

friendly. He has implemented programs such as Kids' Corner, the Diversity Council, and a flextime policy to allow parents greater schedule flexibility.

In addition, Tony Burns personifies community involvement, including service to the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. President, as we approach a new millennium and look back on the all-but-completed Twentieth Century, we are reminded of the importance of the dedicated people who strive to improve both their workplace and their community. I commend Tony Burns for his business acumen, his leadership, and his commitment to his company and the south Florida community. As he prepares to celebrate his 25th anniversary with Ryder, I ask you to join me and his many friends in extending congratulations and best wishes.●

ON BEHALF OF THE LATE JIM BETHEL, DEAN EMERITUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON'S COLLEGE OF FOREST RESOURCES

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I rise to acknowledge the passing of an eminent teacher, scientist and academic administrator in my state. On Tuesday, May 18, Jim Bethel, Dean Emeritus of the University of Washington's College of Forest Resources, died in a Seattle hospital.

Dean Bethel was one of the Nation's most prominent and influential forestry leaders and was recognized both nationally and internationally. During his 17-year tenure as Dean from 1964 to 1981, he was a principal architect of creative educational innovations and related research programs that have endured in one way or another to this day. Furthermore, his extensive experience and leadership in international forestry affairs has contributed greatly to the College's involvement in international academic and research activities.

As an administrator, Dean Bethel set an undeniably high standard for his successors, faculty and administrators to emulate. Dean Bethel was responsible for initiating the College's pulp and paper program and the Center for Quantitative Science. Under his leadership, the College was repeatedly ranked among the top five forestry institutions in the U.S. Incidentally, while Dean, Bethel never gave up teaching two undergraduate courses, conducting personal research and advising graduate students.

Bethel received a BS degree from the University of Washington and advanced degrees at Duke University. In fact, he was one of the first individuals to be granted a Doctor of Forestry. Bethel held faculty appointments at Pennsylvania State University and Virginia Polytechnic University. During a 10-year stint at North Carolina State University, he was Professor and the Director of the Wood Products Laboratory and acting Dean of the Graduate School. He worked at the National

Science Foundation for three years prior to becoming the Associate Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Washington. He also served as Professor and subsequently the Dean of the College of Forest Resources.

Several organizations recognized Bethel's scientific contribution: he was elected fellow of the Society of American Foresters, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Academy of Wood Sciences. He served on various boards and was a consultant to the National Academy of Sciences. Bethel also served on the President's Council on Environmental Quality. He was one of the founders of the Forest Products Research Society.

Bethel has significantly influenced the lives of many professional foresters. Perhaps his greatest and most enduring professional legacy are his graduate students who went on to responsible and successful positions, and the impressive list of professional journal articles and books.

Dean Bethel will be missed by those concerned about the scientific stewardship of forest resources in my State and the world.●

PLIGHT OF THE KURDISH PEOPLE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today out of concern for the plight of the Kurdish people living in Northern Iraq and Eastern Turkey. They have been victims of some of the most egregious human rights abuses in recent years including brutal military attack, random murder, and forced exile from their homes. While American efforts in Northern Iraq have greatly improved the plight of the Kurds, there is certainly much room for improvement both there and in Turkey.

In 1988, the world was stunned by the horrific pictures of the bodies of innocent Kurds disfigured by the effects of a poison gas attack by Saddam Hussein. We may never know exactly how many people died in that particular attack due to Saddam Hussein's efforts to cover up his culpability. The number of victims, however, is most likely in the thousands.

This was certainly not Iraq's first deplorable attack on the Kurds and, sadly, it was not destined to be the last. Yet, this attack continues to represent a stark milestone in the long list of deplorable deeds Saddam Hussein has perpetrated against his own people.

In recent years, however, the United States has come to the aid of the Kurds of Northern Iraq. At the conclusion of the Gulf War, the United States and our allies established "no-fly" zones over Northern and Southern Iraq. These zones, plus the damage the Iraqi military sustained during Operation Desert Storm, have mercifully curtailed Saddam Hussein's ability to attack the Kurds in Northern Iraq. Mr. President, the men and women of the United States Air Force who risk Iraqi

anti-aircraft fire over Iraq each day in order to enforce these no-fly zones deserve our support and commendation. Not only do their efforts protect nations throughout the region and around the world from Saddam Hussein's aggression, but their daily flights serve as sentries against human rights abuses.

Mr. President, the United States has taken other, more direct actions to help the Kurds of Northern Iraq. Following the Gulf War, the United States Agency for International Development worked to provide important humanitarian assistance to Iraqi Kurds. When Iraqi incursions into the region once again threatened the lives of thousands of innocent civilians, the United States worked to evacuate more than 6,500 people to the safety of Guam. Many were later granted asylum in the United States.

Our relationship with the Kurdish people of Northern Iraq is not a one-way street. More than 2,000 of the Kurds who the United States evacuated in 1996 were either employees of American relief agencies or family members of those employees. Others have provided invaluable intelligence information to the United States.

As I mentioned earlier, many Kurds also live in Eastern Turkey. A minority of Turkish Kurds have taken up arms against the democratically elected Turkish government in a bid for independence. Unfortunately, both sides in this internal conflict are guilty of human rights abuses against innocent Kurdish civilians.

The Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, has devolved into a terrorist organization targeting not only Turkish military and police forces but innocent Kurdish civilians as well. While reliable estimates of the number of victims are extremely hard to come by, it is clear that thousands, probably tens of thousands, have died at the hands of the PKK.

As is often the case, neither side in the dispute holds a monopoly on human rights abuses. The PKK's actions unquestionably demand a response from the Turkish government. Rather than a measured and targeted response, however, Turkey has declared a state of emergency in a large portion of Eastern Turkey, directly affecting more than 4 million of its citizens.

Under the state of emergency, Turkey has severely rationed food, leading to great hardship amongst innocent civilians. In addition, Turkey has forced hundreds of thousands of people out of their homes, leaving more than 2,600 towns and villages mere ghost towns.

These actions are all aimed at suppressing the PKK's terrorism. Yet, the government has actively targeted not only known terrorists but those believed to agree with the PKK's goal of independence—although perhaps not their methods—as well. Even those who support neither the PKK's goals nor their means suffer at the hands of the Turkish military and police forces.