

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SIERRA NEVADA JOB CORPS CENTER

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center on its 25th Anniversary.

Since its beginning in 1979, the Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center has provided 16- to 24-year-old men and women with the tools they need to become skilled workers and successful citizens.

Under contract to the Department of Labor, the Sierra Nevada Center continuously trains 560 young adults in residential and non-residential programs. It helps them attain high school diplomas and general equivalency degrees, and provides counseling and 15 different vocational training courses.

These programs not only teach the basic reading and mathematics skills that are crucial for a successful career, they also instill the positive work ethic and good work habits that are equally important to success.

Thanks to the Sierra Nevada Job Corps, more than 20,000 men and women have become productive, employed citizens. By offering an alternative to welfare and unemployment, the center not only provides a long-lasting benefit to its students, but also to the entire State of Nevada.

This organization has been an inspiration to thousands of underprivileged Nevadans, giving them the motivation and confidence to pursue opportunities that would have otherwise been beyond their reach.

Please join me in congratulating director Kenneth C. Dugan, his staff and the thousands of graduates of the Sierra Nevada Job Corps on this program's 25th anniversary.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS LINDA TARANGO-GRIESS

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I express my sympathy over the loss of Linda Tarango-Griess of Sutton, NE, a Sergeant First Class in the Nebraska Army National Guard. SFC Tarango-Griess was killed on July 11, 2004 near the city of Samarra in Iraq when a roadside bomb exploded near her convoy. She was 33 years old.

SFC Tarango-Griess was originally from North Platte and graduated from Kearney High School. She was a full-time soldier for 14 years in the Nebraska Army National Guard and was deployed to Iraq in February of this year. Tarango-Griess was assigned to the 267th Ordnance Company based in Lincoln and was responsible for direct support maintenance for coalition forces in the region, including the installation of additional armor protection on military Humvee vehicles to make them safer. Tarango-Griess was one of thousands of brave American service women and men serving in Iraq.

SFC Tarango-Griess is survived by her parents, Augustin and Juanita

Tarango of North Platte; and husband, SSGT Douglas Griess, of Sutton. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this difficult time. America is proud of Linda Tarango-Griess' service and mourns her loss.

For her service, bravery, and sacrifice, I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring SFC Tarango-Griess.

SERGEANT JEREMY FISCHER

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I express my sympathy over the loss of Jeremy Fischer of Lincoln, NE, a Sergeant in the Nebraska Army National Guard. SGT Fischer was killed on July 11, 2004 near the city of Samarra in Iraq when a roadside bomb exploded near his convoy. He was 26 years old.

SGT Fischer will be remembered as a hard-working, positive individual. He joined the Nebraska Army National Guard in 1999 and was deployed to Iraq in February of this year. He was assigned to the 267th Ordnance Company based in Lincoln and was responsible for direct support maintenance for coalition forces in the region, including the installation of additional armor protection on military Humvee vehicles to make them safer. Fischer was one of thousands of brave American service men and women serving in Iraq.

SGT Fischer is survived by his parents, James Fischer of Hastings and Kathy Fischer of Lincoln; and wife of nearly 8 months, Sarah Fischer, of Lincoln. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this difficult time. America is proud of Jeremy Fischer's service and mourns his loss.

For his service, bravery, and sacrifice, I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring SGT Jeremy Fischer.

SERGEANT ROBERT E. COLVILL, JR.

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude to honor the life of a brave young man from Anderson, IN. Sgt. Robert E. Colvill, 31 years old, died on July 8 in Samarra, Iraq when the building he was in came under attack. With his entire life before him, Rob chose to risk everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Rob graduated from Madison Heights High School in 1991 and joined the Marines shortly thereafter, following a long family tradition of military service. Rob dedicated 8 years of his life to active duty before retiring from the Marines. According to family and friends, it did not take long for Rob to realize that civilian life was not for him. After one year, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany. This past spring, Rob was deployed to Iraq, where he bravely fought for 4 months before sacrificing his life for the worthy cause of freedom. Robert Colvill Sr. told the Anderson Herald-Bulletin that his son, Rob, "was

doing what he wanted to do and did his best. He was trained for this. It was his calling."

Rob was the thirtieth Hoosier soldier to be killed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. This brave young soldier leaves behind his father, Robert; his wife, Chris; his two sons, Travis and Zachary; and his stepdaughter, Suzanne. May Rob's children grow up knowing that their father gave his life so that young Iraqis will some day know the freedom they enjoy.

Today, I join Rob's family, his friends and the entire Anderson community in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over his death, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Rob, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Rob was known for his dedicated spirit and his love of country. When looking back on the life of this late student and former athlete, Madison Heights High School Track Coach John McCord, told the Anderson Herald-Bulletin, "He was the kind of kid you liked to have on any team. He always gave his best effort. He always practiced and trained hard and competed to the best of his abilities." Today and always, Rob will be remembered by family members, friends and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Rob's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Rob's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Robert E. Colvill in the official record of the U.S. Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Rob's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Rob.