

Any possibility that Russia is playing a hand in killing American and Pennsylvania soldiers must be thoroughly investigated. President Trump's silence indicates not only that he doesn't care about Russian threats to national security, but apparently he doesn't care that American lives might be at risk because of Russian aggression. To date, the majority in the Senate has not taken appropriate action to hold this President accountable for his failure to act or investigate these serious allegations.

ELECTION SECURITY

Mr. President, despite these recent failures abroad, one of the biggest challenges we all face right now is the pressing threat to our democracy.

As Americans across the Nation are currently casting their ballots by way of voting early in person or voting by mail for the next President of the United States, we are seeing increasing reports of Russian efforts to interfere in our election.

The CIA has concluded that Vladimir Putin is likely directly involved in Russian efforts to promote disinformation, sow discord, and carry out cyber attacks on the United States. I cite for this the New York Times September 22, 2020, article.

Former Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats, a former Republican Senator here from Indiana on two different occasions—he served his State twice in that capacity—wrote in an op-ed recently:

If we fail to take every conceivable effort to ensure the integrity of our election, the winners will not be Donald Trump or Joe Biden, Republicans or Democrats. The only winners will be Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping and Ali Khamenei.

Leaders, of course, of China and Iran. Despite clear evidence, President Trump continues to deny Russian misconduct, and he continues to contradict our intelligence community.

We should ask, what is the obligation of the Senate? I spent 4 years—as many people have—urging the President from afar, at least, to actively demonstrate to us that his love of country outweighs his affinity for Putin. At this point in time, I don't expect his behavior to change. But it is incumbent—in-cumbent—upon the U.S. Senate, as part of a coequal branch of government, to call out the President and to hold him accountable when he engages in these kinds of actions or inactions, as the case may be.

The Senate has taken some actions. This body has passed a number of substantive sanctions: the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act—so-called CAATSA—against Russia for its aggression in Ukraine and interference in the 2016 election. That was the right thing to do and an appropriate thing to do.

The Senate Intelligence Committee and other committees of jurisdiction have done important work documenting Russia's interference in the 2016 election, but that is not enough.

The work cannot stop there. Russia has continued, will continue, and will continue to succeed in undermining our national security if we allow them.

The silence of Senate Republicans on this issue of the President's total deference to Putin has become, in my judgment, complicity. Those who fail to stand up and loudly express their alarm are tacitly showing their approval. Their failure to take action is also its own danger to our democracy.

Instead of prioritizing the unprecedented public health and economic crisis that is in front of us, some Republican-led committees—not all but some—are prioritizing a partisan political investigation, the basis for which stems directly from a known Russian disinformation campaign.

In the face of intelligence reports showing that the Russians are once again seeking to influence this election, Senate Republicans have refused to pass a single piece of substantive election security legislation.

There is still time. I will give one example or one suggestion to the majority. The SAFE Act, which requires paper ballots in Federal elections and would authorize \$775 million in grants to help States secure their voting systems, passed the House 450 days ago, but Majority Leader McCONNELL would rather let this bill gather dust on his desk than take meaningful action to protect our democracy, to protect our election. The unwillingness to protect our elections from foreign interference is a dereliction of duty by the majority.

Finally, in conclusion, I call on my colleagues to answer the call of duty to protect our election, protect our democracy, and protect our national security against malign and persistent Russian influence and interference orchestrated by the man President Trump has never criticized.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

REMEMBERING AMBASSADOR RICHARD SCHIFTER

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I mourn the loss of a tremendous champion for human rights and the State of Israel and one of my personal heroes and mentors, Ambassador Richard Schifter. Ambassador Schifter lived a truly remarkable life. After escaping Nazi-occupied Austria in 1938, he bravely returned to Europe just a few short years later as one of the U.S. Army's "Ritchie Boys", German-speaking officers trained in counterintelligence at Camp Ritchie in Maryland. While serving in Europe, he learned that all of his family had been killed in the Holocaust. At just over 20 years old, Ambassador Schifter had experienced more adversity than most of us see in a lifetime. Nevertheless, he spent the next seven decades demonstrating incredible

faith and courage as he strived to make the world a better place.

Ambassador Schifter was successful in this mission. After he graduated from Yale Law School, he went on to become an attorney, advocating for the rights of Native American Tribes facing discrimination at the hands of the U.S. Government. Under Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush, he served as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, U.S. Representative to the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Commission, and as Deputy U.S. Representative to the UN Security Council. Under President Clinton, he served as Special Assistant to the President on the staff of the National Security Council and as Special Advisor to the Secretary of State. As a diplomat and public servant, he fought against oppressive regimes around the world. He pressured the Soviet Union to release political prisoners, end the criminalization of dissent, and allow the emigration of Soviet Jews. After leaving the U.S. Government, Ambassador Schifter went on the lead the American Jewish International Relations Institute, where he fiercely defended the State of Israel and worked to ensure that other people would never suffer his family's fate under the Nazis. Until his last day, Ambassador Schifter fought to promote fairness and democracy and to protect the security and freedom of others.

I would be remiss if I failed to commemorate Ambassador Schifter's enormous impact on our home State of Maryland. Ambassador Schifter served for 20 years on the Maryland State Board of Education, leading both the Governor's Commission on Funding the Education of Handicapped Children and the Governor's Commission on Values Education. He was also the chairman of the Montgomery County Democratic Committee. In all these roles, he worked to expand equality and opportunity for everyone in our State. Even as his professional responsibilities spanned the globe, Ambassador Schifter remained committed to building a brighter future for his neighbors.

Ambassador Schifter's passing is a staggering loss, but his legacy lives on and will serve as the true North Star for all of us who share his devotion to human rights, democracy, and decency. His parent's decision in 1938 to send their 15-year-old son to a new country, alone, saved not just his life, but also countless others on whose behalf Ambassador Schifter worked so indefatigably throughout his illustrious career. I extend my deepest condolences Ambassador Schifter's children and grandchildren and all those who were fortunate enough to call Ambassador Schifter a friend.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE CURTIS FAMILY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Dawn Curtis and her late husband Danny Curtis on being named 2020 Angels in Adoption award recipients.

The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, CCAI, was established in 2001 to raise awareness about the need for adoption in the United States and eliminate barriers standing between orphan and foster children becoming part of a family. Angels in Adoption is the CCAI's signature public awareness program, which annually recognizes outstanding individuals, families, and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to adoption, permanency, and child welfare. I am honored to congratulate Dawn and Danny Curtis for their exemplary work that led to this well-deserved national honor.

Dawn and Danny had two biological children and dreamed of a bigger family. The call to expand their family was answered during a visit to their local Walmart, where Dawn and Danny were browsing a photo album of children in foster care at a booth hosted by the Arkansas Department of Human Services. They fell in love with the picture of a 4-year-old girl and learned she had three brothers. The siblings had been in the foster care system for 3 years and multiple homes when the couple adopted all four of the children.

After their first adoption experience, Dawn decided to follow her passion to work with children in foster care and obtained her master's degree in social work. She went on to work for the Arkansas Department of Human Services and served in a variety of roles during her career, including as an adoption specialist. During these years, the family was approached to consider adopting others in foster care and eventually added six more children to their home.

Danny worked for many years as a police officer and a bus driver while caring for his growing family. Danny and Dawn also visited Washington, DC, on several occasions to advocate for adoption and children in foster care. The 12 Curtis children span 20 years of age and are all adults now, but the example and dedication of their parents continues to move everyone around them.

The Curtis family is an amazing example of putting love into action. Their personal commitment changed the lives of the children they brought into their family and serves as an inspiration for others as to the impact of foster care and adoption.●

REMEMBERING NORMAN HARRY

• Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I come forward today to recognize the life and service of Norman Harry, wise leader of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, fierce advocate for the environ-

ment and a friend to all Nevadans. On the morning of August 11, 2020, Mr. Harry passed peacefully at his home in Nixon, NV, his family surrounding him in love. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Harry was born to Floyd and Charlotte Harry on October 20, 1954, and was raised on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation in addition to spending time with family on the Walker River Paiute Reservation. At Fernley High School, he played basketball and was a member of the rodeo club, going on to gain recognition as a competitive team roper and talented rodeo photographer as a young man.

On December 21, 1990, he married Beverly, and together, they have a son, Jared, and a daughter, Autumn. He was dedicated to his family and to his people and was recognized as a national leader in the environmental justice movement as he was a tireless advocate for his people, the lands, the water, and the bounty our natural world provides.

Mr. Harry's legacy includes his historic work protecting Northern Nevada's Pyramid Lake. Under his leadership, the Truckee River Operating Agreement was completed and settled decades of litigation over water rights and preserving the flow of water to Pyramid Lake and securing it for future generations.

Over the years, Mr. Harry served in many roles for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, including as Tribal chair for three terms and vice chair. He fought many battles to protect water quality in northern Nevada and waged a multiyear battle that ended the open burning of munitions at the Sierra Army Depot in Herlong, CA, a practice that sent toxic clouds eastward over the nearby Pyramid Lake Paiute tribal lands and northern Nevada. In 2005, he fought for the removal of 13 tons of rockets, shells, and ammunition from Pyramid Lake left by the military going back to World War II. He served as chairman of the board for Great Basin Mine Watch and, through his life, urged other Tribal leaders to get involved in protecting groundwater and environmental resources for the people. He mentored and taught countless other activists and organizers to champion issues of environmental protection.

Today, I celebrate the life and many contributions of Mr. Norman Harry, and I offer my sincere condolences to his family and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. The State of Nevada is a better place because we were lucky enough to call Norman Harry one of our own. His activism, leadership, knowledge, and voice will be sorely missed.●

RECOGNIZING RANDY DRUVENGA

• Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I am honored to congratulate Waverly's Randy Druvenga on the conclusion of his tenure as Chair of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies—NAMIC—a member organization

of property and casualty insurance companies. Randy has helped lead this organization through its 125th year of existence, including the NAMIC Mutual Insurance Foundation's drive to raise \$125,000 for scholarships to help talented young Americans pursue their college degrees toward careers in insurance. It is fitting that Randy led NAMIC during this milestone anniversary as the association was founded by Iowans in 1895.

While the Hawkeye State is happy to share Randy with NAMIC, we are most proud of his servant leadership in his home State. Randy has served as the past president of the Mutual Insurance Association of Iowa and is currently president of First Maxfield Mutual Insurance Association, a farm mutual insurance company serving more than 7,900 policyholders in northeast Iowa. He is a constant presence in his community, supporting numerous causes including the Waverly-Shell Rock Community Schools Foundation, and as a former referee and member of the Iowa High School Athletic Association Officials Hall of Fame.

I want to again congratulate Randy Druvenga for his leadership. Iowans are famous for their commitment to their communities, and Randy embodies that spirit at home and beyond.●

REMEMBERING MIRIAM STAHL

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, today I would like to honor the life of a woman who made immense contributions to improve the lives of children throughout New Hampshire, Miriam Stahl.

Originally from the Midwest, Miriam moved to New Hampshire to be near her family, and once here, she began working at a critical community resource and early intervention center called the Richie McFarland Children's Center.

Founded in 1971, the Richie McFarland Children's Center works to provide social and therapeutic programs for children, including those who experience disabilities. This center helps children learn, grow, and thrive, while also empowering families and working to meet the needs of every child. The center and its remarkable staff are often the first professional resources made available to a family and child grappling with developmental challenges. To say that the center serves as a lifeline is an understatement.

According to her colleagues, the Richie McFarland Children's Center would not be what it is today without Miriam's vision and leadership. Miriam served as the executive director of the center for a decade, and she believed passionately in the power of early intervention to help children develop.

During her tenure, Miriam did all that she could to use her talent, energy, and quiet determination to prioritize the needs of children and to provide them with vital support. Her advocacy was clear, no nonsense, and nonjudgmental. She made inroads as a