

infrastructure within the parks. For example, according to Gettysburg National Military Park officials, the current maintenance backlog at the park would cost \$55 million to complete. In addition, there are deferred maintenance projects at Valley Forge National Historical Park, Independence National Historical Park and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Park, among others.

Funding these projects will not only put people to work, but will go a long way to support the ongoing efforts to preserve, protect and enhance our country's most precious and historically significant national treasures.

In conclusion, while I would like to hear further from the administration and other economic experts to give us guidance on addressing the current economic crisis, the projects which I have outlined in Pennsylvania are the kind of expenditures that will provide the most realistic opportunity to stimulate the economy.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATORS

KEN SALAZAR

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I stand before the Senate today to voice my great respect and hope in the Senator from Colorado, the Honorable Ken Salazar, who has recently left this Chamber in order to serve as Secretary of the Interior under the Obama administration. It is with sorrow that I say goodbye to my good friend who has served with honor and dedication since 2005. Although Ken only served for a few years in the Senate, he has left his mark on us all and will be remembered for his dedication and service not only to his country but to Utah's neighbor the great State of Colorado.

Ken Salazar's personal history is a testament to his character and accomplishments. His family first settled in America just over 400 years ago, 12 generations back. Ken's parents knew the value of teaching their eight children about hard work and dedication, and from them he learned the worth of industry on his family's ranch growing up. Those early years on the ranch taught Ken about the importance of hard work, integrity, and dedication. It is also from these early experiences that Ken grew to love the beauty of the natural resources our Nation has to offer.

I am confident that the years of experience Mr. Salazar has worked on environmental policy in the West will serve him well in his new position as Secretary of the Interior. He has a deep-rooted passion for clean, renewable, and affordable energy as well as protecting our country's precious natural resources. I believe he will take quite naturally to his new role as our Nation's top public lands manager, and we will be well served by his sensitivity to those natural treasures we value the most.

In short, Ken Salazar has the experience and the passion required for the

role he has taken on as Secretary. I thank him for his excellent service in the Senate and look forward to seeing good things from him in the coming years.

#### AFRICA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, in recent years more and more observers have noted Africa's failing states, ungoverned spaces and pirate-infested waters, and the threat they pose to our own national security. I have long raised these concerns on this Senate floor and I am pleased that they are receiving increasing attention. However, it is not enough to simply acknowledge Africa's security challenges; nor is it sufficient to shift resources toward them, although that is a good start. We must institute long-term strategies to further our national security goals while developing sustainable partnerships with Africans that advance our mutual interests and support nascent democratic institutions.

As a 16-year member and the current chairman of the Subcommittee on African Affairs, I have closely followed U.S. policy toward the continent for many years. Too often, I have found that our approach has been driven by short-sighted tactics designed to buy influence or react to crises. In the absence of comprehensive interagency strategies, these tactics often undermine long-term efforts to build civilian institutions and strengthen the rule of law. This must change if we are to successfully pursue our strategic objectives on the African continent. It remains critical—and long overdue—that the United States develop a carefully planned and long-term approach to both promoting stability and combating terrorism in Africa. I would like to offer some thoughts today on key components of such an approach.

During our December recess, I traveled to the headquarters of the new Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany and discussed a range of issues with senior officials there. Although I have been focused on AFRICOM since its inception—and on the idea of such a command prior to that—I was reminded during my trip of the very important and strategic roles that AFRICOM, if advanced properly, can play. These roles include helping to develop effective, well-disciplined militaries that adhere to civilian rule, strengthening regional peacekeeping missions, and supporting postconflict demobilization and disarmament processes. If carried out properly, AFRICOM's work can complement that of the State Department, USAID, and other U.S. Government agencies working on the continent and help contribute to lasting peace and stability across Africa.

It is because of the significant need for this important work that we must support AFRICOM, while also working to ensure that it adheres to its defined military mandate and defers to the State Department as the lead on policy

matters. The challenge for AFRICOM is to strike the right balance with our civilian agencies and not become our primary representation throughout Africa. Serious work remains to be done in ensuring that the Command is operating within comprehensive interagency national security strategies and squarely under the authority of our Chiefs of Mission. I also remain concerned that AFRICOM has been unable to adequately convey its role within a larger policy framework to Congress, to the American people or to African governments and regional organizations—perhaps its most important partners.

It is true that the Command's initial rollout was fraught with mistakes and the Command understandably received a cool reception on the continent, among civilian agencies and here in Congress. But I am confident from my recent meetings that the staff in Stuttgart has recognized and is learning from these setbacks. Rather than merely criticizing, we in Congress should work across the spectrum of agencies here in Washington as well as with AFRICOM's leadership to help craft a combatant command that is doing the right job, for the right reasons and can thus be adequately resourced. In the months ahead, I intend to use my role as chairman of the Subcommittee on African Affairs to do just that.

I hope, however, that no one thinks for a minute that military tools alone are sufficient to transform the underlying causes of violence and instability in Africa. To promote long-term stability, it is crucial that we strike a better balance between our military relationships and our support for civilian institutions and the rule of law.

Achieving that balance is no small task and it will only be possible if we invest seriously in new institutional capacities for our civilian agencies on the continent. This begins with ensuring our embassies have the Foreign Service officers and resources they need to do the job properly. We cannot continue to shortchange our embassies across Africa while we focus on one or two other locations around the world. We need to make sure our embassies have sufficient resources to meet the challenges of today, and to identify the challenges of tomorrow. And we need to make sure our presence includes the right kind of people—trained political and economic officers who can get out and about to do their job.

By expanding our diplomatic presence in Africa, including outside the capitals, we increase our ability to learn about the continent—its governments, its people and its cultures. Right now, we do not have the necessary human resources or expertise on the African continent to gather this information and anticipate emerging crises or fully understand existing ones. Diplomatic reporting and open source collection in Africa are a critical complement to the clandestine work of the