

RETIREMENT OF COLONEL PAUL JAMES SYKES

• Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, today I ask the Senate to join me in recognizing COL Paul James Sykes on the occasion of his retirement from the U.S. Air Force Reserve, USAFR. Since entering the Air Force in 1975 with the 315th Military Airlift Wing, Charleston, SC, Colonel Sykes has remained a dedicated reservist for his entire career.

After being commissioned through the USAFR Officers Training Program at the Citadel in 1974, Second Lieutenant Sykes began his military career flying the C-141A Starlifter. Over his 16 years of flying the C-141, Colonel Sykes held numerous squadron-level positions while supporting an array of humanitarian efforts and military operations worldwide.

In 1993, Major Sykes was selected to make the historic delivery of the first Globemaster III into Charleston AFB, SC, while accompanying the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Additionally, Major Sykes played an integral role as a member of the initial Crew Operations Review Team which was responsible for significant technological and operational upgrades to the C-17.

As a distinguished reservist, Major Sykes was selected as the Deputy Commander of the 315th Operations Group after previously being named Squadron Operations Officer for the 300 Airlift Squadron only months before. In 2001, Lieutenant Colonel Sykes was critical in ensuring that over 1,500 Reserve personnel were adequately prepared for their call to duty after the attacks of September 11th.

Two years later, Colonel Sykes deployed to Rhein Main AB, Germany, where he was responsible for the daily launching of over 35 flight missions to move the more than 3,000 military personnel who were to support Operations Iraqi/Enduring Freedom. After returning from overseas in 2004, Colonel Sykes was selected as the Commander of the 916th Air Refueling Wing at Seymour Johnson AFB, NC. As the Air Force Reserve Command's only wing in North Carolina, Colonel Sykes was charged to command over 950 reservists in support of the Air Force's global refueling mission.

During his tenure as Commander, the 916th Air Refueling Wing received numerous awards and scored in the top 3 percent of AFRC units in the Unit Compliance Inspection. Furthermore, the Wing was awarded the prestigious Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for its exceptional efforts and volunteer service.

A devoted patriot, Colonel Sykes formally retires on July 27, 2007, as a Command pilot with over 9,100 military flying hours. As a decorated leader, his commitment to our country will be forever marked by his extraordinary vision and endless sacrifice. Throughout his entire career and to this day, Colonel Sykes has served as a model airman. Along with his wife Patricia, who has stood next to Colonel Sykes with

unwavering loyalty and shared sacrifice but comforted by the humbling gift of serving one's country, I thank him for his service and wish him the very best in his retirement. I ask that the Senate join me in honoring him for his lifelong career of service.●

HONORING “CATONSVILLE GOES COASTAL”

• Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, today I wish to honor the exemplary service of a group of my constituents from Catonsville, MD, who have recently returned from their week-long volunteer trip to Kiln, MS.

Led by high school seniors Justin Holmes and Sarah Dobson, “Catonsville Goes Coastal” coordinated six work teams to rebuild homes that were devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Working with the local Camp Coastal Outpost, the group's 59 students and 14 adults worked on eight works sites in Hancock County, where 80 percent of the structures were destroyed by the storm. Through student-organized fundraisers and donations from the local community, the volunteers raised over \$55,000 throughout the year to fund their trip and to buy \$12,000 worth of donations for Camp Coastal and for the families with whom they worked.

“Catonsville Goes Coastal’s” efforts embody the global awareness, community spirit, and civic responsibility that we as Americans should all strive to achieve. I hope that my Senate colleagues will join me in recognizing “Catonsville Goes Coastal” for their generosity and dedication to their fellow Americans.●

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF WALTER NEVADA

• Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, on April 17, Walter Nevada, the oldest living Shoshone-Bannock tribal elder and remaining original allottee on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation passed away. He was 101 years old. Walter was a distinguished member of one of the oldest tribes in Idaho. He was a religious man of wisdom respected by his people, a great teacher and leader.

The government of the Shoshone Bannock Tribes has existed for many generations. Traditional tribal government was based upon small bands of closely related families. Today the tribes are organized as a sovereign government, providing many services to tribal members and non-Indians with revenues from agriculture, business enterprises, tourism and many other operations.

Even though thousands of years have passed, the Shoshone and Bannock Tribes continue to leave an indelible mark on the ongoing history of North America and Idaho. One example is the recent successful endeavor of the Shoshone Bannocks to certify a tribal member as a Federal inspector of underground fuel storage tanks. This is the first time that this collaboration

between a tribe and the Environmental Protection Agency has occurred, and demonstrates the Shoshone Bannock Tribes' commitment to working with the U.S. Government on the critical issue of ground water protection. Also, working in coordination with State and Federal agencies, the Shoshone Bannocks have an active air quality monitoring program. The tribe continues to successfully preserve its history and way of life, while recognizing and promoting its critical role in stewardship of the environment. I have been pleased to work with them in the past, and look forward to doing so in the future.●

RECOGNIZING GARY, SOUTH DAKOTA

• Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Gary, SD. The town of Gary will celebrate the 135th anniversary of its founding this year.

Since its beginning, Gary has been a strong reflection of South Dakota's values and traditions. As they celebrate this milestone anniversary, I am confident that Gary will continue to thrive and succeed for the next 135 years.

I would like to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Gary on their anniversary and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

HONORING REV. DR. OTIS MOSS, JR.

• Mr. VOINOVICH. Madam President, I wish to honor and congratulate my friend and long-time civil rights activist, the Reverend Dr. Otis Moss, Jr. The church which he currently pastors recently celebrated 75 years of service to the Cleveland community. In July 2007, Reverend Moss will celebrate 32 years of pastoral service to the Olivet congregation.

Reverend Moss pastors the Olivet Institutional Baptist Church in the Fairfax neighborhood of my hometown of Cleveland, OH. Since 1931, Olivet has been more than a place of worship and Christian fellowship in the African-American community. It has been dedicated to preaching, teaching, and practicing the unconditional love of Jesus Christ. And as a centerpiece of the community, it has nurtured leaders who have championed civil rights and equality for the poor, and it has worked to increase awareness about poverty, health care, employment, education, and human rights.

A native of Georgia, Otis Moss, Jr., was born on February 26, 1935, to Otis and Magnolia Moss. He earned his bachelor's degree from Morehouse College in 1956 and his master of divinity degree from the Morehouse School of Religion/Inter-denominational Theological Center in 1959. He also completed special studies at the Inter-denominational Theological Center from 1960 to 1961 and earned his doctorate in ministry from the United Theological Seminary in 1990.

Reverend Moss's tenure as pastor began in 1954 in LaGrange, GA at Mount Olive Baptist Church. While leading Mount Olive, Moss also served as pastor of Atlanta's Providence Baptist Church from 1956 to 1959. He then headed to Ohio, where he was the pastor for Mount Zion Baptist Church in Lockland. In 1971, Reverend Moss served as copastor with the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr., at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. Olivet Institutional Baptist Church extended the invitation to Reverend Moss to be their pastor in December 1974. He was installed as pastor in 1975.

Reverend Moss has been involved in advocating civil and human rights and social justice issues for most of his adult life. Having been a staff member for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., he formerly served as a national board member and trustee for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change. His work in the international community has taken him around the world to Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, and Israel.

Moss is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Role Model of the Year Award from the National Institute for Responsible Fatherhood and Family Development in 1992, the Leadership Award from the Cleveland chapter of the American Jewish Committee in 1996, and, most recently, he was inducted into the 2007 Class of the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame located at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site in Atlanta. He also holds six honorary degrees from colleges and universities in Ohio, Georgia, and Arkansas.

His political and civic engagement runs deep. Moss has served as chairman of the board of trustees at Morehouse College and as a member of the board of trustees at the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. He was an advisor to former President Jimmy Carter at Camp David and was the special guest of President Bill Clinton at a peace treaty signing between Israel and Jordan in 1994. Former Ohio Governor Richard Celeste awarded Moss the 1983 Governor's Award in Civil Rights, and I had the honor of presenting Reverend Moss with the 1993 Governor's Award in Civil Rights.

His service to Ohio and the Nation has also been recognized by the Ohio House of Representatives, Ebony Magazine, Cleveland Press, the Black Professional Association of Cleveland, the American Red Cross of Greater Cleveland, Project Love: Remember the Children Foundation, The Cleveland Jewish Committee, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. He is a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples, NAACP, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Sigma Pi Phi, Boule, to name a few.

University Hospitals Health System honored Reverend Moss with a special medical center partnership bearing his name. In 1997, the Otis Moss Jr.—Uni-

versity Hospitals Medical Center was established in conjunction with the Olivet Institutional Baptist Church. The center offers a wide range of primary and specialty care medical services and features an on-site laboratory.

Reverend Moss and I share a passion for helping our children reach their full potential and lead our Nation and world into the next century and beyond. In 2003, I had the privilege of touring and visiting with Moss and his staff at the Medical Center to see how a program called "Reach Out and Read" is administered.

Reverend Moss enjoyed an abiding friendship with the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In fact, Dr. King visited the pulpit of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church on several occasions and performed the wedding ceremony for Reverend and Mrs. Moss.

Perhaps the greatest connection I share with Reverend Moss is the love and appreciation we both have for our wives. Reverend Moss is married to the former Edwina Hudson Smith, who is accomplished in her own right and is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions. She is recognized for her outstanding commitment to service as a member of the National Board of the American Red Cross. Their love is a model for us all. Sadly, Reverend Moss and I also share in the loss of a young child.

As someone who has had the pleasure of knowing and working with Reverend Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., I have seen how far his works have reached and benefited others. He has made significant contributions to his community, the State of Ohio, our Nation, and our world. Reverend Moss has shown that he lives in accordance with his strong faith in God. He is someone all of us would do well to emulate, and I am pleased and proud to salute him, his wife, their children, and grandchildren.

Thank you, Reverend Moss, for your outstanding commitment and exceptional leadership to our community. Our lives are better as a result of having been touched by you. Congratulations again to you and your Olivet family for your devotion and commitment to the Cleveland community. •

TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2007

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER BLOCKING THE PROPERTY OF PERSONS DETERMINED TO HAVE COMMITTED, OR TO POSE A SIGNIFICANT RISK OF COMMITTING, AN ACT OR ACTS OF VIOLENCE THAT HAVE THE PURPOSE OR EFFECT OF THREATENING THE PEACE OR STABILITY OF IRAQ—PM 21

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, as amended (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order blocking property of persons determined to have committed, or to pose a significant risk of committing, an act or acts of violence that have the purpose or effect of threatening the peace or stability of Iraq or the Government of Iraq or undermining efforts to promote economic reconstruction and political reform in Iraq or to provide humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi people. I issued this order to take additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, and expanded in Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13350 of July 29, 2004, and Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004. In these previous Executive Orders, I ordered various measures to address the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in that country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq.

My new order takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 and expanded in Executive Order 13315 by blocking the property and interests in property of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, to have committed, or to pose a significant risk of committing, an act or acts of violence that have the purpose or effect of threatening the peace or stability of Iraq or the Government of Iraq or undermining efforts to promote economic reconstruction and political reform in Iraq or to provide humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi people.

The order further authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, to designate for blocking those persons determined to have materially assisted, sponsored, or