

the Battle of Puebla, we also recognize the contributions of Mexican Americans to our country as well.

IRAQI PRISONERS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, over the past week we have become aware—indeed, the entire world has learned of the graphic evidence—of abuse against Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison. We express shock; we express condemnation of these despicable acts. That has been expressed on the floor—indeed, throughout the Nation.

The persons who carried these acts out must face justice. The perpetrators have disgraced themselves and, in the process, have brought shame to all of us who cherish justice and decency and dignity.

Moreover, their behavior is deeply un-American. This country is founded on those universal principles of human rights and respect for each and every individual. Those disturbing pictures show men and women who have abandoned America's values and, in the process, jeopardized our efforts to bring democracy and the rule of law to Iraq. Thousands of honorable men and women are working and sacrificing each and every day to bring peace and freedom to the Iraqi people. We cannot let these intolerable acts of a few undermine the noble work of the overwhelming majority of our troops.

The abusers of Abu Ghraib must face justice and they will face justice. In March, the Army charged 6 military police officers with physical and sexual abuse of 20 Iraqi prisoners. Three of the six cases have been referred to military trial. The criminal probe into allegations against four other soldiers is continuing. In total, our military has launched five separate investigations. An administrative review has resulted in notices of reprimand filed against seven officers and noncommissioned officers this week. The inspector general of the Army and the commander of the Army Reserve are also conducting their own investigations.

I commend President Bush for his efforts to reach out to the Arab world to address this matter. It is important that we address these reprehensible acts directly and fully and quickly and in a fully transparent manner.

Our men and women in uniform are respected around the world. They are respected for their professionalism and because they defend the highest of political ideals: individual rights, freedom, justice, and the rule of law. In Bosnia, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Iraq, and elsewhere, our troops are serving with honor, with courage, and with professionalism to advance democracy and to advance liberty.

As the Abu Ghraib investigations unfold, I do urge my colleagues and everyone watching and listening to keep that in mind. The vast majority of our men and women in uniform are serving ably and honorably, and through their heroic efforts, they are advancing our freedoms and values.

HONORING WOLFGANG PUCK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the city of Las Vegas, in my native State of Nevada, is recognized as the entertainment capital of the world.

Our amazing resorts offer many options for fun, but one of their greatest attractions is world-class dining.

Over the last 12 years, many of our Nation's leading chefs have opened restaurants in Las Vegas, transforming our desert city into even more of a culinary oasis.

The man most responsible for this remarkable transformation is Wolfgang Puck.

Wolfgang Puck was born in Austria. He began his formal training at age 14, inspired by his mother, who was a hotel chef. By the time he came to this country at age 24, Wolfgang had prepared himself for success, but nobody could have predicted just how dramatic that success would be.

By combining classic French techniques with influences from Asia and California, and by using the finest ingredients from local purveyors, he has changed the way Americans think about food and the way chefs prepare it.

Along the way he has become American's most famous chef, and created an empire comprising a dozen fine dining restaurants and more than 50 casual and quick service establishments.

Four of his best restaurants are in Las Vegas: Spago and Chinois at the Forum Shops at Caesar's Palace; Trattoria Del Lupa at Mandalay Bay; and Postrio at the Venetian.

One thing all these places have in common is a remarkable attention to detail. Wolfgang Puck is a person who thinks about everything that could possibly affect the dining experience. Some would even call him a worrier. The story goes that before his first Spago restaurant opened, he couldn't sleep for two days because he was worried that nobody would show up. Well, people did show up, and they lined up to get in. So Wolfgang's reaction was to worry about how he would ever be able to feed such a crowd.

Wolfgang Puck has been influential because of his cooking techniques and his approach to food; almost every American chef has learned something from him. But you don't have to be a chef to learn from Wolfgang Puck. We can all learn from his willingness to take risks and try new ways of doing things. He has said that he learned more from his one restaurant that failed than he learned from the many that succeeded.

Wolfgang has a great partner in life and in business—his wife, Barbara Lazaroff. She is an acclaimed architectural designer who has created magnificent environments where diners can appreciate Wolfgang's food. I'm sure Wolfgang would be the first to acknowledge that he couldn't have accomplished what he has without Barbara by his side.

Wolfgang and Barbara and their two sons live in California, but we think of

them as part of our Las Vegas community. They are very active in charitable activities in Nevada, as well as California. Their Puck-Lazaroff Charitable Foundation was established in 1982, and has raised more than \$5 million for charity. It sponsors the annual American Food and Wine Festival, which raises money for Meals on Wheels.

Wolfgang and Barbara are also major supporters of the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of California and Nevada, and the Alzheimer's Association.

In fact, on May 15, Wolfgang will be the honored guest at Keep Memory Alive, an annual dinner in Las Vegas that combats Alzheimer's by raising money and public awareness. This event began in 1996 as an intimate dinner party. It has been repeated each year since, thanks to Larry Ruvo and Bobby Baldwin. Last year, Keep Memory Alive had grown to a feast for 300 people at Postrio. Wolfgang and other chefs prepared a memorable dinner, and Muhammed Ali and other celebrities auctioned off some memorable items. The evening raised \$2.6 million to fight Alzheimer's.

It is entirely fitting that this year's event at the Mirage will honor Wolfgang Puck for his work to combat this horrible disease. Please join me today in saluting Wolfgang and Barbara for all their contributions to the southern Nevada community, and the entire country.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I today speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

On August 9, 2000, police charged four men in Daly City, CA, for allegedly assaulting two gay men in a fast food restaurant.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. By passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

PAT TILLMAN

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life and mourn the death of Corporal Patrick D. Tillman, age 27, who was killed in action in Afghanistan on April 22, 2004. Pat Tillman was originally from San Jose, CA. He was a true hero.

Pat Tillman exuded greatness and humility throughout his short life. He

was a shining star on and off the football field. In high school at Leland High in San Jose, CA, Pat was named the Central Coast Co-Player of the Year for 1993 and earned a scholarship to Arizona State University. At Arizona State, he led the team to the Pacific-10 Conference Title and then to the Rose Bowl. In 1997, while at Arizona State, Pat was named Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year. Pat also knew the value of a good education. He earned a degree in marketing at Arizona State University, while also maintaining a 3.84 GPA. The Arizona Cardinals selected Pat in the 1998 NFL draft where he played hard for the Cardinals as a safety. In 2000, the St. Louis Rams offered him a substantial increase in compensation to play for them. However, out of loyalty, Pat turned it down to stay in Phoenix.

It was Pat's deep loyalty and character that led him to his next career move. After the horrific attacks of 9/11, Pat, who was just returning from his honeymoon, announced that he was leaving the NFL to join the Army Rangers. Pat left behind his new bride Marie and a substantial contract from the Arizona Cardinals.

Pat Tillman was not about money or fame. He was a remarkable young man who put his country and its ideals ahead of himself. Pat's physical strength and talents were only overshadowed by his personal integrity. The United States Army posthumously awarded Pat the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Good Conduct Medal and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Pat Tillman was a loving husband, son, and brother. My heart goes out to his wife Marie, his parents, Patrick, Sr. and Mary; his two brothers, Kevin and Richard and the countless others whose lives he touched. I want his family to know that people across California and throughout our country share their grief as we also salute the gift of his life and service.

Pat Tillman was a man of great strength, courage and patriotism. His example will continue to inspire countless Americans for years to come. It is most appropriate that we honor him for his outstanding courage and his selfless devotion to others and to his country. A hero is gone, but he will not be forgotten.

HONORING ALASKA CORRECTIONAL OFFICER DANIEL BATES

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, law enforcement officers from around the Nation—troopers, police officers, sheriff's deputies, professional corrections officers, conservation officers and rangers and federal law enforcement officers—are traveling to our Nation's Capital for the annual observance of National Police Week which begins on May 9 and continues through May 15.

National Police Week is a solemn period, during which law enforcement officers recognize their brothers and sis-

ters who died in the line of duty and provide support and comfort to the survivors.

Last year, during National Police Week, I had the sad duty of acknowledging the loss of Officer James C. Hesterberg, the first member of the Alaska Department of Corrections to lose his life in the line of duty. This year, I must sadly acknowledge the loss of Officer John Watson of the Kenai Police Department who was fatally shot while on duty on Christmas night 2003.

On May 11, as part of the National Police Week observance, Corrections U.S.A., an association of 90,000 publicly-employed professional corrections officers, will meet to honor their brothers and sisters who have performed acts above and beyond in the protection of public safety.

It gives me great pride to recognize Officer Daniel Bates, an employee of the Alaska Department of Corrections, presently assigned to the Hiland Mountain Correctional Center, who will receive the 2004 Silver Medal of Valor from Corrections U.S.A.

On December 31, 2000, Officer Bates, then assigned to the Ketchikan Correctional Center, reacted quickly and professionally to an incident involving an inmate who one month prior was convicted of twelve criminal counts stemming from the armed robbery of a liquor store and a convenience store. Two of those counts were for the crime of attempted murder. The prisoner in question was arrested after an all night manhunt during which he shot at police officers who tried to apprehend him at a motel.

The inmate was participating in outdoor recreation at the jail when he began to scale the first of two perimeter fences around the exercise area. He succeeded in scaling the inner fence, ignoring orders to stop, and failed to stop after being struck by a rubber projectile fired by Officer Bates. After the prisoner breached the outer fence, the final barrier, Officer Bates fired at him with live ammunition, bringing him down.

Given this inmate's history of violence toward law enforcement officers, it was critical to the public's safety that Officer Bates acted promptly and decisively to prevent the escape. His calm and professional actions may have been instrumental in keeping the names of one or more Alaska law enforcement officers off of the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Wall in Judiciary Square. For this we are grateful.

Our Nation's professional correctional officers are said to walk the toughest beat in law enforcement. I am pleased to join with Corrections U.S.A. in recognizing one of America's finest officers, Daniel Bates, a veteran member of the Alaska Department of Corrections, whose actions personify the department's motto, "Vigilance Pride Dedication."

I thank the President and yield the floor.

ABUSE OF IRAQI PRISONERS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I share the sense of outrage and disgust that has been expressed by so many Americans since the allegations and horrifying pictures of deeply troubling abuses at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq have come to light.

I am particularly sickened by the damage that has been done to the brave men and women of the United States military. The depraved acts of a few risk tarnishing the reputation of hundreds of thousands of American servicemen and women who behave honorably every day, even in extraordinarily difficult circumstances. These acts also put our troops at risk, by casting them in the role of abusers, making it more difficult to gain the trust and cooperation of Iraqis. Anytime the Geneva Convention is violated, the framework of basic standards on which all military personnel and their families depend is weakened.

I am also troubled by the irreparable damage done to American power. Our power does not come only from military might or economic muscle. We also derive power from what we stand for. Our commitment to basic human rights, to human dignity, and to the rule of law gives us power to persuade and to lead and to inspire. When this commitment is called into question, American power is diminished, and this is a terrible loss.

Now that these appalling acts have been exposed and reported around the world, we must proceed to show the world something else—that our military, our political system, and our society do not condone this behavior, that we are capable of a full and transparent accounting for what has happened and how it has happened, that we will take action to correct the failures in the system, and that we are committed to addressing these abuses through the rule of law.

DISCLOSING GOVERNMENT WRONGDOING

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to those public servants who step forward to disclose government waste, fraud, and abuse. Commonly called whistleblowers, these individuals alert Congress and the public to threats to health, waste of taxpayer money, and other information vital to running an effective and efficient government. While there are protections in place for Federal employees who disclose government wrongdoing, certain legal decisions prevent many from coming forward. To underscore the importance of whistleblowers, Time Magazine called 2002 the "Year of the Whistleblowers" because of the bravery of FBI Agent Colleen Rowley, who alerted Congress to serious institutional problems at the FBI, and Sherron Watkins and Cynthia Cooper, who blew the whistle on financial mismanagement at Enron and WorldCom, respectively.