

United Nations Stabilization Mission, MINUSTAH, has been making modest progress in preventing even greater levels of violence. But the security situation in Haiti remains volatile.

Equally as troubling is our own government's seeming indifference to the deteriorating situation in Haiti. Several weeks ago, Secretary of State Rice flew into Port-au-Prince for a 5 hour visit that amounted to little more than a photo op. The situation there is fragile and demands immediate action and will require a long-term international commitment.

Haiti's capacity to hold credible elections needs to be given serious consideration by the interim government, Bush administration and United Nations. While the Haitian constitution grants a new administration to be sworn in to office by February 7, 2006, the stakes are too great to push forward an election simply to adhere to an arbitrary date. If the consensus is that political and social conditions could be improved in the next 3 to 6 months, and there are serious problems that threaten the legitimacy of this election, we owe it to the people of Haiti to take the time necessary to work to address these problems so that the election is as fair as possible.

The next few weeks present a seminal period for the Haitian people and the future of Haiti. Enormous logistical, political, and security obstacles need to be overcome if Haiti is to have elections with any semblance of credibility. There are very few options left for a country that is already teetering on the brink of state failure and cannot afford to lose much more. We must keep the best interests of the Haitian people in mind and do everything in our power to create the conditions necessary for Haiti to take the next step in transitioning toward democratic stability.

HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Veterans Day to pay tribute to the men and women that have served our country as members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

I join my colleagues and those across Michigan and our country in reflecting upon the meaning of this day and the service of our fellow Americans.

I often have the pleasure of meeting with Michigan's proud community of veterans. I have also been privileged to welcome home members of our armed services and the Michigan National Guard and reserves serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. These men and women are a credit to our great State, their communities, and their families.

America's men and women in the military give their time, and in many cases life and limb, to serve our country. Today's soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines are tomorrow's veterans and we owe them our gratitude for their service.

One of the most fitting ways we can honor the service and sacrifice of America's veterans is to ensure that we honor the commitments we have made to them and their families. I am proud to be working with my colleagues from both political parties and with veterans' organizations from across the country, including the American Legion and VFW, in leading the fight to pass legislation guaranteeing that health care services for our veterans are funded. This law would eliminate the year-to-year uncertainty about funding for veterans health care by making this funding mandatory in the annual budget. As we reflect on this Veterans Day, I urge my colleagues to keep our promise to our Nation's veterans by supporting this important amendment.

I stand today in honor of all the men and women from Michigan and across our country who have given their lives while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. We are all grateful for their sacrifice and offer our condolences to their families. On this Veterans Day, I join my colleagues and the wonderful men and women that have served our country in the Armed Forces—veterans young and old—in paying tribute to them and their service.

ANTITRUST CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE IMPROVEMENTS ACT

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I am very pleased that the Senate yesterday passed the Antitrust Criminal Investigative Improvements Act of 2005, which represents a significant addition to the Antitrust Division's arsenal for prosecuting criminal violations of the antitrust laws.

In criminal antitrust investigations, it is critical that prosecutors gain access to evidence on the inner workings of the alleged conspiracy. To meet their burden of proof, prosecutors must marshal strong evidence of the participants in the conspiracy, the nature of their participation, and the terms of the illegal agreement. This type of evidence is very difficult to gain without penetrating the inner workings of a conspiracy in action. Currently, the Antitrust Division often has no option but to rely on the cooperation of members of a conspiracy, who are frequently reluctant to come forward to assist the Division in uncovering illegal activities in which they, themselves, have taken part. Without the ability to obtain wiretaps, the Antitrust Division unnecessarily faces a much heavier burden in detecting and preventing these conspiracies.

There is no principled reason for excluding criminal antitrust violations from the list of over 150 predicate offenses for obtaining a wiretap. Offenses, such as wire fraud, mail fraud, and bank fraud are predicate offenses, but up to now, criminal antitrust offenses have not been on the list, despite the fact that their penalties are similar. Criminal antitrust offenses are

basically white-collar fraud offenses, and often do much more harm to consumers than other types of fraud offenses. Given the gravity of these crimes, it is time that antitrust violations are added as a predicate offense.

Of course, antitrust prosecutors still will need to meet the ordinary requirements for obtaining wiretap authority to receive court permission to utilize this tool, but it is important that they have that ability. Accordingly, I am very pleased that we have passed this legislation, and hope that the House will act soon to move it, as well.

THANKING THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED SUPPORT THE DINOSAUR DISCOVERY SITE AT JOHNSON FARM

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to all the men and women in Washington County, UT whose hard work and diligence have made and are making the Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm such a success. These dedicated volunteers are helping to protect and display an asset of great value not only to Utah but to the Nation.

The history of this discovery is fascinating. A few years ago, retired optometrist Dr. Sheldon Johnson was preparing his farm site for development and as he turned over the earth, he discovered tracks of early residents of Washington County—very early residents, in fact. Dinosaur tracks dating back to the Jurassic period of history were uncovered. They are being preserved and are bringing economic and historic benefit to St. George, Washington County, UT, and the Nation. To date, visitors from 68 nations and all 50 States have visited the site.

I want to recognize and thank Dr. Sheldon and LaVerna Johnson who discovered the tracks and then donated the land to preserve this heritage. The Johnsons have made it all possible. Linda Sappington, Washington County volunteer coordinator, aided by volunteer supervisors Kae Crabtree and Carole Chadwick began in February 2000 to bring together individuals who cared about the tracks and who were willing to give of themselves to help preserve the find.

I also want to recognize and thank Mayor Dan McArthur, the city of St. George, Washington County, and the Utah State legislature for their efforts to enhance, preserve, and share this heritage area with the community now and for generations to come.

In addition to the Johnsons, I recognize, Suzanne Allen; Dr. Andrew Barnum; Herb Basso; Dr. David Borris; Alan Crooks; Lyle Drake; Kenneth Hinton; Sharon Isom; unfortunately, now deceased; LaRee Jones; Dr. James Kirkland; Dr. Martin Lockley; Dan Matheson; Layton Ott, also deceased; Kathy Smith; Darcy Stewart; Marshall Topham; Gary Watts; John Willie. They are all members of the Dinosaur