

funding for basic services such as police, fire, and streets. He downsized city government, reducing the workforce by more than 12 percent, implemented an early retirement program that is estimated will save the City more than \$5 million, and built up the City's reserve funds.

He worked aggressively to retain and attract businesses and good jobs, and he made transportation a top priority. Amtrak expanded service between Quincy and Chicago after Mayor Spring and others advocated for more downstate Illinois passenger rail. Cape Air, a partner of American Airlines/American Eagle, expanded its Quincy-St. Louis service, recently crossing the 10,000-passenger mark. Mayor Spring also worked with Cape Air CEO Dan Wolf and regional economic development leaders to open a maintenance facility at the airport, creating a number of good-paying local jobs.

John Spring had big shoes to fill in 2005. His predecessor, Mayor Chuck Scholz, served as Quincy's mayor for 12 years and left a record of success. John Spring built on that record. Chuck Scholz helped bring Quincy into the 21st century, and John Spring positioned Quincy even more firmly to compete and win in this century's global economy.

I mentioned that Mayor Spring was a political rookie. He spent most of his career—nearly 30 years—as a teacher, counselor and coach at Quincy Notre Dame High School. In his final post at the school, as director of the Quincy Notre Dame Foundation, he was instrumental in the survival of this Catholic high school which is so important to Quincy.

Mayor Spring has been active in many other community organizations and efforts, from the Salvation Army to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial and exchanges with Quincy's Sister City, Herford, Germany.

In January 2010, John Spring called a press conference at which he announced with his typical honesty and humility that he had prostate cancer. He recalled that when he ran for mayor he had pledged that serving the city of Quincy was his highest priority and he said that nothing, not even cancer, would keep him from serving the city he loved. He began a 9-week course of radiation treatments—about 15 minutes every weekday morning—and reported to City Hall for work after every session.

I am happy to report that John's health is good and that he more than lived up to his pledge of putting the people of Quincy first.

Quincy's nickname is Gem City. In John Spring, they have had a gem of a mayor. I will miss working with Mayor Spring, but I know that he has earned a break from public service. I wish John and his wife Karen and their children and grandchildren all the best. And I would simply say to them: Thank you for lending the city of Quincy your husband, father, and grand-

father. He has made Quincy's future much brighter. His energy, dedication, and effective leadership will be missed at City Hall and by all of us who worked with him.

KOREA'S REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Mr. CARDIN. I thank Republic of Korea, ROK, President Park Geun-hye for her thought-provoking and heartfelt address on May 8 to a joint meeting of Congress. President Park is a testament to her nation's resilience. Like her country, she has courageously weathered difficulties and emerged as a strong leader on the global stage—her nation's first woman President.

Her momentous visit to the United States came at an opportune time to underscore the solidarity and cooperation between our two countries. Our deep ties with the Korean people stretch back to Korea's Chosun Dynasty, when we established diplomatic relations in 1882. One hundred and thirty-one years later, we are expanding our relationship in new ways.

This year we celebrate 60 years of the U.S.-ROK alliance, established in 1953 by our Mutual Defense Treaty. In Korean culture, which greatly respects its elders, the 60th birthday of a person's life, called a "hwang-gap," holds great significance. It acknowledges the wisdom and maturity that a person attains by the peak of a productive life.

And so, too, has the U.S.-Korea relationship proven fruitful and productive. Our relationship is more than a military alliance; it is a comprehensive partnership. Our people-to-people ties are strong; per capita, South Korea sends more students to the United States to study than any other industrialized country. We cooperate on counterterrorism efforts and on development assistance. One year ago, we demonstrated our commitment to strengthen our economies with the signing of our free trade agreement.

South Koreans have created an economic "Miracle on the Han River" out of a country once leveled by war. The country has risen from being an aid recipient to becoming a world economic power, which now lends a hand to help other nations flourish.

The Republic of Korea had a GDP per capita of \$79 in 1960; today its GDP per capita is over \$30,000. It is one of the fastest growing developed countries in the world. And we are proud to have played a role in helping our friend climb from poverty to prosperity, in contrast to its northern neighbor, whose people continue to suffer greatly from poverty.

So there is much to celebrate during this 60th year of our alliance. And President Park has attested to the strength of the enduring global alliance between the Republic of Korea and the United States. This is an historic anniversary, not only of our friendship, but of the end of the Korean war.

Since the end of the war, the Republic of Korea has practiced restraint and mature diplomacy in the face of tremendous threats, continued bellicose rhetoric, and provocative actions from North Korea. This is in no small part due to the strength of the U.S.-ROK alliance and our close cooperation.

As President Park has demonstrated in her determined but flexible approach, we need to preserve stability on the Korean peninsula and in the region by acting decisively together to address both North Korea's provocations and the dire humanitarian situation there.

North Korea continues to threaten U.S. interests and the security of our friends and allies. As chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, I have been closely watching the alarming developments following North Korea's February 12 nuclear test, including its declaration that it nullified the 1953 armistice, and its decision to shut down the Kaesong industrial complex, and its repeated threats to strike the United States and our allies. And I am deeply concerned about American citizen Kenneth Bae, who last week was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor in a North Korea gulag for "hostile acts" against the country and Kim Jong-Un's regime.

We must do more to reach an international solution on bringing North Korea back into the denuclearization process. It is essential to ensure the continued safety of Americans and our allies in the Asia-Pacific region and to prevent a nuclear arms race in the strategically critical Korean peninsula.

And we must not forget the humanitarian crisis that is besieging the North Korean people, as they are often imprisoned, starved, and deprived of civil liberties and freedoms at the hands of a ruthless authoritarian state.

So what more can we do? This March, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing on North Korea which underscored the importance of working with the United Nations Security Council to strengthen sanctions on North Korea. The United States has intensified coordination on addressing the North Korean threat with Japan and developed a new counter-provocation plan with the Republic of Korea. In April, I chaired a Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs hearing during which we discussed ways to work with China to help change North Korea's dangerous path.

I was pleased to see Secretary Kerry, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Dempsey, and Deputy Secretary Burns travel to China to seek China's help to rein in North Korea. And I welcomed the recent visit of the Chinese chairman of the six-party talks, Wu Dawei, to Washington.

It was encouraging to see China strongly support UN Security Council Resolution 2094. This resolution imposes tough new financial sanctions which will block North Korea from

moving money to pay for its nuclear and ballistic missile programs and makes arms smuggling and proliferation more difficult. The sanctions will only be successful if all countries rigorously implement and enforce them.

The international community, including the U.S., must sustain sanctions and continue systematic pressure. We hope that China will be sincere in implementing these sanctions and reduce its economic support of North Korea.

New sanctions alone, however, cannot halt the pattern of North Korean provocations and broken promises. The United States will not reward bad behavior. We must use all of the diplomatic, military, financial, and multilateral tools at our disposal in a newly coordinated effort to move beyond the current stalemate.

Along with Senators MENENDEZ, CORKER, and others, I have cosponsored the North Korea Nonproliferation and Accountability Act of 2013, which would direct the Department of State to undertake a comprehensive review of our North Korea policy to look for creative ways to re-engage. If North Korea shows a serious intent to denuclearize, halt its proliferation activities and improve human rights, we should be open to bilateral talks, as Secretary Kerry stated on his April trip to the region. We must continue to prepare for the worst while hoping for the best. We stand by Japan, South Korea, and other allies in providing extended nuclear deterrence under our "nuclear umbrella." And the international community stands with us in condemning North Korean aggression and belligerent actions.

At the same time, we should separate humanitarian concerns from politics. New ROK President Park Geun-hye has launched a policy of de-linking humanitarian aid to North Korea from diplomatic developments. Previously, the U.S. has done the same, funding food aid to North Korea from 2008 to 2009. We should consider reinstating such food aid to North Korea based on demonstrated need and our ability to verify that the food will reach the intended recipients. Congress and the administration must track the delivery of aid to make sure it reaches the people who so desperately need it.

American development workers now provide humanitarian assistance in North Korea without U.S. Government assistance, giving North Koreans an opportunity to encounter the goodwill of the American people. In June 2012, a United Nations evaluation team confirmed that over 60 percent of the population continues to suffer from chronic food insecurity. Hungry people can focus only on survival and have no additional energy to direct toward bettering their lives or changing the environment or regime around them. So we must extend our hand to the North Korean people by supporting the NGO community's basic humanitarian efforts to provide lifesaving services

such as supplemental school feeding, increased agricultural production, clean water, and medical assistance programs.

The humanitarian crisis is further compounded by gross human rights violations. People are trying to cross the border in search of food and then being imprisoned in forced labor camps when they are caught leaving the country. Reports indicate that approximately 138,000 people were being held in detention centers in 2011, where they are beaten, tortured, and starved. These human rights violations merit international condemnation and accountability. I urge UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Pillay and Special Rapporteur Darusman to establish a mechanism of inquiry through the UN Human Rights Council to document these egregious human rights violations expeditiously.

I have great concerns about North Korea's political trajectory, but I believe that a broader humanitarian engagement holds a long-term promise of enhancing regional peace and security. President Park Geun-hye has taken a similar approach. I applaud her tremendous courage and welcome her visit on this historic occasion.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The Mental Health America organization began this campaign in 1949 in an effort to raise awareness of mental health conditions and mental wellness. Even after more than 60 years, however, we are still fighting against the stigma of mental illness and for greater access to mental health services for all Americans.

I would like to call particular attention to mental health issues affecting our Active-Duty service men and women, our veterans, and the impact of these issues on thousands of military families.

The protracted military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq have made mental health disorders some of the "signature" wounds our military members experience upon returning from these conflicts. A comprehensive study by RAND found that approximately 18.5 percent of those returning from deployment reported symptoms consistent with a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD, or depression. And up to 30 percent of troops returning home from combat develop serious mental health problems within 3 to 4 months. Unfortunately, due to the stigma associated with seeking help and the fear of risking their careers, our service men and women often do not seek the care they desperately need and are entitled to receive.

In fact, according to a recent Department of Defense, DoD, report, mental health disorders are the leading cause of disability among U.S. military members. Recent studies illustrate that out

of the 1.4 million Active-Duty servicemembers, mental health disorders are the leading cause of hospitalization among men and the second leading cause for women, only after pregnancy-related conditions.

The five most common mental disorders our military members face are post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD, major depression, bipolar disorder, alcohol dependence, and substance dependence. These disorders are likely to be chronic in nature or long-lasting in duration.

Since mental health issues often aren't immediately addressed on Active Duty, we see even higher numbers of mental illness diagnoses among our veterans. According to the Department of Veteran Affairs, VA, the number of veterans receiving specialized mental health treatment from the VA has risen each year, from 927,052 in fiscal year 2006 to more than 1.3 million in fiscal year 2012.

One major reason for this increase is the VA's proactive screening of all veterans to identify those who may have symptoms of depression, PTSD, or problem use of alcohol or drugs. As we anticipate a growing number of incoming veterans with this need for care, increasing availability of qualified mental health professionals is absolutely imperative.

I commend VA Secretary Shinseki's recent decision to hire an additional 1,600 mental health staff at the VA. We know our veterans need these services and we must do everything we can to provide them with the care they need.

The invisible wounds of war are not new—they were called "shell shock" or "combat fatigue" after World War I and World War II, or "post-Vietnam syndrome" after Vietnam. But there are unique features stemming from our prolonged engagement in Iraq and Afghanistan.

First, our troops have experienced more frequent deployments of longer duration while having shorter "dwell time," creating a more stressful environment.

Second, we have the highest rate of survivability in history for serious injuries such as amputations, severe burns, and spinal cord damage, leading to greater need for mental health care.

Third, the prevalence of traumatic brain injury, TBI, from improvised explosive devices, IEDs, and other blasts have increased the number of combat veterans with mild to severe diagnoses, which are linked to other psychological comorbidities.

It took the DoD and the VA too long, unfortunately, to realize that their medical care system must provide the same level of expertise, resources, and dedication to address the psychological wounds of war as they do for physical ones.

Although the DoD and the VA have made progress in the past 5 years, there is still a great gap between the mental health needs of our military members and their access to quality care.