

1965 pennant-winning Minnesota Twins; and Bud Fowler, born in 1858 and often regarded as the first Black professional baseball player.

Minnie Minoso and Buck O’Neil were voted in under new rules that officially designated the Negro Leagues as a major league in 2020.

Buck had been nominated once before—in 2006—but to the surprise of nearly everyone, fell one vote short. He accepted the verdict with his usual grace, even agreeing to speak on behalf of the 17 players who made it into Cooperstown that year.

With this typical optimism, he told the crowd gathered at Cooperstown that day, “I’ve done a lot of things I liked doing, but I’d rather be right here, right now, representing these people who helped build a bridge across the chasm of prejudice.”

Minnie Minoso and Buck O’Neil helped build that bridge, too. And now, they are finally where they deserve to be, among baseball’s immortals.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF STEVE SPARROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, over the past two decades, one man has revolutionized law enforcement in Kentucky’s Oldham County and built a reputation as one of the Commonwealth’s best sheriffs. Steve Sparrow has served as Oldham County’s sheriff since 1999 and, in his time leading the county’s police force, has brought professionalism, dedication, and, above all, devotion to the rule of law to his community. This year, Sheriff Sparrow is retiring from his post. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his career and the lasting legacy he built in Oldham County.

Sheriff Sparrow began his career in law enforcement nearly 50 years ago, at a time when Oldham County’s population was less than a quarter of its current size. As this burgeoning community expanded into one of Kentucky’s fastest growing counties, Sheriff Sparrow’s leadership helped Oldham County maintain its reputation for safety and neighborliness. Under his purview, the area remains one of the most desirable places to live in the Commonwealth.

Sheriff Sparrow didn’t achieve this high level of law enforcement efficacy by accident. As sheriff, he dedicated himself to furthering professional training for both himself and his department. He is the only sheriff in Oldham County history to have trained at a certified law enforcement academy and the only Oldham County sheriff to have graduated from the National Sheriff’s Institute. He brought similar high levels of training to his department, making Oldham County Sheriff’s Office the fifth in the Commonwealth to achieve accreditation standards.

In recognition of Sheriff Sparrow’s hard work to improve Oldham County’s police department, the Kentucky Sheriff’s Association named Sheriff Spar-

row their president in both 2005 and 2012. He received additional praise and leadership roles from Kentucky’s Governor, the Kentucky Law Enforcement Board of Directors, and the National Sheriff’s Association Board of Directors. Oldham County voters also strongly approved of Sheriff Sparrow’s performance, reelecting him to his office six times in a row.

Leaders around the Commonwealth will be sad to see Sheriff Sparrow leave his role. He has been one of my closest partners in the law enforcement community, and I have been proud to lean on his expertise to back the blue at the Federal level. Though we will all miss Sheriff Sparrow’s leadership, I know he will put his retirement to good use, spending more time with his wife Dotty and their children and grandchildren. On behalf of the Senate, I share our congratulations with Sheriff Sparrow for achieving this milestone and wish him the best in this next chapter of his life.

BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I previously revised the allocations, aggregates, and pay-as-you-go ledger for S. 2938, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, pursuant to section 3003 of S. Con. Res. 14, the fiscal year 2022 congressional budget resolution.

As the legislation has now been signed into law and directs that its budgetary effects are not to be entered on the PAYGO scorecard, I am reversing the PAYGO adjustment I made in June.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying table, which provides details about the adjustment, be printed in the RECORD.

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

PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE (Revisions Pursuant to Section 3003 of S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022)

(\$ in billions)

	Balances
Current Balances:	
Fiscal Year 2022	-8,423
Fiscal Years 2022–2026	-81,179
Fiscal Years 2022–2031	-144,095
Revisions:	
Fiscal Year 2022	-0.001
Fiscal Years 2022–2026	5,719
Fiscal Years 2022–2031	5,318
Revised Balances:	
Fiscal Year 2022	-8,424
Fiscal Years 2022–2026	-75,460
Fiscal Years 2022–2031	-138,777

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 1058, Adair Ford Boroughs, of South Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the District of South Carolina for the term of four years.

NOMINATION OF DAVID P. PEKOSKE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs has reviewed the nomination of David P. Pekoske to be the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security. Seeing that this is Mr. Pekoske’s nomination for a second consecutive term to be the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, the chairman and ranking member have reached a unanimous consent agreement to forgo a mark up for this nominee.

In the 115th Congress, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs sought referral in June of 2017 for Mr. Pekoske’s first nomination to be the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration. The committee held a hearing for this nominee on June 11, 2017, and reported the nominee out of committee favorably on June 19, 2017. In the future, this committee is likely to seek referral on this nomination. This should be considered the standard procedure for future nominations to this role.

AFGHANISTAN

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, following my submission in a previous session of the U.S. Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the next part of an investigation directed by the U.S. Central Command concerning the Abbey Gate bombing in Afghanistan in August 2021.

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

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS BY INVESTIGATING OFFICER

SECTION I—APPOINTMENT

Appointed by LTG Ronald Clark, Commander, Third Army/ARCENT (Appointing Authority) on 20210917

SECTION II—TIMELINE

1. The (investigation) commenced at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait at 2000 on 20210917
2. The (Investigating officer) finished gathering/hearing evidence at 1100 on 20211022 and completed findings and recommendations at 2000 on 202111022

SECTION III—CHECKLIST FOR PROCEEDINGS

A. COMPLETE IN ALL CASES

1. Enclosures
Are the following enclosed and numbered consecutively with Roman numerals: (Attached in order listed)
 - a. The memorandum of appointment? YES
 - b. All other written communications to or from the appointing authority? YES
 - c. Privacy Act Statements (Certificate, if statement provided orally)? NA
 - d. Explanation by the investigating officer of any unusual delays, difficulties, irregularities, or other problems encountered (e.g., absence of material witnesses)? NA
 - e. Any other significant papers (other than evidence) relating to administrative aspects of the investigation? NA

f. An Executive Summary, Index of Exhibits, Chronology of the Investigation and lists of all persons interviewed and evidence gathered. (Complex, serious and/or high profile cases)? YES

2. Exhibits

a. Are all items offered (whether or not received) or considered as evidence individually numbered or lettered as exhibits and attached? YES
 b. Is an index of all exhibits offered to or considered by investigating officer attached before the first exhibit? YES

c. Has the testimony/statement of each witness been recorded verbatim or been reduced to written form and attached as an exhibit? YES

d. Are copies, descriptions, or depictions (if substituted for real or documentary evidence) properly authenticated and is the location of the original evidence indicated? NA
 e. Are descriptions or diagrams included of locations visited by the investigating officer (Appendix C-3, AR 15-6)? NA

f. Is each written stipulation attached as an exhibit and is each oral stipulation either reduced to writing and made an exhibit or recorded? NA

FOOTNOTES: Explain all negative answers on an attached sheet.

Use of the N/A column constitutes a positive representation that the circumstances described in the question did not occur in this investigation.

SECTION IV—FINDINGS

The (investigating officer), having carefully considered the evidence, finds: SEE MEMORANDUM

SECTION V—RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the above findings, the (investigating officer) recommends: SEE MEMORANDUM

SECTION VI—AUTENTICATION

THIS REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE.

(TEXT REDACTED)

(Investigating Officer)

SECTION VII—ACTION BY APPROVING AUTHORITY

The findings an recommendations of the (investigating officer) are:

a) Approved. (TEXT REDACTED)

b) Approved with the following modifications:

(4) The following recommendations are modified as follows:

The Mental Health Evaluation/treatment priority will apply to Service Members at ALL gates HK (TEXT REDACTED)

[Signed]—NOV102021

RONALD P. CLARK,
Lieutenant General, USA, Commanding.

UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND,

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER,

Macdill Air Force Base, FL, 22 Nov. 2021.

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Thru: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
From: General Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr.

Commander, U.S. Central Command
Subject: Abbey Gate AR 15-6 Investigation

MR. SECRETARY, I have reviewed the AR 15-6 investigation completed at my direction by U.S. Army Central (ARCENT) and concur with and endorse its findings and recommendations. The investigation was exceptionally comprehensive in its scope, as appropriate to the tragic events that precipitated its initiation. The investigating team, led by BG Lance Curtis, conducted 70 separate interviews, many of which were held in a group setting to facilitate a free flow of information. A total of 139 people were interviewed at seven different locations spanning five countries. Interviews ranged from between one hour and six hours in duration, with the average interview lasting between two and three hours, and the average transcription totaling nearly 11 pages. I specifically concur that:

The task organization worked. This was in large part due to pre-existing or quickly

forged relationships among leaders at the highest echelons and adaptability at the lower echelons;

By 25 August 2021, Abbey Gate was the main effort for “walk-up” gate operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport;

There was no complex attack; it was a single suicide bomber not accompanied by enemy small arms fire;

There is no evidence that Afghans were killed by return fire from U.S. forces in the immediate aftermath of the attack;

The attack was not preventable at the tactical level without degrading the mission to maximize the number of evacuees;

The attack was not the result of any act of omission or commission by forces on the ground;

The wounds sustained by the service members Killed in Action were so catastrophic that none could be saved; and

Although not assigned as a task to ARCENT or the investigating team, it is my judgment that all injuries sustained by U.S. personnel incident to the Abbey Gate attack occurred in the line of duty and were not due to any misconduct by the killed or injured U.S. personnel.

I further concur with the recommendations detailed in the ARCENT investigation. Accordingly, I have directed the following actions:

The Findings and Recommendations will be forwarded to all USCENTCOM Service Component Commanders to ensure that all U.S. servicemembers at Abbey Gate during the attack, and present in any of the blast zones detailed in the investigation, are afforded the opportunity to be evaluated for Traumatic Brain Injury (Recommendation (a));

The Findings and Recommendations will be forwarded to all USCENTCOM Service Component Commanders to facilitate prioritized access to appropriate mental health evaluations for personnel involved in executing entry control point operations from 17–26 August and personnel involved in the medical response to the attack on 26 August (Recommendation (b));

The investigation will be forwarded to the Joint Staff to inform any efforts that might be undertaken to develop interagency doctrine for Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (Recommendation (c)); and

Relevant portions of the investigation will be forwarded to U.S. Marine Corps Forces Central for appropriate action regarding the potential serious injury or death of an Afghan civilian on or about 20 August 2021 resulting from the alleged improper deployment of a flash bang grenade by a U.S. Marine from 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment (Recommendation (d)).

Based on the totality of the facts and circumstances detailed in the ARCENT investigation, I do not believe that any adverse administrative or disciplinary action is necessary or appropriate for any U.S. personnel involved in our operations at Abbey Gate.

The ARCENT investigating team and the ARCENT Commander, LTG Ron Clark, briefed me in person on 11 November 2021 regarding this investigation. The presentation was as comprehensive as the investigation itself, and it included detailed PowerPoint slides, embedded video, and exceptionally well scripted speaker notes that complemented the written investigation and facilitated an informative exchange of questions and answers. I highly recommend you take the brief in person, and set aside two hours to this purpose. If you concur, my headquarters will work with your staff to make the ARCENT team available.

Enclosure: AR 15-6 Investigation (Enclosures and Exhibits available via Sharepoint)

TRIBUTE TO PAT AND SHARON O'TOOLE

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, at the 110th Wyoming State Fair, Senator LUMMIS and I will have the pleasure of introducing Pat and Sharon O'Toole as 2022 inductees to the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Pat and Sharon O'Toole are ranchers who, along with their family, own and operate the Ladder Ranch. It is a large-scale cattle and sheep operation, established in 1881 by A.W. and Anna Louise Salisbury. This was 9 years before Wyoming became a State. The Ladder Ranch has been in Sharon's family for six generations. Located outside of Savery, WY, along the Little Snake River, the ranch straddles the State line with Colorado.

Pat met Sharon Salisbury while they both attended Colorado State University. Following marriage, they returned to Sharon's family ranch in 1977 where they went to work managing the ranch and raising a family. Since then, Pat and Sharon have been shining examples of resource conservation, land stewardship, and partnership development.

The conservation legacy of the Ladder Ranch will affect agriculture, wildlife, and water for generations to come. Their ranch is host to one of North America's largest elk herds. It provides habitat for mule deer, sage grouse, and fish. They participate in the Sage Grouse Initiative, the Conservation Stewardship Program, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program. They also have a stretch of land along Battle Creek recognized as an Audubon Bird Area.

In addition to managing a successful cattle and sheep operation for 45 years, Pat served in the Wyoming Legislature for three terms from 1986–1992. He is the current president of the Family Farm Alliance, representing irrigators in 17 Western States. The alliance ensures the availability of reliable, affordable irrigation supplies to Western farmers and ranchers.

Pat is a strong advocate for efficient irrigation and effective management tools for agriculture. He has testified many times before committees in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. As the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I invited him to testify in June 2022. Pat spoke on solutions to extreme drought in the Western United States.

Pat gives his time to numerous organizations including AGree, which addresses international food and agriculture policies. He also serves on the boards of the Intermountain Joint Venture, Partners for Conservation, Farm Foundation, and Solutions from the Land. President Clinton appointed him to the Western Water Policy Review Advisory Commission in 1997.

In addition to full-time ranching, Sharon is a published author and writer. Her work has been featured in the Washington Post. She has a monthly