

gay bar while shouting anti-gay epithets at them. After attacking the victims, the youths fled when passerby said they had called the police.

I believe that the 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. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### HONORING FAVORITE TEACHERS

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, nearly 4,000 Minnesotans honored their favorite teacher at my Minnesota State Fair booth this summer. I would like to honor these teachers further by submitting their names to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as follows:

Lanesboro Elementary—Helen Simen; LaPorte High School—Joyce Stillwater; Las Virgenes Unified School—Larry Sandirs; Laura MacArthur Elementary School—Larry Yadowski; Le Center Elementary School—Mary Spartz; Le Center Secondary School—Erik Buckman; Le Maison D'Enfant—Cecile Gaultier; Sandrine Perigaud; Learning Center for Children (Minneapolis)—Barbara Novy; LeCenter Elementary—Elizabeth Traxler; LeCenter High School—Tony Boyer; LeRoy Edlund, Robyn Menk; Lehman Center—Heather Turngren; LeRoy High School—Barb Payne; Leroy-Ostrander High School—Norm Hansen; LeSueur Elementary—Patti Doshan, Tom Quiram, Rachel Sorenson; L'Etoile du Nord French Immersion—Laura Handley, Madam Keil, Maureen Peltier, Mary Rddad, Peggy Russel, Ms. Stevens, Tammy Trouchu; Lewiston-Altura—Julie Schneider; Liberty High Charter School—Gary Knox; Lily Lake Elementary—Laine Belter, Sally Davis, Mrs. Kocian, Mrs. Lein, Ricky Michels, Joan Teppen, Brad Utzman; Lincoln at Mann Elementary—Jane Barton, Stephanie Koenig; Lincoln Center Elementary—Gretchen Brandt, Mrs. Christenson; Lincoln Elementary (Anoka)—Mr. Dickens, Mr. Koenig, Karen Krantz, Baiying Wu; Lincoln Elementary (Elk River)—Cherly Howard, Mrs. Ostroot; Lincoln Elementary (Fairbault)—KeriJo Kilmeyer; Lincoln Elementary (Minneapolis)—Mr. Lundquist; Lincoln Elementary (White Bear Lake)—Teri Beckers, Ms. Gahm, Mr. Healy, Mary Ellen Mieux, Debbie Thiebalt; Lincoln H.I. Elementary (Hendricks)—Barbara Nelson; Lincoln High School (Esko)—Jen Hoffman; Lincoln High School (Lake City)—Becky Kearns; Lincoln High School (Thief River Falls)—Calvin Lindberg, Regina Olson; Lincoln K-8 Choice School (Rochester)—Linnea Archer, Elizabeth Koehler, Stephanie Koenig, Beth Naptin; Lincoln Secondary School (Ivanhoe)—Mr. Nelson; Lindbergh Elementary—Mary Jo Schultz; Lino Lakes Elementary—Mary Jfortney; Linwood A+ Elementary School (St. Paul)—Kimberly Kroetsch; Linwood Elementary (Wyoming)—Mr. Knox, Heather Peterson, Jan Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Urness; Litchfield High School—Gary Hein, Jo Carlson, Linda Heggedal-Hart, Keith Johnson, Greg Matthews; Little Canada Elementary—Jerene Mortensen, Barbara Schochenmaier; Little Falls High School—John Ahlin, Carolyn McGrath, Luverne Powers; Little Falls Public Schools—Anne Rebischke; Little Mountain Elementary—Lee Tracy; Living Hope Lutheran School—Nicole Dub; Lomarena Elementary (Laguna Hills, CA)—Sharon Hinds;

Long Prairie Grey Eagle Elementary—Brach Czech, Mr. Gustafson, Darlene Mareck; Longfellow Elementary (Minneapolis)—Ms. Abrahamson, Jan Nethercut; Longfellow Humanities Magnet School (St. Paul)—Ms. Filipek-Johnson; Longfellow Middle School (LaCrosse, WI)—Laurie Strand; Loring-Nicollet Alternative High School—Marin Peplinski; Los Angeles, CA—Margaret Truppi; Lourdes High School—Mr. Rhabe; Lower East Side, NY—Goldie Brown; Lucy Laney at Cleveland Park Elementary—Lisa Brown, John Cearnal, Janice Evans, Trina Mansfield, Ms. Schroeder, Opal Toy; Lutheran High School—Paul Schlif; Luverne High School—Esther Frakes, Jim Sanden; Lyle Elementary School—JoAnn Guthmiller; Lyndale Elementary—Gene Ruder; Mable Barron School, Stockton, CA—Sarah Fleutsch, Eddie Gehrke; Macalaster College—Mahnaz Kousha; Macalaster Plymouth United Church Preschool—Sue McMahan; Maddock Public Schools—Penny Leier, Madelia Elementary—Caryn Anderson; Madelia High School—Terry Arduer, Debra Nelson; Madison Elementary (Blaine)—Mr. Lungee, Jennifer Warner, Linda Anderson, Amy Neuswanger; Madison Elementary (St. Cloud)—Mr. Ellingson; Mahtomedi High School—Joy Ganyo, Shelly Mitchel; Mahtomedi Middle School—Mrs. Bigalk, Claudine Goodrich, Jennifer Och; Main Elementary (Kodiak, AK)—Diane Getten-Langfitt; Manhattan New School, NY, NY—Mindy Gerstenhaber; Mankato East High School—Bob Gospeter, James Manske, Sheri Robinson; Mankato West High School—Scott Urban, Gwen Walz, Tim Walz, Jack Bengston; Mann Elementary—Jan Dixon, Heather Long, Judy Ronnei; Maple Grove High School—Terry Caruso, Susan Hein, Larry Larson, Caroline Mullins, Jane Ruohoniemi, Jutta Schubert; Maple Grove Junior High—Doug Anderson, Amy Bradley, Mike Olson; Maple Lake East Middle School—Mark Jenzen, Dan Kraft; Maple River Central Elementary—Cathy Schroeder; Maple River High School—Susan Goecke, William O'Brian; Maplewood Middle School—Ms. Cartier, Mr. Petermen, Peter Evans, Faye Ormseth, Mrs. Willer; Maranatha Christian Academy—Tim Ford; Marcy Open Elementary—Mariann Bentz, David Brun, Lynn M, Jay Scoggin, Nicky Sendar, Greg Krueger, Rhonda Geyette; Marine Elementary—Nancy Wisniewski; Marion W. Savage Elementary—Carl Berg, Lisa Christen, Barb Fiola; Martin County West High School—Sylvan Struck; Mary Queen of Peace—Mrs. Leider, Mrs. Nowak; Mason-Rice Elementary—Leslie Kahn Skornik; Maternity of Mary—Mrs. Babineau, Mrs. Fauskee, Gloria Ross; Math and Science Academy—Eric Kaluza, Paul Simone; Maxfield Magnet Elementary—Mrs. Fredrickson; Mayo High School—Steve Brehmer, Marilyn Thompson-Hoerl; McCluer North High School—Mary Pitilangas, Ellen Bowles; McCormick Middle School—Richard Gundlach; McGuire Junior High—Mr. Zeman; McKinley Elementary—Joe Hirte, Kathy Kolle, Gloria Steffenson; Meadow Lake Elementary—Tonya Larson, Matt Phelps; Meadowbrook Elementary—Jack Anderson, Karen Carlson, Angelette Kittrell, Steve Miller, Judy Skalicky, Sue Young, Lesley Hendrickson; Meadowvale Elementary—Darcy Doty, Amy Crocker; Meadowview Elementary—Erica Rach; Medford High School—Mr. Davis; Melrose High School—Dave Anderson; Menahga High School—Mr. Honga, Timothy Wurdock; Mendota Elementary—Deb Manthey, Julie Weisbecker; Mesabi East Elementary—Arnie Nellis, Denise Erchul; Metcalf Junior High School—Mark Challengren, John Jacobson, Steven Orth; Metro Deaf School—Lisa Ewan, Kevin Kovacs; Metro State University—Mary Kirk; Metropolitan Learning Alliance—

Stephanie Wheelock; Middleton Elementary—Liz Bergdall, Heather Bestler, Ms. Wetschka; Milaca Elementary—Randy Johnson; Milaca High School—David Dillan, Randy Zimmer, Andrea Rusk; Minneapolis Montessori—Maria Malm; Minneapolis—Michelle Cambrice, Mark Hymen, Chris Jaglo, Norma Johnson, Tom Muehlbauer, Mrs. Solum, Mark Trumper, Barb Wasmoen, Nate Wayne, Ruben Wenzel; Minneapolis Community Technical College—Gregg Kubera; Minneapolis Educational Service Center—Dorothy Hoffman; Minneapolis Jewish Day School—Lori Bale, Patty Baskin, Andi Cohen, Mrs. Kaplan, Sue Norton, Julie Ziesman; Minneapolis Public School—Mary Jo Meagher, Cheryl Ryan; Minneapolis South High School—Margie Adamsick; Minnesota Business Academy—Mr. Tillman; Minnesota North Star Academy—Mandy Frederickson; Minnehaha Academy—Camella Whaley, Ms. Scholl, Mrs. Ameter, Mrs. Classen, Mr. Erickson, Carolyn Forsell, Deb Fondel, Mrs. George, Renee Hecker, Bob Noble, Naomi Peterson, Nancy Ringling, Mr. Scholl, Paulita Todhunter, Michelle Vitt; Minnesota State University, Moorhead—Sarah Smedman; Minnesota Transitions Charter School—Jennifer Struck; Minnesota Virtual Academy—Jen Ingalls; Minnesota Waldorf School—Mr. Angus, Mrs. Meany, Kirste Riehle; Minnetonka High School—Randy Nelson, Ernie Gulner, Doug Kennedy, Mrs. Pistner, Emily Rosengren, Amy Stafford, Ann Swanson, Judy Trombley; Minnetonka Middle School East—Mary Fenwick, Brian Getter, Rebbecca MacDougal, Rhonda Olson-Lundgren, Minnetonka Middle School West—Carina Grandner, Joan Julien, Paul MacKinney, Tony Mosser, Matt Sell; Minnewashta Elementary—Melanie Casiday, Chris Haun, Kathy Larson; Mission Valley—Patricia Olsen; Mississippi Creative Arts Magnet School—Ms. Erno, Judy Sheldon, Judy Ewald, Karyn Wrenshall; Moline High School—Timothy Curry; Monroe Community (St. Paul)—Kath Olson, Anna Stanek; Monroe Elementary (Brooklyn Park)—Carol Allen, Joan Campe, Mrs. Hanson, Monica Magadan, Sue Steel, Carol Allen; Monroe Elementary (North Mankato)—Sandy Hatalstaed; Montevideo High School—Charlie Breest; Montevideo Middle School—Ralph Heidorn, Mark Johnson, John Mader; Montgomery-Lonsdale Elementary—Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Wondra; Monticello District Offices—Jim Johnson; Monticello High School—Holly Herman; Monticello Middle School—Jennifer Uluen; Moorhead Junior High—Sharon Lucason; Mora High School—JoAnne Schuch; Moreland Elementary—Susan Birkoltz, Debbie Haefel, Maria Pasquerella; Morris Bye Elementary—Mrs. Holm, Nicole Huttner, Gerhardt Mahling, Aaron Olinyk, Ann Sangster, Barbara Nicholls, Besty Quist; Mosinee Middle School—Lynne Helbach; Mound Westonka High—Jim Kaeter; Mounds Park Academy—Maureen Conway, Mark Dallmann; Mounds View High School—Mavis Schwanz, Bonnie Bougie, Dan Butler, Greg Harman, Donna Johnson, Joe Keenan, Fred Kunze, John Madura, Kathy Miller, Bob Nelson, Gretchen Nessel, Philip Richardson, Ruthie Seidenkranz, Graham Wrigth, Ted Bennett, Richard Werner; Murdoch High School—Alice Peterson; Murdock Elementary—Donna Johnson; Murray County Central High School—Janet Opdahl; Murray County Central Secondary School—Dan Willadson; Murray Junior High—Billy Chan, Tim Chase, Mary Crowley, Mr. Hughes, John Krenik, Mr. Pearson; Museum Magnet—Lolita Cox, Mr. Jeffers, Flint Keller, Heather Seifert, Jennifer Keller; National American University—Tony Steblay; Nativity of Mary School—Pat Bohman, Diane Talley, Nativity of Our Lord

Elementary—Paula Bernabai, Jill Daley, Michelle Metzdorff, Vi Moser, Mrs. Scanlan; Mouqd-Westonka Secondary School—Mr. Kaeter; Mount Calvary Lutheran School—Karl Schmidt, James Spitzack; Mount Hope Redemption—Lutheran School—David Polzin; Mount Iron-Buhl High School—Ted Louma, Luke Weinens; Mount Olivet Nursery School—Sandra Keuhn; Mountain Lake High School—Jerry Cogue, Wade Nelson; Nellie Stone Johnson Elementary—Jonathan Berry; Neveln Elementary—Maryanne Heimsness, Linda Lind; New City Charter School—Mary Spoor; New Haven Community School—Elaine Arft; New Hope Elementary—Stephanie Hill, Paula Roberge; New London-Spicer High School—Lloyd Bakke; New Prague Intermediate Elementary—Margaret Kartek, Mark Shaughnessey, Mrs. Witt, Irma Langer; New Prague Middle School—Heidi Hagen; New Prague Senior High School—Pat O'Malley, Dan Puls, New Richland-Hartland-Elleendale-Genera Elementary—Sylvia Boettger; New Richmond Senior High School—Jim McCollum;

#### FIGHTING TERRORISM IN LATIN AMERICA

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, as we contemplate reforms to better equip us to prevent and fight terrorism, I hope we will bear in mind the importance of the Western Hemisphere. As chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, I am encouraged by the opportunities we have to work cooperatively with our regional neighbors on issues we all can benefit from. We have shared interests in promoting democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. We are stronger when we stand together as a hemisphere against terrorism, money laundering, and the trafficking of drugs, weapons, and people. Our greatest asset in the war on terror in Latin America and the Caribbean is the fact that we have so many willing partners throughout the region who share our values.

I recently came across an interesting study, written by Michael Johnson of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, that discusses the threat of international terrorist groups in the Triborder region of Paraguay, Brazil and Argentina. I hope my colleagues will read this study and reflect upon the importance of addressing terrorism wherever it exists around the world.

I ask unanimous consent that study be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN SOUTH AMERICA'S TRIBORDER REGION

##### A REGION IN NEED OF SECURITY

Unstable institutions, rampant corruption and a struggling economy made Paraguay appear as an attractive venue for would-be terrorists to base their operations just a few years ago. However, with the newly formed Three Plus One Counterterrorism Dialogue consisting of Argentine, Paraguayan, Brazilian and an American intelligence-gathering team, terrorists seem to have decided to shy away from creating havoc in the region. Though no terrorist initiatives seem to have occurred in the tri-border region of Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, experts from each of the countries feel that signifi-

cant amounts of money laundering is taking place in the area—ending up funding terrorist acts in the Middle East. Current U.S. foreign policy in the area, therefore, will play an integral role in cleansing the area of terrorists as well as contain other illicit activities endemic to the region.

U.S. agencies have been monitoring clandestine activity in Paraguay for a number of years. However, only recently have they begun to increase their physical presence. According to various reports, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has more than doubled the size of its office in Asuncion. However, this does not automatically represent any change in the status quo. In the wake of terrorist strikes in the U.S., Paraguay's recent history of allegedly serving as a staging ground for militant Islamic groups such as Hezbollah and the Islamic Jihad certainly is drawing closer scrutiny.

On September 21, 2003, foreign ministers from the Organization of American States (OAS) nations met to discuss terrorism-related hemispheric security concerns. Portions of the talks dealt with the Southern Cone countries' long-standing belief that Paraguay has shown little concern in addressing the terrorist elements operating within its borders. Evidence shows that the U.S. has stepped up pressure on the tri-border countries to clean up the area and eliminate "rogue elements." Hopefully, such an increase in the U.S. presence will yield all the returns that the Pentagon anticipates.

#### U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN THE TRI-BORDER REGION

President Bush's call to sustain the war "until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped and defeated" explains U.S. authorities' increase in the monitoring of developments in the tri-border area. For their part, tri-border countries have indicated that they intend to fully cooperate in helping the U.S. eliminate any terrorist threats in the region. Although Brazil and Argentina have increased their border security, Paraguay has perhaps assumed the strongest position in support of U.S. anti-terrorism efforts by asking the OAS to firmly support any U.S.-led retaliation.

Nevertheless, rhetoric and strong anti-terrorism stances by these nations fail to quell fears about the potential terrorist threat posed by illicit forces in the region. Paraguay's Foreign Minister, Jose Antonio Moreno, stated that 40 FBI agents arrived in Paraguay and were headed to Ciudad del Este, a "transit point for shadow groups." The inevitability of U.S. involvement in the area was reflected in statements made by the State Department and the former director of the FBI, Louis J. Freeh. The FBI's concern was rooted in a trip that Freeh took to South America in 1998 to assess security concerns. At the time, Freeh called for a multinational crackdown on crime, something he saw as an important step to establishing a hemispheric police alliance. He called the tri-border region "a free zone for significant criminal activity, including people who are organized to commit acts of terrorism." Last April, the State Department warned that the governments of Paraguay, Brazil and Argentina are not capable of preventing Islamic terrorist actions originating from Paraguay's hub of militancy, Ciudad del Este.

The U.S. has offered its Special Forces to train and advise the Paraguayan military and national police in anti-terrorism and anti-drug tactics to combat the identified groups. U.S. Special Forces took a first step to making their presence felt in Paraguay earlier this year by participating with the country's military in a "training exercise" focused on combating drug traffickers. At

the time, many thought that this maneuver closely resembled an anti-insurgency operation. Such an approach could signal a change in U.S. military policy in Paraguay, as further training could focus on anti-terrorism tactics.

#### 9/11 CONNECTION

Ciudad del Este provides the kind of uncontrolled environment that can sustain criminal organizations—and terrorists. The 1992 Israeli Embassy bombing and the 1994 Argentine-Israeli Community Center bombing cast a spotlight on the baleful role being played by some elements of the Arab community in Ciudad del Este that it has since been unable to avoid. Because much of Paraguay's export business is underground, basically based on contrabanding, the situation leaves the Arab community suspect of helping to financially support Arab terrorist groups, although without clear proof is wanting. Although it may be unwise to assume that all black-market contrabandists are terrorists, police authorities believe that the amount of funds being generated by smuggling and money laundering that is being transferred within Paraguay to overseas banks is far more than any presumptive business activity in the country. It raises some suspicions in the minds of local police officials that some in the Arab community are supporting radical terrorism with the spoils of illegal trade.

Indeed, the U.S. State Department clearly advises that there are individuals and organizations operating in Ciudad del Este and along the tri-border area between Paraguay, Brazil, and Argentina, with ties to extremist groups. Brazilian Judge Walter Fanganiello Maierovitch, former National Drug Enforcement Secretary and now with the Giovanni Falconi Brazilian Criminal Sciences Institute, reports that Osama bin Laden is setting up an al-Qaeda unit near Ciudad del Este under the cover of the Arab community. The U.S. Government cannot confirm an al-Qaeda presence in the tri-border area. However, other radical Islamic extremists routinely rely upon illegal activities, such as drug and arms trafficking, to help fund terrorist activities throughout the world.

To achieve some control, 10 member countries of the OAS Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE) participated in exercises in the tri-border area to highlight solidarity against extremist activities. The United States, Argentina, and experts from other countries are providing training to Paraguayan anti-terrorist police and military personnel. The objective is to "maintain a presence in the area and to be able to raid homes of persons suspected of being involved in financing terrorism or of radicalized members of Islam residing in the tri-border area."

#### THREE PLUS ONE COUNTERTERRORISM DIALOGUE

In 1998, Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay formed the Comando Tripartito—an operational body in which the three countries exchange information and perform work on the ground dealing with specific regional problems. This Tripartite Commission of the Triple Frontier served as a security mechanism, meeting several times a year in each of the member countries. However, due to the sensitive nature of the information exchanged, the data swapped between countries is not available to public scrutiny. In reality, the Comando Tripartito did little more than serve as a nominal organization, doing little to clamp down on money launderers and neutralize drug traffickers in the region.

Talks began to take on a more serious nature in the post 9/11 atmosphere, and the Southern Cone joined the bandwagon of anti-terrorist rhetoric. December of 2002 marked the first 3+1 Counterterrorism Dialogue between the tri-border countries and the U.S.