

On May 22, 1968, these men were aboard a C-130A Hercules on an evening flare mission over northern Salavan Province, Laos. Fifteen minutes after the aircraft made a radio call, the crew of another U.S. aircraft observed a large ground fire near the last known location of the aircraft. Search and rescue could not be attempted due to heavy antiaircraft fire in the area.

The fate of the plane and its crew was a mystery for decades. Military investigators pursued numerous leads before locating the crash site just inside Vietnam in 2000, then spent several more years trying to identify human remains at the site.

After years of uncertainty, the families of Colonel Mason and Chief Master Sergeant Knebel can now be at peace knowing the remains of their loved ones have been found.

My heart goes out to the families of these airmen, who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our Nation. Along with all Arkansans, I am grateful for the service and sacrifice of all of our military servicemembers and their families. I am committed to ensuring they have the full support that they need and deserve. As Arkansans, and as Americans, it is incumbent upon us to do everything we can to honor their service. It is the least we can do for those whom we owe so much.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

WYNDMERE, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a community in North Dakota celebrating its 125th anniversary. On June 25 through 27, the residents of Wyndmere will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

In 1883, when North Dakota was just part of the Dakota territories, the city of Wyndmere was founded. It was named after Windermere Lake in Westmorelandshire, England, which derived from the combination of "wynd," meaning a narrow lane, and "mere," a pool or lake. The post office was established in 1884, and the Soo Line railroad crossed through town in 1888. The town flourished and became known as the Corn Capital of North Dakota.

The city was named a boom town in 1903 with multiple banks, physicians, blacksmith shops, jewelry stores, newspapers, and other businesses signaling its prosperity. Today, the city of Wyndmere and its residents are lucky to live with America's countryside in their backyard. With Shyenenne National Grasslands to enjoy, it is no surprise to find such a happy community. Wyndmere will celebrate its quasiquicentennial with activities including an all school reunion and a parade.

I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Wyndmere, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By

honoring Wyndmere and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great tradition of the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Wyndmere that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why the community of Wyndmere is deserving of our recognition.

Wyndmere has a proud past and a bright future.●

REMEMBERING JOHN W. DOUGLAS

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and career of John Woolman Douglas, who passed away on June 6, 2010, at the age of 88.

We are all familiar with the images of the 1963 civil rights march, which took place here in Washington, DC, and is still one of the largest demonstrations of its kind in the Nation's history. It was during this march, in front of the Lincoln Memorial, with the National Mall flooded with demonstrators, that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech.

The images of that day, and of Dr. King's speech, have left an indelible mark on U.S. history. These events are remembered as some of the most important moments in the struggle against racial discrimination. They are also remembered as a nonviolent and hopeful affair—a stark contrast to the violence which characterized earlier demonstrations in the deep south.

Much of the credit for the success of this historic event goes to the tireless work of an Assistant Attorney General at the Justice Department. His name was John Douglas. As the head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, Douglas was charged by President Kennedy with the responsibility for the logistics and security of the march. For five weeks in the summer of 1963, he worked tirelessly with local law enforcement, the march's organizers, and the city of Washington to ensure a peaceful, effective demonstration.

Though his efforts went largely unnoticed to most Americans, it was vital to the success of this iconic event. It was also a testament to Mr. Douglas's personal belief in ensuring that the laws of our nation protect and promote the civil rights of all citizens.

His commitment to the rule of law, and to the advancement of basic human and civil rights in the United States and across the globe, helped John Douglas find himself at the forefront of some of the most significant moments of the 20th century—events that helped shape that century into one of progress and promise.

The son of the late U.S. Senator Paul Douglas, John was a 1943 graduate of Princeton University. After serving in the Navy during World War II as an officer on a PT boat in the Pacific, he enrolled at Yale Law School, in my home State of Connecticut. In 1948, he went

on to London as a Rhodes Scholar and returned to clerk for Supreme Court Justice Harold Burton. He then embarked upon a career in private law practice and in government, during which he sought to advance the cause of justice both at home and abroad.

In 1962, Douglas was one of four men who negotiated the release of more than 1,000 anti-communist prisoners, captured and held by Cuban leader Fidel Castro after the Bay of Pigs invasion. He then served in the Kennedy Justice Department, where he was Assistant Attorney General until leaving to help his father run his final campaign for U.S. Senate in 1966.

Upon returning to private practice, he served as cochairman of the Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. In 1970, he learned that schools in the South were still placing black students in separate classes and preventing them from participating in after school activities. Under his direction dozens of volunteers travelled to the South to assist in taking legal action to stop these injustices. Throughout the 1970s and 80s, he continued working actively on civil rights issues, serving as the cochairman of the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, and also as president of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association.

Internationally, Mr. Douglas worked to advance human rights through the development of democracy across the globe. In 1985, he traveled to South Africa, where he demonstrated against apartheid. He then returned to that nation as an official election observer in 1994—the year that Nelson Mandela was elected as President of South Africa in the first multi-racial election in that nation's history. He also served as an election monitor in the African nation of Namibia on three occasions in the 1980s and 1990s.

When he saw the rule of law warped into the tool of oppressive regimes, John Douglas stood courageously on the side of justice and human rights. As chairman of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace from 1978 to 1986, he advocated for international arms controls. He also travelled to Chile in 1986 to protest the violent, oppressive regime of General Augusto Pinochet.

Clearly, he knew, just as my father Thomas Dodd, one of the lead prosecutors of the Nuremberg trials did, that the law is humanity's strongest and noblest weapon against tyranny and oppression. This is a fundamental value that John Douglas truly took to heart, and throughout his career he fought for the rule of law over the rule of the mob both at home and abroad.

His contributions to the advancement of these principles shall never be forgotten, and I extend my deepest condolences to his family for their loss.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JEFF KIMPEL

• Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, when a tornado or severe weather event

threatens the lives and property of our citizens across the country, few know that a hard-working, unsung hero is directing the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, OK, to provide advanced weather forecasting on these threats. Our friend and colleague, Dr. Jeff Kimpel, Director of the NSSL, is retiring after 13 years of Federal service as the Director of the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, OK. He will be sorely missed.

As my colleagues in the Senate know, the NSSL is best known for developing Doppler weather radar technology that led to the establishment of the national NEXRAD network consisting of more than 150 radar systems. During Dr. Kimpel's watch, NSSL performed the scientific and technological research that upgraded the NEXRADs from proprietary to open systems, added superresolution capability and designed dual-polarization upgrades. Dual-polarization will significantly increase the accuracy of rainfall estimates, delineate rain from snow, and provide an estimate of hail size. Since its installation, the NEXRAD program has reduced tornado-related deaths by 45 percent and personal injuries by 40 percent.

Under Dr. Kimpel's leadership, NSSL established strong programs in short-term cloud-resolving, numerical forecast models that are designed to yield estimates of hazardous weather events including tornadoes, windstorms, lightning, hail, and heavy precipitation. He championed radar-based rainfall analyses for flash flood and river forecasting. He was instrumental in establishing support for new facilities for NSSL that led to the eventual construction of the magnificent National Weather Center building shared with the National Weather Service and the University of Oklahoma Meteorology Program. He supported NSSL scientists and equipment to participate in 17 national and international field studies including the high profile Verification of the Origin of Tornadoes Experiment.

While Dr. Kimpel served as Director, NSSL scientists published over 600 archival, refereed journal articles, obtained 3 patents, and participated in 4 Cooperative Research and Development Agreements with private companies. NSSL employees achieved many honors and recognitions during his tenure including a NSSL affiliate being elected to the National Academy of Sciences, a senior researcher being elected to the National Academy of Engineering, and two junior colleagues being invited to the White House as winners of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

Dr. Kimpel's legacy at NSSL will be his establishment of far-reaching research programs designed to vastly improve weather and water warnings and forecasts. He worked tirelessly to launch the Multifunction Phased Array Radar initiative as a possible eventual replacement for NEXRAD. He worked

with the NWS Storm Prediction Center and the Norman Weather Forecast Office to establish the Hazardous Weather Testbed to accelerate the transition of new science into operational warning and forecasting decision processes. He worked with others to support the Warn-on-Forecast initiative that envisions a time when severe weather warnings will be issued using numerical guidance in addition to the present method of detecting precursors or the event itself. Dr. Kimpel expanded NSSL's radar-based flash flood forecasting and water management programs into coastal areas where inundation from land-falling tropical storms and hurricanes is possible.

Prior to becoming the Director of NSSL, Dr. Kimpel served in the U.S. Air Force, including a tour in Vietnam for which he was awarded the Bronze Star. He earned his graduate degrees at the University of Wisconsin before joining the meteorology faculty at the University of Oklahoma. He achieved the rank of full professor and held a number of administrative positions including dean of the College of Geosciences and provost and senior vice president of the Norman Campus. He was named a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society, is a certified, consulting meteorologist, and was elected president of the AMS in 2000. He chaired both the National Science Foundation's Advisory Committee for Atmospheric Sciences and the Board of Trustees of the University Corporation for the Atmospheric Sciences. Dr. Kimpel plans on remaining in Norman and spending more time with his five children and two grandchildren.

Is there an unsung hero protecting Americans? Yes—that hero to all of us is Dr. Jeff Kimpel. We wish him well in his future pursuits, and all of us continue to support those research and day-to-day operations he has championed at the NSSL in severe weather detection, research, and forecasting.●

TRIBUTE TO BOBBY SOUTHARD

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize Police Chief Bobby Southard of Hot Springs, AR. After a 22-year law enforcement career, Chief Southard will retire at the end of June.

Hired as a police officer in 1988, Chief Southard has enjoyed a successful career, serving as sergeant, lieutenant, captain, acting chief of police, and in February 2007 was selected as chief of the 129-person department.

Along with all Arkansans, I recognize the courage, bravery, and dedication of our Arkansas law enforcement, who risk their lives each day to keep our citizens safe. I thank these public servants for their service and sacrifice.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. FAUST ALVAREZ

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I announce to the Senate that after 24 years as chief of staff for the VA Montana Health Care System, Dr. Faust M.

Alvarez, MD, has decided to retire. Dr. Alvarez was appointed chief of staff in August 1986 and continued in that position until April 30, 2010. He began his career as a staff physician at Fort Harrison Medical Center in 1984. Prior to joining the VA system he was engaged in private practice in the city of Helena for 12 years. During this time he founded and directed the first Montana hemodialysis unit and renal program at St. Peter's Hospital.

When Dr. Alvarez became the chief of staff at the VA, he sought to provide Montana's veterans with a high quality standard of care, and to provide easier access to medical services. These were challenging goals given that the VA Montana Health Care System has only one hospital and Montana is the fourth largest State geographically. Furthermore Montana has the second largest per capita veteran populations in the country. Through hard work and dedication, he and his staff have achieved these goals and have made the VA Montana Health Care System what it is today.

In 1988 Dr. Alvarez began expanding services for veterans by creating satellite clinics. The first clinics were opened in Anaconda and Kalispell. Today the VA Montana Health Care System has a presence in every major city in the state through 12 satellite outpatient facilities. Three of these facilities have telemedicine access and more are to be activated.

Through Dr. Alvarez's leadership and the hard working personnel of VA Montana, the VA Montana Medical System has been recognized on numerous occasions for its quality medical services. In 2005 the VA Montana was selected as the Nation's VA hospital of the year. Dr. Alvarez believes that Montana's veterans should expect and receive the highest quality medical care and services, and he has strived to ensure this expectation is met. By hiring board certified medical personnel, acquiring new state of the art equipment and incorporating current medical trends into the provision of healthcare services at VA Montana, Dr. Alvarez, and his staff, have made the VA Montana Health Care System the facility of choice for veterans across the State.

I thank Dr. Alvarez for his dedicated years of service. We are all proud of his accomplishments at VA Montana and the positive affect that the VA has had across the State during his tenure. I appreciate his initiative and hard work to continually improve medical services for Montana's veterans and to ensure our veterans receive appropriate care. I am certain that those who come after will maintain the same level of commitment and leadership.

Dr. Alvarez is a fellow of the American College of Physicians, an honorary designation recognizing scholarly and professional achievements in internal medicine. Dr. Alvarez was appointed by various Governors of the State of Montana to the State Board of Medical Examiners where he served for a total of 18 years.