

keep her from carrying on with her duties. Her contributions to the community are many, yet she describes the rewards as all hers.

In one month, Mrs. Casey will turn 82. Happy early birthday, Mrs. Casey. Thank you for your compassion for the people of Reinbeck and the people of Iowa. Your commitment and concern for others is an example to us all that we should contribute to the lives of those around us, no matter what our age. ●

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM HETTINGER: PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF BATTLE CREEK UNLIMITED

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am delighted to speak today to acknowledge a gentleman, from my home State of Michigan, who has served the citizens of Battle Creek, Jim Hettinger. On May 24th of this year, people will gather to pay tribute to Jim Hettinger for his tenure as Executive Director of Battle Creek Unlimited (BCU).

Jim Hettinger has dedicated his professional career, to the development of jobs and opportunities for individuals in the communities where he has worked. For the past twenty years, Jim has served as the president and executive director of Battle Creek Unlimited, Battle Creek's economic development agency.

In the past two decades, Battle Creek has witnessed numerous changes in its economic landscape, but throughout that time period Jim has been working to ensure the economic health and vitality of Battle Creek. As director of Battle Creek Unlimited, Jim Hettinger tirelessly works to promote Battle Creek as an ideal place for businesses to locate. His promotion of Battle Creek has spanned the globe, and has yielded impressive results.

A Michigan native, Jim returned to his home State to work for Battle Creek United after working for the Mid-Missouri Council of Government where he was able to lure a German company to Missouri instead of Battle Creek. However, since arriving in Battle Creek, he has created an industrial park that is recognized as second to none.

Under Jim's guidance, BCU has turned Fort Custer, an abandoned military base, into an industrial park that contains over ninety businesses that provide over 8,000 jobs. The Fort Custer Industrial Park provides good-paying jobs to thousands of individuals by harnessing the dynamism of the global economy. Nearly, three-quarters of the workers in the Ft. Custer Industrial Park are employed by Japanese owned companies. The willingness of international businesses to locate in Battle Creek is testimony to Jim's ability to bridge cultures and convince companies to utilize Battle Creek's world-class workers and receptive business environment.

Jim Hettinger's hard work has been recognized by Michigan Governor John

Engler who awarded him the Economic Developer of the Year Award in 1995. Last year, the Counsel General of Japan in Detroit awarded Mr. Hettinger with a "Certificate of Designation" on behalf of the Government of Japan.

I hope my Senate colleagues will join me in saluting Jim Hettinger for his career of public service, particularly his efforts to provide quality jobs to the residents of the Battle Creek community while fostering a vibrant and dynamic relationship between the Battle Creek area and Japan. ●

MAERSK MCKINNEY MOLLER

● Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I rise to share with my colleagues a few remarks about a very remarkable gentleman that visited with me recently. Maersk McKinney Moller is a legendary figure in his native Denmark. And after our meeting, I've come to appreciate even more his ties to the United States and the history he's lived in his 86 years.

Mr. Moller, as some of my colleagues may know, is the owner of the world's largest shipping company—the AP Moller Group. Its U.S. headquarters were founded in 1943, and its U.S. affiliate, Maersk Line, Limited was chartered in Delaware in 1947. Today, it generates employment for approximately 9000 Americans through 10 U.S. corporate entities devoted to ship management, terminal operations, trucking, rail, transportation and logistics services. On a global scale AP Moller controls approximately 250 ships, 53 of which fly the stars and stripes of the United States. It is notably, the largest US-flag commercial fleet in the world.

Mr. Mollers' ties to the United States go back to 1910, well before he was even born. In that year his father, Arnold Peter Moller, married Chastine Estelle McKinney, a native of Kansas City, MO. Returning to Copenhagen, the senior Moller had by 1940 built a fleet of 46 ships, many of which were engaged by the US and its allies in WWII.

April 1940 saw Germany invaded Denmark and young Maersk McKinney Moller's life fundamentally changed. With his bride of five days, he came to the United States. With personal assets blocked by the war, times were financially lean and his lifestyle was modest. The ensuing eight years, however, marked a period that cemented his enduring bond with Americans and admiration for U.S. armed forces.

By the time WWII ended in 1945, 148 Maersk seamen had lost their lives and the Maersk fleet had lost 25 vessels.

That personal history would color much of what followed for Maersk-McKinney. After the war, he and his father rebuilt the AP Moller Group into the global shipping powerhouse it is today. Along the way, he has maintained a close relationship with the United States and her allies in ways that make a significant contribution to our national security.

For nearly 20 years Maersk Lines, Limited, has partnered with the United States Marine Corps to preposition ships and supplies where needed. Maersk ships, in fact, were the first vessels to arrive in Desert Storm and off-load critically needed Marine Corps supplies and equipment.

Prior to Desert Storm, Maersk Line, Limited obtained a secret clearance from the Department of Defense and now has a top-secret clearance to operate sensitive surveillance ships for the US Navy.

I point these things out to my colleagues for a couple of reasons. First, as a matter of general interest, I wish more of my colleagues could have the pleasure of visiting with Mr. Moller. His personal history has imbued him with a very thoughtful approach and seasoned perspective on global issues.

Second, as the man behind the largest commercial fleet of US-flag ships, he has proven to be a valuable partner to our defense interests. His ships and loading facilities and transportation infrastructure have moved literally tons of supplies that support our men and women in uniform.

In the future the Maritime Security Program, MSP, one of the programs critical for maintaining a US-flagged shipping fleet, will need to be reauthorized. During times of critical national need, MSP participants like Maersk Line, Limited are contractually obligated to the statutorily mandated Voluntary Intermodal Sealift Agreement, VISA. I, for one, am reassured to know that a man of Maersk McKinney Moller's stature and integrity is involved so strongly in this aspect of our national defense. He has proven his value to our Nation many times over. ●

TOWNS COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL LAPTOP PROGRAM

● Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, I want to affirm what TIME magazine has written in its May 21, 2001, issue: Towns County Middle School in Georgia is one of America's "educational pioneers."

In my native Towns County, the digital divide has become the digital opportunity. Every middle school student in the county totes a laptop computer from school to home, courtesy of a Federal grant and local donations. Classroom wiring connects the laptops to the Internet, and teachers incorporate the Web into lesson plans. At home, students question teachers online about homework, and teachers email missed assignments to students who are out sick.

In a section called TIME's Schools of the Year, the magazine called this 265-student school "one of the best-wired middle schools in the U.S." and cited it as one of two middle schools in the Nation that has "found the most promising approaches to the most pressing challenges in education."

Principal Stephen Smith convinced me as Governor that giving take-home