

Auschwitz operated around the clock, their smokestacks spewing the stench of inhumanity across the countryside.

The Holocaust is a story of incomprehensible inhumanity, of an act of enormity that passed all moral bounds and entered the realm of pure evil. It also, however, is a story of incredible heroism, of men and women who risked their lives, many who sacrificed their lives, for others—not just family and friends, but often total strangers.

Some of these heroes are well known to us: Raoul Wallenberg and Oskar Schindler, to name just two. Some are less known, but equally deserving of mankind's gratitude. The American journalist Varian Fry, the beneficiary of a privileged childhood and an Ivy League education, risked his life repeatedly spiriting 2,000 Jews out of occupied France through the network he created of black-market funds, forged documents and secret escape routes. In 1941, in retaliation for an escape by others, a group of Auschwitz prisoners was lined up before a firing squad. At the last moment, the Roman Catholic Priest Maximilian Kolbe voluntarily stepped forward to take a father's place.

The names of some heroes will never be known to us. In the weeks before the liberation, the Nazis began dismantling the machinery of death at Auschwitz in order to hide their crimes. The gas chambers and crematoria were dynamited, the mass graves were disguised, and the infamous March of Death began. Nearly 60,000 prisoners, already weakened by hunger and illness, were driven on foot across the harsh winter countryside to camps within the Reich. The penalty for failure to keep up was summary execution.

That also was the penalty for the people who offered food, water, and—whenever the opportunity arose—escape when this sorrowful parade passed through their villages. One survivor of the March of Death, Jan Wygas, tells of a villager who approached his column of prisoners with a bottle of water:

"Let them drink," she said in German to the SS guards. "They are people, too." She gave the water to one of the prisoners. The SS man yelled at her to move back. As she turned to walk away, he shot her in the back of the head. I saw this with my own eyes.

And yet, despite this brutality heaped on top of brutality, the people of the villages continued to offer aid, in Poland, in Silesia, even in Germany itself.

Indeed, there are stories of those within the regime who resisted in whatever way they could. In his inspiring Holocaust memoir, "Anton the Dove Fancier," Bernard Gotfryd tells of the time in 1944 when he was sent as a slave laborer to a German aircraft plant. Like his co-workers, Gotfryd did his best to be the worst worker possible, turning out defective parts and causing his machine to break down constantly. His stern German supervisor, known only as Herr Gruber, seemed not to notice this widespread

incompetence, despite being under constant pressure to increase production.

Once, Gotfryd sprained his ankle so severely he could not walk and could barely stand. In most cases, this disability would have earned a prisoner a spot on a train to a death camp. Again, Herr Gruber seemed not to notice.

In the summer of 1944, Gotfryd discovered a treasure in the pocket of his work overalls: a sausage and a slab of real bread wrapped in newspaper. The rare and delicious food nourished his body. The newspaper nourished his soul, for it told of the Allied invasion of Normandy. The meaning of this message was to hold on, salvation was on the way. Gotfryd knew the messenger could only have been Herr Gruber.

From where does this courage, this compassion, this self-sacrifice for total strangers come? None of us can say with certainty, but we all are blessed by its presence.

On the other hand, the source of the hatred that led one of Europe's greatest powers to enact blatantly discriminatory laws, then to revel in a night of shattered windows, and finally to commit mass murder is known to us all too well. It is that particularly virulent and persistent form of mindless bigotry called anti-Semitism.

One would think that the stories of Holocaust survivors, the irrefutable evidence before our eyes for the last 60 years, the memorials at such places as Auschwitz, and the debt we owe 6 million victims would be more than enough to eradicate this scourge. Tragically, Mr. President, that is not the case.

Earlier this month, our State Department released a Report on Global Anti-Semitism. This report is the result of the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004, introduced by my distinguished colleague from Ohio, Senator VOINOVICH. I am proud to have been a co-sponsor.

To say that the findings of this report are discouraging is a gross understatement. In country after country around the world, there has been a sharp increase in both the frequency and severity of anti-Semitic incidents in the first years of the 21st Century. Clearly, the lessons of the first half of the 20th are in danger of being forgotten.

These incidents are not just the random vandalism of Jewish cemeteries or synagogues, or the occasional incident of harassment or assault, and the perpetrators are not just neo-Nazis or skinheads on the fringe of society. The new strain of this disease combines ancient anti-Jewish prejudice with a new demonization of the State of Israel and unbridled anti-Americanism, replete with Nazi comparisons and symbolism. In this new anti-Semitism, the extreme right and the extreme left have gone around the bend so far that they now have joined forces.

We see evidence of this new anti-Semitism all around us. The Protocols of the Elders of Zion is cited with in-

creasing frequency in the Middle East press, instead of being consigned, along with its ideological sequel, Mein Kampf, to the ash heap of literary history. In some areas of Europe, the swastika replaces the letter "s" in anti-Israel and anti-American posters, bumper stickers and buttons. There is the absurd rumor that Jews in New York City had advance warning of the September 11 attacks. The Holocaust itself, when not being denied, is at least being diminished.

The answer is not to silence these despicable ideas but to respond to them. We all have an obligation to history and to humanity to speak out, loudly and without exception, to this perversion of the truth and this degradation of civilization.

Julia Skalina is an Auschwitz survivor, a native of Czechoslovakia who now lives in my home State, in the city of Portland. She is a frequent speaker at schools in Maine. These are her words: "I learned what hatred can do, what people driven by hatred can do. I wish any future generation should never have to live through what we lived through."

That wish will come true only if we—all of us—make it so. The horror of the Holocaust and the magnificence of the human spirit that it revealed demand this of us.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, yesterday, along with my colleagues Senators JOHNSON, THOMAS, THUNE, BINGAMAN, and DORGAN, I introduced a bill on country-of-origin labeling. The bill would accelerate the date of implementation of mandatory COOL, and expand labeling requirements to include processed foods.

Country-of-origin labeling is probably one of the most important issues for cattle producers in Montana. They raise the best beef in the world, and they are proud of that. They want the American consumer to know that beef in the freezer case is "Made in the U.S.A".

Of course, I have supported country-of-origin labeling for many years, and I was glad to see it finally pass in 2002 when we passed the 2002 farm bill. But since then, there have been some folks who won't rest until they dismantle the program. The implementation has been delayed, writing the rules has been delayed—well, I say enough is enough. Mandatory COOL is the law of the land. Let's get it implemented.

We need to get the country-of-origin labeling done. It needs to be done right, and it needs to be mandatory. Getting it done right is the key. I have a concern with the COOL law currently on the books. My legislation begins to fix one part of that law.

Right now, very little beef will actually be labeled in the grocery stores. The law excludes over half of the beef sold in this country. "Processed foods" includes a big portion of the beef products you and I are used to: Beef jerky,

sausage, marinated foods—all of these items would be excluded under the current COOL law. I want to see that fixed, and that is what my bill will do. But I do not want mandatory COOL to be delayed any longer. That is why my legislation will implement the mandatory COOL law, as it is written, 1 year ahead of what the current law says, and then direct USDA to work on including processed foods.

Let me be clear. I want to see COOL done right, but under no set of circumstances do I support rolling back country-of-origin labeling. COOL needs to be mandatory. We have tried a voluntary program for 2 years. No one has participated. It is time for the packers and the processors to realize that Montana's cow/calf producers want labeling. They want to tell consumers where their beef comes from. I support that. I have pushed for mandatory COOL for years, and I will continue to do so in this Congress.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD LIEBENGOOD

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I today pay tribute to my friend, Howard Liebegood, who died earlier this month. Howard's most recent service to the Senate was as Senator BILL FRIST's Chief of Staff. I was privileged to meet Howard when I came to the Senate 27 years ago, when he was our Sergeant at Arms. Howard was a treasured and invaluable member of the Senate family who will be greatly missed.

As I reflect on the privilege of serving my State and working with so many able and dedicated Senate staffers, Howard Liebegood stands out as one of the most effective members of our Senate staff whose exemplary career is testimony of his dedication to public service.

Howard's hallmark was his ever-present smile and vast knowledge of Senate practices and procedures.

His air of calm pervaded hot debates on tough issues as he reminded us that more challenging issues had been resolved with less acrimony in days past.

His outstanding record of service will stand as an everlasting manual from which present and future generations of Senate staffers can learn. Howard made the Senate a better place to work and our Nation a better place to live. His enormous contributions over his lengthy career will be remembered and cherished by his colleagues.

My staff joins me in sending our deepest sympathy to the Liebegood family.

FOOD AID FUNDING

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, very soon the administration is expected to send to Congress supplemental appropriation requests to address ongoing military needs in Iraq and the humanitarian crisis posed by the tsunami in the Indian Ocean. My hope is that the

administration will include adequate food aid funding in that supplemental proposal. Recent press reports suggest they may be moving in that direction. If, however, the administration's proposed supplemental fails to provide adequate food aid funding, it is my intention to offer an amendment that would essentially accomplish four things.

First, my amendment would provide full funding to meet U.S. food aid commitments from the tsunami under PL-480 title II. Second, my amendment will replenish PL-480 title II development funds that help meet our ongoing development programs across the globe. Third, it will shore up PL-480 title I funds that have been used as a stop-gap measure to address the crisis. And finally, it will replenish the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust, BEHT, so that our aid workers and development personnel can be assured of adequate resources to carry out their important lifesaving work in future crises.

The tsunami brought images of destruction and human suffering on a scale that is hard for many of us to imagine. Americans responded with great generosity by committing unprecedented funds through private donations. Some \$50 million, I am told, has been pledged through the American Red Cross alone.

Federal workers and their cooperators in Washington and around the globe made an extraordinary effort to respond. Food resources that were prepositioned, and even some in transit, were shifted to address this crisis. For all their hard work and creativity, I commend them.

What concerns me now, however, is how we proceed after the television networks scale back their coverage. Enormous need will remain even after the emergency is contained. It will be months, perhaps years, before rice paddies are desalinated, fishing boats are rebuilt and fishing nets are repaired. Self-sufficiency will not happen overnight. And while the people most directly affected by the tsunami are struggling to achieve a measure of self-sufficiency, the dire need for food aid continues in places such as Ethiopia and Sudan and many others. That is why I believe it is so critical that we reinforce our food aid capacity.

In his inaugural address, the President spoke forcefully about ending tyranny and spreading democracy. Everyone shares those objectives. We also know that those objectives cannot be achieved solely by force or gesture politics. They demand a commitment to diplomacy and human compassion. Adequate funding for food aid is central to that process, and I invite my colleagues to join me in this effort.

ROBERT T. MATSUI UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I have joined Senators BOXER and DUR-

BIN in introducing legislation that would rename the federal courthouse in Sacramento, CA, in honor of recently deceased U.S. Representative Robert T. Matsui. This represents a fitting tribute to a great man and a dedicated public servant.

On January 1, 2005, the people of the Sacramento area, the State of California, and the Nation suffered a great loss when Bob Matsui passed away. For 26 years in Congress and 7 years before that as a member of the Sacramento City Council, Bob was a reasoned and dependable voice. A problem solver, Bob was a thoughtful and constructive leader who brought people together to find solutions to public policy issues.

I had the distinct pleasure of working with Bob on a number of issues relating to our home State of California. I will remember him as a great human being, as a trusted colleague, as a fine public servant, and someone in whom I was proud to place friendship, respect, and collegiality.

Proud of his ideals, Bob never let disagreement lead to rancor. The sheer number of tributes paid from both sides of the aisle clearly demonstrates the enormous respect he inspired among his colleagues. Likewise, the tremendous outpouring of support shown at services held in his honor reminds us just how endeared he had become to those he represented over the years.

Bob's path to public service was greatly fueled by experiences in his youth, especially his internment along with thousands of other Japanese Americans during World War II.

When he was just six months old, Bob and his family were sent to an internment camp in Northern California, leaving behind their home and their livelihood. Bob would spend the first four years of his life there.

I think this experience had a very sobering impact on his life. But rather than let it lead to resentment and hatred, I think it had an impact on his knowing what he wanted to do with his life, and that was public service.

In fact, one of Bob's most significant legacies will be the work he did to help the Government make amends with the Japanese Americans who were interned like himself.

As a member of Congress, Bob was successful in passing legislation that offered a formal apology from the Government for the internment program and provided compensation to victims. This is a great legacy and it will be remembered well.

Bob also excelled in his knowledge and expertise of Social Security as well as tax and trade policy. He had an influential place on the House Ways and Means Committee, which will miss his leadership.

The Sacramento area, where Bob was born and which he represented for over three decades in public office, shows numerous examples of Bob's achievements. From the light-rail train system to comprehensive flood protection, Bob's mark is everywhere.