

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION,

Washington, DC, June 16, 1998.

Hon. HAROLD J. CREEL, JR.,  
Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Unfortunately over the past year, the maritime relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China has deteriorated dramatically. This has resulted from a series of restrictive measures taken by the Chinese Ministry of Communications (MOC) aimed at limiting the activities of foreign shipping lines in China. At the same time, China's state-owned line, China Ocean Shipping Company (COSCO), has grown to become one of the largest, most successful carriers serving U.S. liner trades.

COSCO operates and competes freely and openly in the United States while our carriers face costly, anticompetitive restrictions in China. These restrictions include: (1) a cumbersome and lengthy approval process for vessel or itinerary changes; (2) limits on the number and location of branch offices for U.S. carriers in China; (3) limits on U.S. carriers ability to provide intermodal transport to inland customers; and (4) a prohibition barring U.S. carriers provision of vessel agency services. All of these costly restrictions make it extremely difficult for U.S. carriers to effectively compete in the Chinese market. Conversely, COSCO faces no similar restrictions in the United States.

U.S. negotiators from the Departments of Transportation and State have worked to bring reciprocity and fairness to our bilateral maritime relationship with China. To date these efforts have been for the most part unsuccessful. One glimmer of hope was December's "gentlemen's" agreement struck between our acting Maritime Administrator and the Chinese Director General for Water Transport from MOC to remove some of the roadblocks to an improved relationship.

On the United States side, MarAd and the U.S. carriers supported a petition by COSCO to your Commission for partial relief from the Controlled Carrier Act. The FMC fully granted that petition in March. However, the Chinese side has yet to keep their part of the agreement: to approve U.S. carrier port access and vessel registration applications and to grant a joint venture port operating license to a U.S. carrier. As a result of this breach, talks aimed at finalizing a new bilateral maritime agreement have broken down and U.S. carriers continue to face costly, burdensome restrictions to their operations in China.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, I have long been an advocate for fairness and reciprocity in our maritime relationships. I find the situation with China unacceptable. I urge you to act, as you have so effectively in the past, to investigate these matters and encourage China to remove these restrictions so that U.S. carriers can compete as freely and openly in China as COSCO competes here. I am confident that, as in the past, you can count on the full support of the Senate.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

ERNEST F. HOLLINGS,  
Ranking Democrat.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RABBI ALEXANDER D. GOODE

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the courage and bravery of Rabbi Alexander D. Goode and the three other chaplains aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester on the

night it sank into the icy waters off the coast of Greenland.

On February 3, 1943, the Dorchester, filled to capacity with over 900 men, was struck by German torpedoes around 1:00 am. The Germans succeeded in knocking out the ship's communication, injuring and killing scores of men, and fatally wounding the Dorchester. As the crew realized what had just occurred, chaos and panic erupted on all sides. In the midst of the confusion, four Army Chaplains, Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; Lt. Clark V. Polling, Dutch Reformed; and Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish, brought hope and light to those around them.

The Arctic air made protection from the cold essential to those hoping to survive the night. As one sailor, Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, tried to return to his cabin to retrieve his gloves, he was stopped by Rabbi Goode. "I have two pairs," the Rabbi said, handing the sailor the pair he had been wearing. In retrospect, Mahoney realized the Rabbi could not have had an extra pair and had sacrificed his only gloves to aide the sailor.

As the ship sank, the four chaplains distributed jackets and words of encouragement to those remaining. When there were no more life jackets left, the four removed their own preservers and handed them to the sailors next in line, sealing their own fate. Approximately 18 minutes after it was hit, the Dorchester sank. The last sight many of the survivors recall was the four chaplains, arms linked, praying together with over 600 men still on board.

The sinking of the Dorchester 55 years ago not only showed the chaplains' tremendous strength of spirit, but also illuminated their racial and religious tolerance. In an era of prejudice, these four men embraced ideas on interfaith relationships. These men shared a special brotherhood which lasted until the very end.

Mr. President, there are people in history who stand apart from the rest, and who go above and beyond what is demanded by their fellow men and women. Rabbi Goode and the three other chaplains were such men. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of these truly remarkable heroes. Their story and the lessons it teaches will not soon be forgotten.●

#### TEXAS HATE CRIME

● Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I want to offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of James Byrd Jr., who was brutally murdered last week in Jasper, Texas. I am deeply saddened that we in this day and age still have this type of crime being committed in our nation.

I am even more outraged that this monstrous crime is being copied across the nation, from Louisiana to my own home state of Illinois. Just this past weekend, the Belleville News-Democrat reported that a 17-year-old from Belle-

ville, Illinois, had to be rushed to the hospital after three youths grabbed him by his shirt and then dragged him until he fell under the wheels of their jeep. All the while they shouted racial epithets at him.

This violence must be stopped. Unless we take swift action to end these atrocities, we run the risk of endangering all the progress we have made toward undoing the ugly legacy of racism. We must stop copycat acts of cowardice from undermining the basic freedoms that we all are entitled to enjoy.

Every act of violence is reprehensible. Hate crimes are especially troubling, however, because they impact not only the victim, but the entire community. When a person is singled out and targeted for a hate crime, other members of that community feel isolated, vulnerable, and unprotected by the law. Hate crimes send a message to all members of a community that they are not free to walk the streets, to own property, or to enjoy their fundamental rights as Americans simply because of how they look or what they believe.

But these crimes do not occur only on the back roads of our nation. In 1996, 6,768 crimes committed across the nation were motivated by racial bias; 1,497 by religious bias; 1,258 by sexual-orientation bias; and 1,179 by ethnic bias. 333 of these crimes occurred in my home state of Illinois. The City of Chicago reported 175 incidents, the lowest number since the City began keeping records. Unfortunately, the inhumane nature of last week's brutal murder only remind us that there still remains work to be done to fight the hate.

Back in 1963, when a fire bomb at the 16th street Baptist Church took the lives of 4 children, the nation recoiled in horror at the cowardice and criminality of those who would resort to such violence. From that horror, however, grew a consensus that hate crimes are un-American, and must be exposed for what they are. The hood came off the hate.

We have since redoubled our effort, and must redouble our resolve that never again will such crimes be ignored or overlooked or unpunished. We must continue to work together. This means educating one another, building coalitions with our neighbors, and standing together against racism, sexism, and other forms of bigotry.

The Administration is doing their part. In June of 1997, President Clinton announced One America in the 21st Century: The President's Initiative on Race. This Initiative has proven critical to initiating the dialogue on race in this country that is essential if we are ever to live as one.

But we should do our part as well. I am a cosponsor of Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which was introduced by Senator KENNEDY in November of last year. This bill would strengthen laws to protect Americans from hate crimes. We should act swiftly to pass this law,

and to send a message to the American people that hate crimes will not be tolerated.

Again, I want to commend the people of Jasper, Texas for coming together in this time of tragedy and saying no to hate in their community. Their actions of reconciliation are an example for all of us to follow in times of moral crisis.●

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOSPITAL CORPS OF THE U.S. NAVY

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today is the 100th anniversary of the Hospital Corps of the United States Navy. On June 17, 1898, President McKinley established the Hospital Corps which has recorded an illustrious history of service to the nation. The men and women who serve and have served as corpsmen have honored the nation, the Navy and themselves. They have upheld the highest traditions of service to the nation.

As a group, corpsmen have been the most highly decorated men and women who have served in our nation's military. Every day they put their lives at risk in the course of performing one of our highest callings as human beings, the preservation and protection of life.

Individually, during the course of their 100 year history, 1962 corpsmen have paid the ultimate price while administering to their wounded comrades on the battlefield. Twenty-seven times, their actions were so extraordinary that the individual was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

There is a little known fact about a widely hailed piece of American history. On February 23, 1945, six young men raised our national colors on top of Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima. A world renowned photograph was taken and this photograph became a symbol of the self-sacrifice and devotion to duty of the United States Marine Corps and our nation's military in general. What is little known is that the second young man from the base of the flagpole, was a U.S. Navy corpsman. Only days before, that young man, Pharmacist Mate Second Class John Bradley, during the assault of Iwo Jima, pulled a young Marine to safety and bandaged his wounds while braving severe machine gun and mortar fire from a determined enemy. For his actions, Pharmacist Mate Bradley was awarded the Navy Cross. This extraordinary individual as with his other compatriots in that photo is even more extraordinary because of his anonymity. They were there for the photo by chance, they became the symbol we so readily recognize by a twist of fate. But they carried out their duties as thousands of other young Americans had done before them and since, in the most terrible of circumstances.

Corpsmen have been the protective blanket our soldiers, sailors, and Marines have relied upon in their times of greatest distress. They have been there for them to heal their wounds, to fend off the battlefield's angels of death,

and sometimes to comfort them as life ebbed away. Corpsmen are representative of the best of our ideals. It is in that spirit I call upon my colleagues and all Americans to remember their significant contribution to our nation and celebrate this day in recognition of their service.●

#### SIGNING OF THE BULLETPROOF VESTS PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, yesterday I had the privilege to attend the signing ceremony at the White House for the Bulletproof Vests Partnership Grant Act, S. 1605, with Attorney General Reno, Vice President GORE and President Clinton, who signed the bill into law.

I was honored to be joined at the ceremony by Vermont State Police Captain A. Marc Metayer and Springfield, Vermont Police Chief Barbara Higgins, who represented state and local law enforcement officers in my home state. Captain Metayer spoke on the importance of this new law and introduced the President of the United States.

I am very proud of the remarks of Captain Metayer and I ask that his remarks be printed at this point in the RECORD.

The remarks follow:

REMARKS OF CAPTAIN A. MARC METAYER, TROOP "B" COMMANDER, VERMONT STATE POLICE, JUNE 16, 1998

I am honored to have the opportunity to speak at the signing of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998. I would like to thank Senator Patrick Leahy of Vermont and Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado for their efforts in making this life-saving grant a reality.

As Senator Leahy knows, the need for body armor for Vermont law enforcement officers was highlighted by the two-state manhunt for Carl Drega, last August. Drega killed four people in Colebrook, New Hampshire, including New Hampshire State Troopers Scott Phillips and Leslie Lord. He then traveled into Vermont where he wounded four more officers during two separate encounters. Drega was killed in the final exchange of gunfire with a combined force of Vermont, New Hampshire and Federal law enforcement officers.

I know these circumstances from first hand experience. I was the on scene incident commander for the Vermont State Police when Drega was finally stopped.

The Drega incident brought home the fact that no area of the country, regardless of its remote nature, is immune from senseless violence: violence against our citizens and violence against our law enforcement officers. Law enforcement officers must be prepared for such violence at any time, and any place.

The Drega incident erupted from a regular traffic stop in which the Troopers were going to remove registration plates from Drega's vehicle. Moments later, two Troopers were dead, horrifying their families and their communities. All from an activity which law enforcement officers perform countless times each day: a traffic stop for a minor violation.

In the twenty years that I have served as a Vermont State Trooper, I have worn body armor as a part of my daily routine. For those twenty years, I have personally purchased successive vests since the State did not provide them. I have been fortunate

enough to be in a financial position that allowed me to make these important purchases. But I have known many officers, most with young families, who simply could not afford to purchase body armor.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act will provide the funding to assist police departments with the purchase of body armor for their officers. Every state in the nation has communities that need this help to provide their law enforcement officers with this basic protection. In the end, this new law will save the lives of law enforcement officers in each and every state.

Thank you to all that have made this important contribution to the safety of police officers around the country.

I am now honored to introduce the President of the United States, President Bill Clinton. ●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE NEWBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT IN HONOR OF THEIR FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, July 5, 1998, is a great day for Vermont as we celebrate the fiftieth birthday of the Newbrook Fire Department. On behalf of all Vermonters, I want to wish the department a very happy birthday.

For a half-century, the volunteers at Newbrook's Fire Department have donated their time to provide fire protection to Vermonters living in the lower West River Valley area. These volunteers continually risk their lives to protect the welfare of others. The Newbrook Fire Department also responds to medical emergencies and, through the years, has earned the reputation as one of Vermont's most efficient volunteer response teams. This is truly admirable. I applaud such dedication and have the utmost respect for Newbrooks' courageous volunteers.

The Newbrook Fire Department is a vital part of the Newbrook community and its surrounding areas. For fifty years, the Department has given prompt and reliable service to people in the most distressing situations. It gives me great pleasure to recognize today fifty years of service and achievement of the Newbrook Fire Department and, more importantly, the volunteers who support it.●

#### LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

● Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, today, I want to speak on an issue of critical importance to my state of Nebraska. Whenever I travel back to the Good Life, what Nebraskans call their home, the one issue that always percolates to the top of any conversation is the lack of affordable housing, and this issue can dominate any spirited civic dialogue in our smaller communities throughout the state.

Talking with city officials, economic development groups, community planners, chambers of commerce representatives, and any of the town people who are deeply concerned about the prospects of their community, it is apparent to me, as sure as the Nebraska summer sky is blue, that more needs to be done to make sure communities