

time, where every tank, every piece of artillery and every humvee is at any moment. And each soldier's movements, radio communications and weapons are continuously monitored.

When a simulated battle is complete, the instructors go through each exercise with the individual unit commanders. They find out what went right, what went wrong, and what can be done to improve. This attention to detail is vital. The only way our nation is going to maintain the best military in the world is to have the best leaders leading the best-trained forces. They're getting that education at the National Training Center.

Countless individuals provide that education. I met two who I'd like to highlight. Colonel J.D. Thurman is Chief of the Operations Group, and Colonel John Rosenberger is Commander of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Both men are soldiers. But both are educators. They take their jobs very seriously, and they see the value to what they're doing. It's because of their dedication and skill that our Army turns out commanders for the next century—commanders who will be on the front lines of defending democracy.

I would like to encourage my colleagues on the Senate Armed Services Committee and others in the Senate to visit the National Training Center and see it first hand. You can't leave there without being totally impressed with the dedication of the officers and the enlisted personnel at Fort Irwin and their belief in what they're doing. To see how it enhances the morale and training of units that rotate through NTC, is impressive. This is a national resource that deserves our utmost support.●

#### RETIREMENT OF JOHN TURNER

● Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, John Turner will retire this year after more than twenty-five years of service to the forest products industry. A native of Camden, Arkansas, John is completing a long and distinguished career with the Georgia-Pacific Corporation.

John joined Georgia-Pacific Corporation in 1972 as Public Relations Manager for the Crossett, Arkansas, Division. His responsibilities were expanded to include government relations in 1977 for the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas. In 1983, he assumed responsibility for state-level government affairs for the corporation and relocated to Washington, D.C.

In his present position as Vice President of Government Affairs, John has directed and coordinated the corporation's Federal and State government affairs staff and legislative policy for the corporation in Washington and in the eight state office locations.

In addition to a long association with various entities in the forest products industry, John also had a career in radio and television broadcasting. John was educated at Southern Arkansas

University in Magnolia, Arkansas, receiving a degree in communications.

Active in forestry and trade associations, John serves on the American Forest and Paper Association's Energy Council and chairs the Endangered Species Reauthorization Committee. John has also served two terms on the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and one term on the Arkansas Forestry Commission. He is also a member of the Public Relations Society of America.

Despite his consuming dedication to his industry, John has made time for numerous civic duties, including work with the Jaycees, Lions Club, Rotary Club, Boys Club of America, and United Way. He has served his local community as a city airport commission member and as a member of the hospital board of directors.

Mr. President, I am proud of the association I have had with John Turner over the years. He has been a steadfast friend and a trusted adviser on issues of importance not only to his industry, but to the economy of our beloved State as well. His preparedness, integrity and willingness to compromise have served him and his industry well.

I wish John and his lovely wife Jean a long and relaxing retirement. Perhaps John's retirement from his "day" job will give them time to more faithfully follow their beloved Razorbacks football and basketball teams, as well as enjoy their two daughters and two granddaughters.

Mr. President, John Turner leaves big shoes to fill in the forest products industry. I hope his successors will look to his fine example of the role of the lobbyist and spokesperson in our system.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL KEVIN "SPANKY" KIRSCH, USAF

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Kevin "Spanky" Kirsch, United States Air Force, on the occasion of his retirement after over twenty years of exemplary service to our nation. Colonel Kirsch's strong commitment to excellence will leave a lasting impact on the vitality of our nation's military procurement and information technology capabilities. His expertise in these areas will be sorely missed by his colleagues both in the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill.

Before embarking on his Air Force career, Colonel Kirsch worked as an estimator/engineer for Penfield Electric Co. in upstate New York, where he designed and built electrical and mechanical systems for commercial construction. In 1978, Colonel Kirsch received his commission through the Officer Training School at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX. Eagerly traveling to Williams AFB in Arizona for flight training, Colonel Kirsch earned his pilot wings after successful training in T-37 and T-38 aircraft.

In 1980, Colonel Kirsch was assigned to Carswell AFB, in Fort Worth, TX, as a co-pilot in the B-52D aircraft. While serving in this capacity on nuclear alert for the next five years, he earned his Masters degree, completed Squadron Officer School and Marine Corps Command and Staff School by correspondence, and earned an engineering specialty code with the Civil Engineering Squadron.

An experienced bomber pilot serving with the 7th Bomb Wing, Colonel Kirsch, then a First Lieutenant, served as the Resource Manager for the Director of Operations—a position normally filled by an officer much more senior in rank. He was selected to the Standardization Evaluation (Stan-Eval) Division and became dual-qualified in the B-52H. Subsequently, he was selected ahead of his peers to be an aircraft commander in the B-52H.

Colonel Kirsch was selected in 1985 as one of the top 1% of the Air Force's captains to participate in the Air Staff Training (ASTRA) program at the Pentagon. His experience during that tour, working in Air Force contracting and legislative affairs, would serve him well in later assignments.

In 1986, Colonel Kirsch returned to flying in the FB-111 aircraft at Plattsburgh AFB, NY. He joined the 529th Bomb Squadron as an aircraft commander and was designated a flight commander shortly thereafter. He employed his computer skills to help automate the scheduling functions at the 380th Bomb Wing and was soon designated chief of bomber scheduling.

Following his tour with the 529th, Colonel Kirsch was assigned to Strategic Air Command (SAC) Headquarters at Offutt AFB, NE. As Chief of the Advanced Weapons Concepts Branch, he served as a liaison with the Department of Energy on nuclear weapons programs and worked on development of new strategic systems—including the B-2 bomber. Colonel Kirsch was one of four officers chosen to be part of the commander-in-chief's (CINC's) staff group to facilitate the transition of SAC to Strategic Command (STRATCOM). Originally picked as a technical advisor for weapon systems, he soon became the legislative liaison for STRATCOM. In this capacity, Colonel Kirsch organized congressional delegations to visit STRATCOM, and managed CINC STRATCOM's interaction with Capitol Hill.

In 1994, Colonel Kirsch traveled here, to Washington, to begin his final assignment on active duty. Initially serving as a military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, Colonel Kirsch once again quickly distinguished himself and was designated the special assistant for acquisition and C3 policy. Representing the Secretary of Defense, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for C3I, Colonel Kirsch managed a myriad of critical initiatives including acquisition reform and information assurance. He

also served as the principal architect for the organization's web page, computer network, and many of the custom applications used to automate the office's administrative functions.

Colonel Kirsch's numerous military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Air Force Achievement Award.

Following his retirement, Colonel Kirsch and his wife Carol will continue to reside in Springfield, VA with their children Alicia and Benjamin.

Mr. President, our nation, the Department of Defense, the United States Air Force, and Lieutenant Colonel Kirsch's family can truly be proud of this outstanding officer's many accomplishments. His honorable service will be genuinely missed in the Department of Defense and on Capitol Hill. I wish Lieutenant Colonel Spanky Kirsch the very best in all his future endeavors. ●

#### FIGHTING VIOLENT CRIME IN SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, on July 11, I had the pleasure of visiting the Santa Ana Police Department to observe its community policing program. Santa Ana is the largest city in Orange County and the ninth largest city in the State of California. Thanks in part to their aggressive community policing program, violent crime in Santa Ana has fallen dramatically.

According to the FBI, violent crime in Santa Ana has dropped 39 percent since 1992; homicides alone are down more than 60 percent, property crimes have dropped 51 percent, and grand theft is down 43 percent.

As one of the first recipients of a Department of Justice Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grant over twenty years ago, the Santa Ana Police Department has been a leader in community policing programs. The Santa Ana Police Department initiated a test program called Community Oriented Policing (COP), designed to create greater interaction between the police department and the community.

The COP philosophy utilizes two strategies: prevention and response. The prevention element aims to remove many of the causes of crime in a community. The Santa Ana Police Department, for example, adopted the "Broken Windows" philosophy of James Wilson and George Kelling. This theory states that minor crimes, disorder, and community disrepair breed crime. Santa Ana put this theory to the test with its "Operation: Round Up" program. By making cosmetic improvements to crime-ridden neighborhoods—repairing homes and removing abandoned cars for example—and by prosecuting minor violations, the police sent a strong message that crime of any and all magnitude is not acceptable. As a result, the "Operation:

Round Up" program was able to eliminate a notorious street gang and improve the infrastructure and appearance of the neighborhood.

The response element of the COP philosophy focuses on improved reaction to crime and effective use of police resources. As part of the COPS MORE 96 grant from the Department of Justice, the city received a \$1.8 million grant that allowed for the purchase of 150 laptop computers for its police department, which do the work of 55 police officers. These computers enable officers to file police reports from the field electronically, allowing them to patrol the community longer. The increase in the number of available officers has decreased the number of calls for assistance. The COP program has allowed the Santa Ana Police Department to concentrate all available resources on fighting and preventing crime.

Mr. President, I am so pleased to recognize Police Chief Paul Walters and the entire Santa Ana Police Department for providing outstanding service to the people of California. Their actions serve as a model for other communities to follow. I hope Congress will continue to help communities such as Santa Ana improve the quality of life for its citizens. ●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the United States Coast Guard as it celebrates the 208th Anniversary of its founding on August 4, 1998.

On August 4, 1790, Congress passed a law creating within the Department of Treasury a service to enforce customs laws. The passage of this law was the foundation for the modern day Coast Guard. The following year, Hopley Yeaton was commissioned as "Master of a Cutter in the service of the United States for the protection of revenue." Yeaton's commission, which was signed by President George Washington, marks the first commission of a seagoing officer, thus giving the Coast Guard the distinction of being the oldest continuous seagoing service of the United States Armed Forces.

Today, the Coast Guard has grown into a force of over 35,000 men and women on active-duty and 8,000 reservist. On a daily basis, the dedicated members of the Coast Guard carry out a number of tasks which ensure the safety of our waters. These tasks include Search and Rescue, Maritime Law Enforcement, Aids to Navigation, Ice Breaking, Environmental Protection, Port Security and Military Readiness.

In times of war, the Coast Guard has performed valiantly to protect our national interests. From the War of 1812 to the Persian Gulf War, members of the Coast Guard have served and given their lives during our Nation's most trying times. The Coast Guard's wartime service was especially noteworthy

during the Second World War when 241,093 Americans answered the call to service as members of the Coast Guard, 1,917 of whom were either killed or wounded in the service of their country.

Equally impressive are the often unsung acts of heroism performed by the Coast Guard on a daily basis. Whether the action is a preventative measure such as ensuring our waterways are clear of hazardous ice, or saving the lives of boaters in danger in the high seas, the work of the Coast Guard affects us all and is a contributing factor to the security we enjoy as Americans.

Mr. President, the Coast Guard motto of "Semper Paratus", meaning "Always Ready", indeed speaks to the dedication and efficiency of the Coast Guard as it stands watch over America's waters. For more than two centuries the Coast Guard has responded with the utmost dedication to service, and for this, Mr. President, all Americans have reason to be grateful. ●

#### FEDERAL ACTIVITIES INVENTORY REFORM ACT OF 1998

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I would like to add a few remarks concerning S. 314, the Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act of 1998. I understand that under this measure, each federal government agency will be required to annually publish an inventory of governmental activities that are not inherently governmental in nature.

Under S. 314, agencies will retain discretion to determine whether an activity is inherently governmental or commercial, and private industry will be given the option to challenge that decision. An agency may also decide that an activity is inherently governmental, but nonetheless pursue outsourcing. This latter practice can be continued and is encouraged by S. 314. For example, I would point my colleagues to the practices of the General Services Administration (GSA), the agency charged with managing all federal personal and real property—including the disposal of property no longer needed by the government, but desired by private consumers.

Three years ago, an Arthur Anderson study concluded that the auctioning function is inherently governmental to GSA's mission. Nevertheless, GSA has increasingly outsourced this function to the private sector.

Today's legislation in no way discourages the federal government's reliance on private industry—particularly, where, as in the case of GSA, a reputable commercial property disposal industry is established and no federal jobs or careers are displaced or otherwise placed at risk. Moreover, auctioning by commercial companies will yield a greater return on the government's investment due to the utilization of commercial incentives and practices. Under Office of Management and Budget Circular Number A-76,