead effectively on this issue. I hope that the two Presidents have a frank discussion about what needs to be done to advance peace in Somalia.

Of course, Uganda is deservedly admired around the world for its early efforts to speak frankly and act effectively to fight HIV/AIDS, and I have no doubt that the ongoing fight against the pandemic as well as global efforts to combat malaria will be on the agenda for President Museveni's meeting. Recent reports have found that a disturbingly high percentage of Uganda's young people do not have accurate information about AIDS and about how to protect themselves. Because of its renown, Uganda has a special leadership role to play in this struggle. Frank talk is needed today more than ever.

Finally, I hope that President Bush will convey to President Museveni the sincere sympathies of the people of the United States for those affected by the recent severe floods in Uganda. As Americans cope with the terrible wildfires in California, we are all especially sensitive to the devastating human consequences of natural disasters wherever they occur. •

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA "GINGER" KIRK

• Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to special agent Virginia "Ginger" Kirk of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, who is retiring from employment with the Federal Government on October 30, 2007. Special Agent Kirk is retiring after over 24 years of Government service, the last 21 of which have been spent with NCIS. Of special note, during the course of her service with NCIS, she spent a year as a Department of Defense legislative fellow in the office of the late Congresswoman Tillie Fowler.

During the course of Special Agent Kirk's career in Government service, she rose from a GS-3 computer programmer for the Navy to a GS-15 NCIS senior special agent. In her final NCIS job, she was assigned to the Navy's Acquisition Integrity Office—a high-profile, high-impact position that put her on the inside of the Department of the Navy's most significant procurement fraud investigations.

Special Agent Kirk's law enforcement career began in the Norfolk fraud unit of the Naval Investigative Service, NIS—the precursor of today's NCIS. In addition to contributing to the collective success of the office there, Special Agent Kirk was singled out to receive the NIS Director's Cup, distinguishing her as the first-ever NIS Special Agent of the Year for fraud investigations. Her early career assignments were particularly fraud-focused and included tours at NAS Oceana, Pearl Harbor, New York, and Washington, DC. Among other postings, she spent a year with the FBI's Washington Field Office, working on major Government procurement fraud investigations jointly with her Bureau counterparts. That was followed by her first assignment in the counterintelligence arena in 1996, supporting both arms control treaty implementation and the Navy's International Program Office. Eighteen months later, Special Agent Kirk transferred to NCIS headquarters to serve as a desk officer in the NCIS Counterintelligence Directorate's Pacific Division.

In 1999, in what she describes as one of the most significant highlights of her career, she was selected to represent NCIS as a DOD legislative fellow on Capitol Hill. She served on the staff of the late Congresswoman Tillie Fowler, where she worked on a variety of defense, judiciary, and other issues. As a result of Special Agent Kirk's presence and persistence, Congresswoman Fowler sponsored legislation that was later incorporated into the Fiscal Year 2001 National Defense Authorization Act and ultimately resulted in statutory arrest authority being granted to civilian special agents of NCIS—an act of Congress that to this day is considered a watershed event within the agency.

Following her Capitol Hill assignment, Special Agent Kirk was reassigned to the NCIS Counterintelligence Directorate, where she worked on a host of policy issues. Thereafter, she was promoted to supervisory special agent and posted to NCIS's Washington, DC, field office. While her first year there was spent investigating procurement fraud, Special Agent Kirk and the fraud squad refocused their efforts on counterterrorism concerns as a result of the 9/11 attacks and the anthrax threat that plagued the Nation's Capital at that time.

In 2002, Special Agent Kirk transferred to the Pentagon as the NCIS liaison to the Joint Counterintelligence Evaluation Office within the Office of

the Secretary of Defense. She was subsequently assigned to be Assistant Special Agent in Charge for Criminal Investigations at the NCIS Southeast Field Office, located aboard Naval Station Mayport. She concluded her NCIS career back in DC in the Navy's Acquisition Integrity Office.

Mr. President, during the course of her Federal service, Special Agent Kirk has made many sacrifices. As noted above, she moved frequently to meet the needs of her agency, the Department of the Navy, and our Nation. She spent extended periods geographically separated from her husband, who was also an NCIS special agent, as each of them strived to meet their own mission demands. She and her husband, retired NCIS special agent Guy Kirk, have bought a home on the side of a mountain in Brevard, NC, where they plan to take some time together to hike and explore the area. She has also set up a stained glass studio and plans to pursue the artistic side of life. I know all of my colleagues join me in thanking Special Agent Kirk for her many years of dedicated service, and in wishing her "fair winds and following seas" as she and her husband Guy embark on the next chapter of their lives together.●

RECOGNIZING CAMPBELL-TIMMERMAN LEGION AUXILIARY

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the Campbell-Timmerman Legion Auxiliary, unit No. 115, of Platte, SD.

Each year the auxiliary participates in the Paralyzed Veterans of America pheasant hunt sponsored by the American Legion. The auxiliary provides food and accommodations for many of the veterans who come to hunt. Through their efforts, the auxiliary gives these veterans the opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of other veterans and appreciate the great outdoors.

Organizations like the Campbell-Timmerman Legion Auxiliary are the backbone of South Dakota's rural communities. It is my hope that their dedication to serving our State's veterans inspires others to lend a helping hand.

I would like to thank the Campbell-Timmerman Legion Auxiliary unit No. 115 for their service and wish them continued success in the years to come.●

HONORING STEVE BRIMM

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I honor Steve Brimm of Spearfish, SD, for his nearly 40 years of service to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Mr. Brimm is retiring from his position as project leader to the D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery where he has served for the past 10 years.

The D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery is one of the oldest operating hatcheries in the country dedicated to fish culture and resource management. Under Steve Brimm's leadership, the fish hatchery has continued to thrive and benefit not only the

Spearfish community but the entire Black Hills region. By forging partnerships and nurturing cooperation within the fish hatchery system, Steve has given the D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery a chance to become one of the most well-preserved fish hatcheries in the United States. The hatchery has become an archival site for the Fish and Wildlife Service's fishery materials, and a functioning fish rearing facility, as well as being a tourist and economic attraction for the city of Spearfish.

For his dedicated service, Steve has been honored on both a State and national level. He was named a 2007 Take Pride in America National Award winner by the United States Department of the Interior and the Hatchery Helpers Youth Volunteer Program that Mr. Booth helped to develop was awarded a 2003 Take Pride in America National Award.

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Steve Brimm on this special occasion and thank him for all his years of service to the D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery, the city of Spearfish, and the State of South Dakota.●

SOUTH DAKOTA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a key institution in my State, the South Dakota Community Foundation, SDCF, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary on November 11, 2007. This statewide organization is a perfect example of how private funds are raised in communities to ensure future sustainability. The SDCF is a model for those who believe there is no better way to improve themselves and our great State than through working together to accomplish great things.

The SDCF was started two decades ago by a group of leaders with a vision for South Dakota. Their vision included capitalizing on the philanthropic nature of South Dakotans to help rural communities redevelop and serve the needs of their citizens. Strong leadership over 20 years has resulted in thousands of investors and partners that have assisted local communities and nonprofit organizations to achieve new levels of success. The original group of investors was especially critical, as they embraced a concept that has now exceeded the expectations of many. Over 70 communities and hundreds of nonprofit organizations across South Dakota now have direct partnerships with the SDCF.

Twenty years ago, under the direct leadership of our late Governor George S. Mickelson, the SDCF was created. I wish that Governor Mickelson were alive today to witness the lasting legacy his initiatives have given to our State. The SDCF continues to meet the visionary goals of Governor Mickelson, and remains committed to taking the organization to levels unanticipated 20 years ago. Governor Mickelson's

widow, Linda Mickelson Graham, served in a leadership role on the SDCF board of directors for nine years, and their oldest son, Mark Mickelson, is set to become chairman of the board in 2009. Governor Mickelson's dream is alive and well within the SDCF and across South Dakota.

The original funding for the SDCF came from generous gifts from the McKnight Foundation and the 3M Foundation. On their way to raising the first \$10 million, the 3M Foundation and the State of South Dakota contributed \$2 million each, and the McKnight Foundation added \$3 million as a challenge grant. Using this seed money as an incentive, Governor Mickelson and then-SDCF Executive Director Bernie Christenson raised an additional \$3 million within 1 year to fully fund the first phase of the SDCF.

Today, the SDCF has grown to over \$70 million in total assets. Over 360 funds have been established by communities, families, nonprofit organizations, and businesses to benefit South Dakota in perpetuity. These funds provide support for nonprofit causes benefiting children, senior citizens, and individuals with special needs. South Dakotans from rural areas, Indian reservations, and our largest cities are reaping the benefits of this visionary plan.

Leadership has been a key component to the success of the SDCF. The original leadership to get the SDCF started, the continued leadership of the board members, and dedicated staff have all played an integral role. Current Chairman of the Board John E. Johnson, President Bob Sutton, and the current board leadership have set goals for the continued growth of the organization. This growth would not be possible without committed staff members, and two of them—Stephanie Judson and Ginger Niemann—have 20 years of combined service to the SDCF. The relationships they have built with donors and partners of the SDCF over the years are invaluable, and they deserve credit for a job very well done.

The future for the SDCF is bright. Over the next 5 years, the organization will grow to over \$100 million in permanently endowed assets. This will result in \$5 million annually being distributed to nonprofit and charitable causes in South Dakota. This commitment to human service, economic development, and cultural and educational organizations in South Dakota will leave a lasting legacy.

The success of the SDCF has come from many areas, including unmatched public/private partnerships, strong nonprofit organizations, local community leaders, generous contributors, and prudent fiscal management. On the local level, a new generation of leaders has been developed, with many communities finding the future resting in the hands of these individuals. Through the establishment of permanent endowment funds, these local leaders are able to envision what their communities