

the urgency of tackling corruption in the lead up to critical parliamentary elections slated for next year, and presidential elections to select Kuchma's successor in 2004.

Meanwhile, those serious about rooting out corruption and corrupt officials should take a hard look at the handling—or more accurately, mishandling—of Ukrainian and foreign owned businesses. For example, United States-owned businesses have been victimized through expropriations, asset thefts, extortion and the like perpetrated or abetted by corrupt officials and courts in Ukraine. While new cases continue to occur, longstanding cases remain unresolved with investors unable to obtain the relief to which they are entitled under Ukrainian and international law.

Although the State Department has made repeated representations about these cases at senior levels of the Kuchma administration, Kyiv rebuffed repeated requests to resolve them in accordance with the law. At the same time it refuses to punish the perpetrators of the criminal acts or take corrective measures to prevent similar cases from arising.

If the victims are to ever achieve a measure of justice, it is essential that U.S. officials raise these cases at every appropriate opportunity.

In one especially egregious and illustrative case, well-connected individuals in Ukraine were able to orchestrate the seizure of all the assets of a successful pharmaceutical joint venture which was half owned by United States investors. When, 6 years after the theft the Ukrainian appeals courts finally dismissed the spurious claims to the assets on grounds that they were based entirely on forged and falsely fabricated documents, senior Ukrainian officials launched into action. Within weeks of these judicial decisions, the Ukrainian President reportedly convened a meeting of senior officials, including the cognizant senior judges and his own senior law enforcement and national security cabinet level officers, at which he made clear that he did not want the stolen assets restored to their rightful American owners.

The courts quickly complied, without explanation, and in disregard of the copious evidence before them, the judges reversed the decisions taken just two months earlier and held in favor of the claimants. Several months later longstanding criminal charges against the same individuals were dropped.

The circumstances surrounding this case and others involving United States investors are indicative of the far reaching scope of corruption and the rule of law deficit in Ukraine today. While the matter was repeatedly raised by the State Department several years ago, I am concerned that the Ukrainian side might assume that the matter is a closed case. I urge officials at the Departments of State and Commerce to disabuse Ukrainian Government officials of such an impression.

If the Kuchma administration is serious about rooting out corruption and advancing democracy and the rule of law, these cases provide a good starting point. Only time will tell if they are up to the challenge.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF GUATEMALA ON THEIR RECENT ELECTIONS

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, the people of Guatemala went to the polls on November 9 to elect a new President, Members of the Guatemalan Parliament, local officials, and representatives to the Central American Parliament.

These elections attracted attention, in large part, due to the candidacy of Efraim Rios Montt, a former coup leader who under the Guatemalan constitution should have been banned from running for the Presidency all together. Rios Montt presided over a troubled part of Guatemala's history, during which time too many innocent lives were lost.

Now these elections were not perfect. Long lines and confusion over where to vote made it difficult for many Guatemalans to express their political views. Some polling stations stayed open for as long as 5 hours after they were scheduled to close; other did not. The time period leading up to the elections was marked by violence and intimidation linked to some Rios Montt supporters.

But in the end, these were important and hopeful elections for a number of reasons. Rios Montt was defeated in the ballot box—and he accepted defeat. The willingness of losers to accept defeat is one sign of a maturing democracy. And the result of this defeat for Rios Montt should not be overlooked; he will lose his immunity from prosecution for crimes committed under his watch.

There is much more to the story than Rios Montt's candidacy, however. Approximately 60 percent of Guatemala's 5 million voters went to the polls on Sunday—the largest turnout since 1985. By turning out in such numbers, Guatemalans showed they understand the power of the ballot box. As one woman put it, "You have to vote if you want things to change."

Overall, these elections were fair and open. Ballots were not rigged, and vehicles carrying them were monitored by satellite.

Violence on election day was isolated. In spite of an insecure climate during the campaign season, threats of violence were not carried out on a large scale over the weekend. The violence many had feared—and some observers have come to expect from elections of this sort—did not take place. In the words of Guatemalan Nobel Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu: "This first round was about saying no to violence."

These elections also marked the first time a nation-wide network of over

3,000 independent election observers, Mirador Electoral, monitored Guatemalan elections—no easy feat in a country ravaged by 40 years of civil war. The group was so highly regarded, they were asked by the Guatemalan election commission to release their "quick count" projections of the winners. And the results of Mirador Electoral matched those reached by the election commission.

Guatemalans will go to the polls again on December 28, and will choose between top vote-getters Oscar Berger and Alvaro Colon to be the next President. I would call upon the Guatemalan Government to maintain their commitment to fairness, and to make adjustments to better prepare for a high turn-out of Guatemalans.

While Guatemala still has many problems, these elections give me hope for the future. I congratulate the Guatemalan people for their commitment to democracy.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING EDITH MILLER

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I recognize the outstanding contributions made by Edith Miller, outgoing Executive Director for the Vermont School Boards Association, VSBA.

Edie, as she is known to her colleagues, friends, and family, joined the Vermont School Boards Association in December 1997 after previously serving for many years as the director of the University of Vermont's Continuing Education Program.

Edie also served with great distinction on numerous boards dedicated to the arts and community welfare. Her participation in local government is noteworthy. She has worn many hats, from holding positions on the town zoning and planning commissions to her current role as Chair of the East Montpelier Select Board.

I also had the pleasure and benefit of having her husband, Martin Miller, on staff during my tenure as Vermont Attorney General from 1969 through 1972.

Over the years, various individuals have described Edie Miller as a strong and articulate voice in support of public education. She possesses a tireless work ethic and an ability to identify critical issues, analyze the information, and communicate that information not only to the VSBA members, but also to local State and Federal officials.

Edie was a driving force in the creation and implementation of the Vermont Education Leadership Alliance Project, VELA. She worked diligently with her colleagues in the Vermont Superintendents Association and the Vermont Principals' Association to address the critical shortage of principals, superintendents and school board members in Vermont. The program was designed to train and certify

school leaders, thereby increasing their effectiveness and reducing turnover. Although VELA is now under the capable leadership of David Ford, Edie still remains very active on its Board of Directors.

Her remarkable skill at working with a broad constituency has earned Edie enormous respect within Vermont's education community. Edie is not afraid to pursue any idea that she believes will improve outcomes for Vermont's children.

To underscore my efforts to increase funding of special education, Edie met with members of every school board throughout Vermont, convincing them to sign a petition asking the federal government to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This was not an easy task, but she persevered. These petitions were presented to me in Vermont, bound in a red ribbon. During Senate debate of the various special education funding proposals I have sponsored, I take these petitions with me to the chamber. I can tell you that those petitions have made a deep impression on my colleagues.

I have been very fortunate to work closely with Edie on a number of education issues. I have always appreciated her keen insight and her insistence on carefully weighing all aspects of proposals before making a policy decision.

For Edie, it is important to increase educational opportunities for all students. For Edie, first and foremost, it is and always will be about the kids.

Edie has left an indelible mark on Vermont's education landscape. Though she may be stepping away from her responsibilities at VSBA, I know she will not be stepping away from education.

So, it is with great pleasure that I offer my congratulations to Edie Miller on her stellar accomplishments as executive director for the Vermont School Boards Association and her unyielding commitment to the education of Vermont's children.●

CHARLES D. "CHUCK" ANDERSON

● Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I was recently advised of the upcoming retirement of Mr. Charles D. "Chuck" Anderson after a long and faithful career in the defense industry. Mr. Anderson is retiring from Raytheon as the company's vice president of the Air-to-Air Missiles Division in Tucson, AZ.

Chuck began his career in the 1950s as a paratrooper with the California National Guard, then earned his bachelor of science degree in mathematics and physics from California State Polytechnic University. He went on to earn a master of science degree in Systems Engineering from the University of Southern California in 1972.

For the last 10 years, Mr. Anderson has been with Raytheon, and it is my understanding that he has been responsible for all AMRAAM, Sparrow AIM-9M, AIM-9X, and ASRAAM efforts, in-

cluding development, testing, and production. He also played key roles in the design and manufacture of the Standard Missile, Standard Arm, DIVAD, Stinger, Advanced Cruise Missile, and Phalanx.

Prior to his years at Raytheon, Chuck served in a variety of capacities with General Dynamics, and over the years he has earned a number of awards: the Winner of the 1998 Department of Defense Logistics Life Cycle Cost Reduction Award; the 1999 Outstanding Contracting Team Award; and the 2000 Secretary of the Air Force Lightening Bolt Award, to name just a few.

Chuck Anderson has spent a career dedicated to keeping America strong. I wish him and his wife, Carolyn, best wishes as they venture into the next chapter of their lives.●

TRIBUTE TO PAUL UNGER

● Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a remarkable Ohioan—a man of great vision and great compassion. Paul Unger is the founder of the Unger Croatia Institute for Public Administration, an organization that provides professional training, education, and technical assistance to Croatian Government administrators and university officials. On January 23, 2004, he will receive the Outstanding Citizen Achievement Award from the U.S. Agency for International Development for his tireless dedication to fostering democracy and freedom in Croatia.

Paul Unger, a fellow Ohioan who is a native of Cleveland, first arrived in Zagreb for a Christmas party one wintry December night in 1945. He was en route from his post as commandant of a United Nations refugee camp for Croats in Egypt to his new assignment as administrator for the United Nations relief program in Yugoslavia. That evening, he met Sonja Franz, a Croatian architect-engineer, who became his wife by the next holiday season. Soon after they married, the Ungers left Croatia for the United States.

As the decades passed, the Ungers kept close contact with their family, friends, and colleagues who had remained overseas, committed to a free, democratic Croatia. In 1997, Paul Unger assembled an advisory group of 45 American and Croatian banking, education, and government leaders to found the Unger Croatia Institute for Public Administration to help reform-minded leaders ease Croatia's transition from the devastating war to a more efficient, democratic government.

As a first step, Mr. Unger created a fellowship program to assist senior Croatian officials in the development of improved practices in government. This program was to be administered by his alma mater, Harvard University. The Unger Croatia Program was created within the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and the Insti-

tute Advisory Group was charged with nominating and selecting candidates. Between 1998–2001, the Ungers personally sponsored 22 Fellows at the Kennedy School, including deputy prime ministers, cabinet ministers and deputies, national bank governors, parliamentary committee chairs, ambassadors, and a Presidential candidate.

To build a program that could provide similar services for locally elected officials, Mr. Unger turned to the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University, CSU. In 2001, the Unger Croatia Center for Local Government Leadership was established within CSU's Levin College.

The success of the Cleveland seminars inspired Mr. Unger to create an educational alliance between CSU and the University of Rijeka, which was formalized in 2002. This collaboration continues to blossom. Over the past 2 years, the Unger Croatia Center at CSU has worked closely with the Economics faculty in Rijeka to develop their professional courses. Last summer, the University of Rijeka hosted the first seminar for public officials in Croatia, and this spring, the University will introduce its first programs in public administration and public health administration—an important step toward the eventual realization of the first-ever Croatian Graduate School of Public Administration.

As Mr. Unger continues to work toward a vision for a prosperous Croatia, government is being transformed. Program participants have returned home and implemented the techniques learned through their studies, creating an environment where Croats have become increasingly involved in local government and have taken an active role in setting budget priorities and guiding community development.

Beyond his extraordinary efforts abroad, Mr. Unger also has contributed much to our home State of Ohio. It is here that he and Sonja raised a family and achieved prominence through a successful business, volunteer service, and community activism. Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Unger served as president/CEO of the Unger Company, a national food packaging company headquartered in Cleveland; chairman of the Urban Renewal Task Force for the Mayor of Cleveland; president of the Cleveland chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union; and chairman of the Ohio's International Trade Council. He has been widely-recognized, notably by the Cleveland Heights High School Hall of Fame, the Cleveland Blue Book, and the City Club of Cleveland Hall of Fame.

Finally, Paul Unger has remained steadfast in moving Cleveland into the international arena. He has helped lead the Cleveland-Miskolc Sister City Committee and the Cleveland Council on World Affairs. He also has sponsored the "Cleveland in the World" lecture series at the City Club of Cleveland.