

mount that what Taiwan desperately needs to restore the cross-strait balance and regain the ability to defend its own airspace is new fighter aircraft to bolster an air force that is borderline obsolete.

It is my understanding that the administration may favor selling Taiwan upgrade kits for its existing fleet of F-16 A/Bs, instead of selling Taiwan brand new fighters. Such a tradeoff will not enhance the security of Taiwan. What Taiwan's air force needs is new F-16s and the ability to deploy them in sufficient numbers to strengthen its defensive posture. Simply upgrading airframes that are more than 20 years old is not a solution—it is nothing more than a public relations Band-Aid. Efforts to upgrade Taiwan's air fleet have to be coupled with the sale of new aircraft that can serve for two decades or more into the future.

Another important consideration is the shrinking time window for this purchase. The continuing production of new F-16s is dependent on foreign sales. It is my understanding that, if no new overseas orders are secured this year, the thousands of U.S. suppliers who help build the F-16 will begin shuttering that capability. Once this happens, it will be very difficult and expensive to restart the supply chain. Washington has a longstanding habit of putting off difficult decisions, but the decision on whether to sell new F-16s to Taiwan is literally now or never.

As the DIA report made clear, the majority of Taiwan's 400 fighter aircraft need to be retired or upgraded. Within the next 5 years, Taiwan will have to mothball or scrap more than 100 combat aircraft—one-quarter of its current force. Without the ability to augment its air force with new F-16 aircraft, as well as updates to its existing fleet, Taiwan will lose all ability to project a defensive umbrella over the island. The repercussions of a rising and potentially aggressive China, able to dominate the airspace over Taiwan, demands the attention of our military planners, government officials, and Members of Congress because it opens the door for China to use force against Taiwan. To that end, I was proud to recently join with 43 of my Senate colleagues in sending a letter to President Obama urging him to act swiftly to provide Taiwan with the F-16s that are critical to preserving Taiwan's self-defense capabilities.

It is time to recommit ourselves to strengthening the ties that bind the U.S. and Taiwan together—from arms sales to free-trade agreements. Doing so will promote peace and stability in the region, while also protecting U.S. and Taiwanese security interests. I urge President Obama and his administration to move quickly and work with Taiwan to notify the sale of these fighter jets to Congress.

NEVER TO FORGET

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, last week Senator COCHRAN, Senator GRASSLEY,

Senator SHELBY, and I travelled to Flanders Field, the American Cemetery and Memorial in Belgium. We visited the cemetery on the eve of Memorial Day to take part in a ceremony honoring Americans who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

The U.S. Ambassador to Belgium, Howard W. Gutman, shared an extraordinary poem he had written at the commemoration. "Never to Forget" is a tribute to those who gave their lives for our country and also a reminder that we must heed the lessons of our past to create a better future for our children.

I would like to share Ambassador Gutman's poem with my colleagues. I ask unanimous consent that a copy be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NEVER TO FORGET MEMORIAL DAY 2011

We commemorate Memorial Day never to forget.

Never to forget who they were.
Men and women of many titles.
To some they were sergeant or colonel or general;
To others they were mom or dad,
Uncle or aunt . . .
Son or daughter.
To us, they are all heroes.
We honor them all.
And we honor their parents who lost children.

We honor their children who lost parents.
As a head of one of our American Battlefield cemeteries once told me:
For those buried in his cemetery
They remain each day on active duty. . .
And on each day that we fail to remember them . . . that we fail to honor them . . . they have served a day without a mission.

Every soldier is entitled to his mission.
Here at Ardennes American Cemetery/Henrichappelle—we—Belgians and Americans, parents and children—we are that mission.

We commemorate Memorial Day never to forget.

Never to forget what they did.
Every one of them understood when they joined that the road would be rough.

They knew that this was not about television commercials boasting pressed uniforms and glistening shoes or steeds clashing on chessboards.

They knew this was not about training exercises amidst sunny days in North Carolina,

They knew instead that this was about life and death.

They knew that for every moment of thrill, there could be months of fear.

But they knew that the rest of us needed them. They knew our fellow world citizens had been victims of murder or terror.

Perhaps they knew in 1915 that the poppies and the hearts of Belgians had been trampled on the way to 9 million deaths in WWI.

Or perhaps they knew in 1944 that Max Gutman was hiding in the woods in Poland after every other Jew in his small town of Biyala Rafka had been slaughtered. Maybe they knew that his dream one day to come to America, to raise a future U.S. Ambassador to Belgium, had nearly been extinguished along

with the future for so many Poles and Catholics and Jews.

Maybe they knew in 2001 that our citizens had been the victims of terror and remained under threat.

Whenever they served, wherever they served, they knew we needed someone to help, to respond, to free, to save, to protect.

And they said, "I will."

We commemorate Memorial Day never to forget the face of evil.

We welcome all into the brotherhood of man. We will meet you far more than half way. We and our allies will send our diplomats, help feed your poor, and treat you with respect. But threaten none, harm even fewer,

We commemorate Memorial Day never to forget.

Never to forget what they died for.

Can you hear them each and every one of the 5323 buried here and the tens of thousands buried elsewhere . . .

Can you hear them?

If not, it is because you are listening with your ears.

But on Memorial Day, we listen not with our ears, but instead with our hearts.

And with our hearts we can hear them loudly and clearly.

They tell us that they lived in a country that believed in freedom and understood right from wrong.

And they tell us that they believed in service, in duty, in the mission of creating a better world.

They tell us never to forget, but certainly to move forward and build bridges where pools of hatred previously existed.

They fought and they died to move us a step closer towards the brotherhood of man. We must never use their memory as an excuse not to get there.

Thus while we can never forget, while we will never forget, we will forgive those who have followed. Where we faced each other to the death, we will walk together to rebuild a better life.

And that may be the most enduring lesson—lessons for Belgium, for Europe, for the Middle East, or for all places where tensions rooted in the mistakes or ill deeds of the past threaten the progress of the future.

The lessons are that we need not carry the blame nor clear the name of our parents and grandparents looking back.

Rather that we build a better name for our children and our grandchildren going forward. That we must use the lessons of the past to carve a better future.

We are so used to the expression "Forgive but don't forget." And of course Memorial Day proclaims that we shall never forget.

But in making sure we don't forget, sometimes we don't truly forgive.

We commemorate Memorial Day never to forget precisely so that we can forgive.

—Ambassador Howard Gutman

TRIBUTE TO RICK COCHRAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, my fellow Members of the U.S. Senate have heard me say this before, but today I have reason to say it again: Vermonters are some of the most innovative and hardworking people in this country. The U.S. Small Business Administration recently highlighted one of these great individuals when it named Rick Cochran of the Mobile Medical International Corporation in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, as the 2011

National Small Business Person of the Year.

Mr. Cochran deserves this recognition for his many years of hard work building a successful small business that provides mobile, combat-ready shelter systems both in the U.S. and abroad. In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Air Force, and others, Mr. Cochran and his team provide quality medical services to the many dedicated men and woman worldwide who put their lives at risk in the military. Mr. Cochran has also deployed mobile surgical units across the globe to developing countries, giving third world countries cost-effective mobile access to modern medical facilities.

From an otherwise nondescript industrial building in St. Johnsbury, Mobile Medical has touched the lives of thousands of people from across the globe. Whether the company is shipping units to the Middle East, deploying units with National Guard soldiers, or quickly delivering aid to communities devastated by natural disasters here at home, the men and women who have engineered and manufactured these mobile medical facilities have found a novel and cost-effective way to deliver state-of-the-art medical care in some of the world's most challenging environments. Just last week, I learned that Mobile Medical had already deployed mobile healthcare facilities to assist in the recovery efforts in Joplin, MO, following the catastrophic weather that left hundreds dead and thousands more injured.

Mr. Cochran and his staff have improved the lives of others both abroad and locally, as their business has created hundreds of job opportunities for Vermonters in our rural Northeast Kingdom. As a longtime supporter of Mobile Medical, I was pleased to see this locally owned business recognized for the great work it has done in Vermont and across the globe.

I continue to be proud of the many small businesses thriving across Vermont. And today I am especially proud of the work of one small business that has succeeded both financially and socially Mobile Medical International Corporation of St. Johnsbury, VT. I wish Rick and his business continued success in the future. I also ask that the May 20, 2011, U.S. Small Business Administration announcement of this award be printed in the RECORD.

The information follows:

VERMONT MANUFACTURER OF MOBILE HEALTH CARE UNITS IS NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

[Friday, May 20, 2011]

WASHINGTON.—When Rick Cochran was working with five employees in his basement in Walden, Vt., his dream was to find a way to provide advanced medical care to underserved areas, and build a company that could deliver it.

Today, the Vermont manufacturer of state-of-the-art mobile healthcare and diagnostic units was named 2011 National Small Business Person of the year by Karen Mills,

Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration. Mills made the announcement during ceremonies at SBA's celebration of National Small Business Week in Washington, D.C.

First runner-up is Deborah Carey, president and founder of the New Glarus Brewing Company, in New Glarus in southwestern Wisconsin. Second runner-up is Leigh Kamstra, owner and chef of Roma's Ristorante in Spearfish, S.D., north of the Black Hills.

"The innovation, inspiration and determination shown by Rick Cochran and his employees have elevated his company, Mobile Medical International, to a level that is above and beyond the norm," said Mills. "These are the qualities that make small businesses such a powerful force for job creation in the American economy and in their local communities. Rick had a dream and he persisted—creating jobs, winning the loyalty of his team, and filling a need in the marketplace that has taken Mobile Medical from his basement to a worldwide stage. We are especially proud that when Rick Cochran's company needed financing, he turned to the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the SBA was able to help him."

"I applaud Rick and his team, and I applaud the runners-up and their staffs, and all of the state small business persons of the year who are here today," Mills said. "We are all grateful for their contributions to our economy. They are magnificent examples of the character of America's most successful entrepreneurs."

The National Small Business Person of the Year and runners-up were selected from among the state winners in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and Guam. All are being honored this week in Washington, D.C., as part of National Small Business Week. The awards were announced at today's National Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Sam's Club at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

For Cochran the road began when he left a job at an advanced medical equipment provider to establish his first venture, Outpatient Services of America, a consulting firm specializing in planning and developing ambulatory surgery centers. His plan evolved in 1994, when he researched and created an initial design for a mobile surgery unit and established Mobile Medical International, working from his basement with a staff of five. By 1995, he had the capital, and by 1996, he had his prototype.

At first, he provided temporary solutions for hospitals undergoing renovations, but he was able to expand the business into broader commercial, military, and emergency response applications worldwide. During one rough patch in 1999, much of his core team—inspired by Cochran's perseverance, optimism and faith—worked without pay when financing ran dry and the company nearly closed its doors. They were reimbursed later, when the company rebounded. The company also secured financing support from three SBA-backed loans in 1997, 2005 and 2008.

MMI's products include mobile surgical hospitals built into a semi-sized tractor-trailer and an inflatable hospital ward that fits into a trailer pulled by a Humvee. To date, MMI has 22 mobile healthcare units in its product line, including Mobile Breast Care Centers, Mobile Intensive Care, Mobile Laboratory/Pharmacy, Mobile CT Scan/Dental/Ophthalmology, Mobile Ophthalmology and Mobile Endoscopy Units.

Today, MMI's staff has grown to 54, and net income—just \$9,835 in 2008—rose in 2010 to \$1.68 million on gross revenues of more than \$14 million.

First runner-up Carey developed her business plan for the New Glarus Brewing Com-

pany while her husband Dan, a master brewer, gathered the materials, grains and equipment needed for start-up. In 1993 they negotiated to lease a warehouse in New Glarus, exchanging the lease for stock in the company. They sold their home and raised \$40,000 in seed money, yet still needed more cash to fund the startup. Carey pitched her story to local newspapers, and the media attention brought in \$200,000 from investors.

In the early days, the couple worked hard to establish the brewery's reputation for consistent quality beers. Carey based her plan on developing a very loyal customer base. She set up beer tasting classes along with offering brewery tours, and the brewery started to take off, attracting notice from distributors. New Glarus Brewing Company has grown to 50 full-time employees, has registered growth in profits of 123 percent from 2007 to 2009, and is Wisconsin's number one micro-brewery relative to sales volume.

Kamstra, the second runner-up, had been eyeing an old, dilapidated stone building that had stood empty while she was a college student attending Black Hills State University. She didn't know exactly at the time how or why, but she knew somehow her future would be in that building.

After earning a degree in business and 10 years in banking, Kamstra changed course and earned a degree in culinary arts at the Colorado Institute of art. In 1999, with the help of an SBA-guaranteed loan, Kamstra leased the old dilapidated building, refurbished it and opened Roma's Ristorante. When the old building proved too small, Kamstra adapted, securing another SBA-backed loan in 2010 to finance construction of a new building, with more space. Since then, sales have nearly doubled and staff has increased from 11 to 35.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GRACE S. MATTERN

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I recognize and congratulate Grace S. Mattern for her 30 years of service on behalf of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Since its inception, the coalition has become a leader in the struggle for victims', women's, and children's rights. Over the past quarter century, Grace has shaped the way domestic violence and sexual assault is understood and responded to in New Hampshire. Under Grace's leadership, the coalition has developed a nationally recognized model for protocols, state law, and health care initiatives. On the local level, there has been no victim-centered legislation in which Grace has not played a major part.

One of Grace's strongest attributes is her ability to work with people and facilitate meetings in a productive way. She has worked tirelessly to encourage everyone to work together to strengthen efforts to end domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Her work includes participation in many boards and commissions both nationally and locally.

Grace has been involved in various projects that involve groundbreaking work not only for New Hampshire but also for the country. Because of her leadership in 1997, the coalition, in conjunction with the State, was selected