

Despite the controversy that surrounded our involvement in the Vietnamese war, Mr. President, it was a proud nation which presented Mr. Williamson with the Congressional Medal of Honor, because of his enormous personal courage, because of his willingness to risk sacrificing his own life in the service of others, and because neither our military nor our Nation can afford to allow such outstanding individual contributions to go unrecognized.

James I. Williamson was not "the one-in-a-million" exception we sometimes refer to; he was the truly exceptional "one-in-fewer-than-3,500" who displayed the American character at its best and whose actions made clear why our most precious decoration is dedicated to honor—his own and his country's. His family, his community of Harrington, and his State of Delaware will remember him with pride for his extraordinary individual achievement and with humility in the face of his unselfish bravery.●

DAVID L. FORD

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of the remarkable individuals we lost on April 3, 1996, in the plane crash in Croatia which took the life of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and many other fine Americans. David L. Ford, CEO of InterGuard Corp., a subsidiary of Guardian Industries, headquartered in Auburn Hills, MI, was on that flight to donate 23 metric tons of flat glass to Sarajevo, enough to produce 8,000 windows for the reconstruction of a hospital that was damaged in the war.

When David was first given the opportunity to travel to Bosnia, he thought of how he could best help the city of Sarajevo. He decided that he would help the city recover from the constant shelling of the past 3 years. David was very excited about being able to help the people of Sarajevo. Though he was unable to see his plan fulfilled, his wish was honored when the glass was later delivered by the U.S. Embassy. A plaque commemorating the efforts of David Ford to rebuild Bosnia will be displayed in front of the hospital in Sarajevo.

David worked for Guardian for over 25 years. He was the driving force in opening the European market for the company, which now operates four plants across Europe. He was a diligent and dedicated worker. He was also a deep thinker who was a student of foreign cultures. He traveled extensively in European countries and studied their cultures.

David was a dedicated family man. His wife, Debra Ann Ford, and their children, Kathryn and Douglas, will remember him as a person who brought much happiness into their lives. He was an involved parent who would often accompany his children to school. He recently took a class on a trip to Israel, imparting his knowledge of the world to the children.

David was a man who was very committed to his faith. David was a born-again Christian and a member of Christian Community Church. He was very involved in his community and was the leader of the youth group Teen Section. David has said that, "to be born again means a new beginning, it means change—a new direction." David had this faith in a new direction for Bosnia and the world.

David's own words best show how he viewed his life. "Yes, I had to change. That meant I had to sacrifice some things—the changes are not a list of things to do or not to do. The changes are in your heart. We cannot make these changes alone, by ourselves. God sends us a helper to be with us." The people of Sarajevo were indeed sent such a helper in David Ford.

I know that my Senate colleagues join me in honoring the life of David L. Ford. ●

THE 205TH ANNIVERSARY OF POLAND'S CONSTITUTION

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Senate Joint Resolution 51, a resolution to commemorate the 205th anniversary of Poland's constitution. This resolution was introduced by my good friend, the distinguished Republican leader and senior Senator from Kansas, BOB DOLE. The purpose of the resolution is to salute and congratulate Polish people around the world, including Americans of Polish descent, as on May 3, 1996 they commemorate the 205th anniversary of the first Polish constitution, to recognize the rebirth of Poland as a free and independent nation in the spirit of the 1791 constitution, and to urge the people and state and local governments of the United States to observe this anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The Polish constitution of 1791 is closely related to our own constitution, because it was heavily influenced by a Polish hero of the American Revolution, General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who returned to his native land after the war, carrying with him the concepts we fought to establish and preserve in the revolution. While Poland enjoyed this new constitution for less than 2 years, it established principles and ideals that still live in modern Poland.

Polish people have made major contributions to the United States in all fields of endeavor. The first manufacturing facility in America was established by a Pole in Jamestown, VA. The first institution of higher learning in New Amsterdam was established by Dr. Alexander Kurcyusz. In addition to General Kosciuszko, another famous Pole, Count Casimir Pulaski, aided our fight for independence from Great Britain. He is known as the "Father of the American Cavalry" because General Washington put him in charge of developing and leading that arm in the war. He had a brilliant career in the Con-

tinental Army. Unfortunately, he was mortally wounded in the siege of Savannah and later buried at sea.

More modern Polish-Americans who made notable contributions range from Arthur Rubenstein to Stan Musial and Leon Jaworski. In every field, Polish-Americans worked hard to make America what it is today.

New York is home to a great many Americans of Polish descent. Almost 1.2 million New Yorkers claim a Polish heritage. According to the Census Bureau, about 17 percent of all U.S. residents who speak Polish at home live in New York.

I am confident that our adoption of this resolution will be met with appreciation and that May 3 will be a date that will be met with appropriate celebration in the Polish-American community. I again express my strong support for this resolution and I urge my colleagues to vote for it. ●

THE 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, George Santayana wrote that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." We have an obligation, just as our forebears had, to teach following generations what occurred in the world before they were born. It is this passing of information from generation to generation that weaves the fabric of our collective history and serves as a guide for the future. We can never change the facts of history, but we can work to make sure that injustices are not repeated out of ignorance of those facts. It is only through the constant and vigilant education of our children and each other that we can hope to end man's inhumanity to man.

When Adolf Hitler was planning the Jewish Holocaust he said, "Who today remembers the extermination of the Armenians?" I am here today to bear witness to the fact that we do remember the Armenians who fell prey to genocide and we will continue to work to spread that knowledge so that similar events never again occur.

Today, April 24, 1996, we commemorate the 81st anniversary of the 1915-1923 genocide of the Armenian people. In a world that sometimes seems to have gone mad with random violent acts, we must remember the victims of a government organized terror, the genocide perpetrated by the Turkish Ottoman Empire against the Armenian people.

Eighty-one years ago this week, the 8-year-long savagery against the Armenian people began. Each year we remember and honor the victims and pay respect to the survivors we still are blessed to have in our midst. We vow to remember, to always remember, the attempt to eliminate the Armenian people from the face of the Earth, not for what they had done as individuals, but because of who they were.

For the most part, nations did not learn from history—the world looked

away during the Armenian genocide and those horrors later revisited the planet. As Elie Wiesel said, the Armenians "felt expelled from history." So the genocide we remember each April, the century's first genocide—is the genocide the world forgot, to its shame, and for which it paid dearly.

Each year we vow that the incalculable horrors suffered by the Armenian people will not be in vain. We make this solemn vow because we believe that it is within our power to confront evil in the world, and to prevent genocidal attacks on people because of who they are. That is surely the highest tribute we can pay to the Armenian victims and how the horror and brutality of their deaths can be given redeeming meaning. ●

HONORING THE WALTMANS ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, families are the cornerstone of America. The data is undeniable: individuals from strong families contribute to the society. In an era when nearly half of all couples married today will see their union dissolve into divorce, I believe it is both instructive and important to honor those who have taken the commitment of "til death us do part" seriously, demonstrating successfully the timeless principles of love, honor, and fidelity. These characteristics make our country strong.

For these important reasons, I rise today to honor Lelslie and Isabella Waltman of West Plains, MO, who on March 28, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They understand the meaning of the word "covenant." My wife, Janet, and I look forward to the day we can celebrate a similar milestone. The Waltmans' commitment to the principles and values of their marriage deserves to be saluted and recognized. I wish them and their family all the best as they celebrate this substantial marker on their journey together. ●

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2937

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I inquire of the Chair if H.R. 2937 has arrived from the House of Representatives.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill has arrived, and it is at the desk.

Mr. SIMPSON. Therefore, I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2937) for the reimbursement of attorneys' fees and costs incurred by former employees of the White House travel office with respect to the termination of their employment in that office on May 19, 1993.

Mr. SIMPSON. I now ask for its second reading.

Mr. SIMON. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1698

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I inquire of the Chair if S. 1698 is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. S. 1698 is at the desk.

Mr. SIMPSON. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1698) entitled the Health Insurance Reform Act of 1996.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask for the second reading and object on behalf of the Republican leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

AMENDING THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3055 just received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will state the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3055) to amend section 326 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to permit continued participation by Historically Black Graduate Professional Schools in the grant program authorized by that section.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read the third time, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3055) was deemed read the third time, and passed.

MEASURE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED—S. 1298

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1298, a bill to authorize documentation of the vessel, Shooter, and that the measure then be indefinitely postponed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1996

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 25; further, that immediately following the prayer, the Journal of the proceedings be deemed approved to date, no resolutions come over under the rule, the call of the calendar be dispensed with, and the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and that there then be a period for morning business until the hour of 10 a.m., with Senators to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each, except for the following: Senators CHAFEE or BREAUX for up to 60 minutes total; Senator DODD for up to 15 minutes; Senator MURKOWSKI for up to 5 minutes; Senator STEVENS for up to 5 minutes; Senator BRYAN for up to 10 minutes.

I further ask that at the hour of 10 a.m. the Senate resume consideration of S. 1664, the immigration bill, and at that time Senator SIMPSON be recognized to offer the next two amendments to the immigration bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. SIMPSON. For the information of all Senators, Mr. President, the Senate will resume the immigration bill and the pending amendments tomorrow morning. Senators can expect rollcall votes throughout the day on the immigration bill. We hope to complete action on that measure on Thursday.

It is also anticipated that the omnibus appropriations conference report will be available for consideration during tomorrow's session. Therefore, action on that legislation is also expected.

The Senate may also be asked to turn to any other legislative items that can be cleared for action.

Mr. President, let me thank my colleague from Illinois for his cooperation and willingness to come to the floor this evening and interrupt his evening to see if we can proceed with other business. I am most appreciative. We will try to complete our work tomorrow. I hope we can do that—certainly Friday morning. Hopefully, we can avoid that.

But I want to thank the staff, the people that make it possible for us to function in this remarkable arena on both sides of the aisle—here at the desks on the both sides of the aisle. These people I have come to know so well we cannot function without. This has been a remarkable day, and the Parliamentarian must be dealing with some kind of a gumball by now. It has more cords and knots in it than we could ever untangle. So we will just keep it there, if we can.

But I want to thank the Senator from Illinois, and thank these remarkable people who patiently watch us grapple with the issues of the day.