

requests will be responded to quickly and efficiently.

When information technology moved to the desktop, Mr. Griffith managed the introduction of personal computers as individual workstations in CRS. Before the Internet and the World Wide Web, Mr. Griffith pioneered the use of optical disk technology for preserving and disseminating information to the Congress.

Mr. Griffith was a champion of inter-agency cooperation in the Congress. When a high capacity data communications network was established on Capitol Hill, he led an interagency group that resolved issues related to data exchange. This was the first step in the Internet-age. In 1997, when the Congress requested a new legislative information system, the LIS, Mr. Griffith assumed a leadership role as the CRS coordinator and worked closely with the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Library of Congress, and the Government Printing Office to develop and implement the new system. Today the LIS home page has over 4 million hits per year and is the primary resource for legislative information for Members of Congress and their staff.

Mr. Griffith's skill in leading inter-agency efforts extended to other initiatives as well. He is a recognized leader in efforts to implement XML technology consistently for legislative data and he has championed improvements in security initiatives to protect critical databases and ensure continuity of operations in the event of disaster.

Although Mr. Griffith is retiring from the Congressional Research Service, he will continue to contribute his professional expertise to the scholarship of legislative information. In 2006, through a Fulbright fellowship, Mr. Griffith will study the legislative information systems of the European Union and several European countries. He will be joined by his wife Jane Bortnick Griffith, who is the former assistant chief of the Science Policy Research Division of CRS and a Government information specialist in her own right.

Jeffrey C. Griffith has served the U.S. Congress with distinction for 30 years. The leadership and knowledge he provided has greatly benefited the Congress and the American people and his advice and counsel will be missed. His retirement now provides him the time to pursue study in legislative information systems that will continue to benefit all of us. I congratulate Jeff on a distinguished career and wish him and Jane the best in their future endeavors.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the 60th anniversary of the United Nations.

In 1945, as World War II was ending, representatives of 50 countries met in San Francisco, CA at the United Nations Conference on International Or-

ganization to draft the Charter of the United Nations. On October 24, 1945, the Charter achieved the required number of signatories for ratification, and the United Nations officially came into existence. Today, 60 years later, I am proud to reflect on the United Nation's many successes. I would also like to use this occasion to highlight the vital importance of building an even stronger United Nations for the future.

The United Nations was established with the primary purpose of providing a forum for the nations of the world to resolve issues without resorting to war. It has achieved many successes on this front, the greatest of which is that we have not had a world war since the United Nations was founded. For those regions of the world that have endured conflict, the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operation has facilitated more than 67 peacekeeping operations and is credited with negotiating more than 170 peaceful settlements that have ended regional conflicts.

Through the World Health Organization, the U.N. has combated the spread of pandemic diseases and continues to provide lifesaving drugs and medical care to millions of people around the world. Another U.N. program, the World Food Program, has served as a lifeline to millions of people who would otherwise face famine. And the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has helped raise the female literacy rate in many developing countries around the world. I commend the United Nations for these outstanding achievements and the countless others it has made during the last 60 years.

But despite these many successes, there is still a long way to go. First and foremost, the United Nations must be reformed from within. In recent months, there have been far too many troubling incidents involving the United Nations, ranging from the Iraqi oil-for-food scandal, and the tragic sexual abuse cases involving peacekeeping troops in the Congo and elsewhere—and rightfully so; these acts were most egregious. These types of activities cannot continue if the United Nations is to receive the support and legitimacy it needs to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

If the United Nations is comprehensively reformed from within, then it will find itself in an even better position to meet its larger goals. According to the United Nations' own figures, nearly a quarter of the children in the developed world are malnourished, and in a number of places in the world, the poor are actually getting poorer. I am pleased that the United Nations has embraced these challenges through the establishment of the Millennium Development Goals, which range from eradicating extreme poverty and hunger to combating the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases. But there is much work to be done if these goals are to become reality. The international community must commit to working together. The only way to achieve real progress on these fronts

will require consensus, partnership, and unity of effort on the part of all nations of the world. For this reason, a strong United Nations is more important than ever.

I congratulate the United Nations on its 60th anniversary and look forward to doing my part to ensure its continued success in the future.

INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD IN HURRICANE KATRINA RECOVERY

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the hard work and selflessness of the members of the Indiana National Guard for their efforts to rebuild the gulf coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Helping others in need is a longstanding Hoosier value, and there is no question that the people of Mississippi and Louisiana needed help from all States following such a terrible natural disaster. Our Indiana Guard members, and those from many other States, answered that call for help, and deserve to be recognized for their work.

The Crescent City is a far cry from our Hoosier State, but the men and women of the Indiana National Guard have made New Orleans their home away from home as they work to restore the city to its pre-Katrina greatness. Throughout Louisiana and Mississippi, hundreds of our Guard members are helping in all aspects of the recovery efforts, by clearing neighborhoods, helping evacuees and restoring order to the chaos left by Katrina.

Work like this is part of what makes America great. Over the past month, we have witnessed countless acts of tremendous heroism and heartwarming generosity performed by complete strangers working to help others weather this storm. Americans from across the country came together to give money, food, clothes, and shelter to people they will likely never meet.

Indiana's reaction to this terrible tragedy has made me proud to be a Hoosier. Our Guard members left behind families and loved ones—many of whom they have been separated from during long tours of duty overseas—to come to the aid of other families and help them rebuild their lives. In a true example of Hoosier hospitality, hundreds of Indiana families have opened their homes to evacuees in need of shelter. Many Hoosiers have donated to nonprofits like the Red Cross, and members from local police and fire stations have traveled south to offer their help.

Whether defending our freedom overseas or rebuilding in the face of natural disasters at home, the members of the Indiana National Guard represent the best of Indiana and America. They sacrifice time with loved ones and travel thousands of miles to shoulder some of the heaviest loads in the cleanup efforts. Most importantly, their work gives people hope that life can return