

interact with Rose Gottemoeller during my time on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and have come away impressed. She has been forthright when questioned during hearings and briefings. She has been pleasant, upfront, and informative during meetings. I know from my own experiences that she will continue to serve the United States well in her capacity as Deputy Secretary General of NATO.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO LOUIS ARMENTARO

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, in honor of Independence Day, I wish to recognize Louis Armentaro of Park County. Louis is an Army veteran, having served as an infantryman in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II. We celebrate our independence and freedom because of people like Louis, who selflessly put himself in harm's way, fighting against tyranny for his country.

Over the Fourth of July weekend, I will have the privilege to honor Louis and watch him announce his 68th Livingston Roundup Parade. Louis started this tradition back in 1949, when he returned to Montana after serving in World War II. During his time in the special services in Japan, Louis delighted in running audio for his fellow soldiers at the GI theatre, ball games, and parades. He is in the Guinness Book of World Records as the "most durable rodeo parade announcer." His passion for western swing and its ability to transport people inspired him to start Sound Over the West audio and announcing when he returned home.

As a child, Louis grew up with a passion for authentic country music. Not only is he one of the greatest curators of this style in Montana, he is also one of the most revered pedal steel guitar players in the country music community. In the early 1950s, Louis, his brother Frank Armentaro, and their friend Oscar Bergsing started the Rhythm Ramblers, one of the longest living bands in Montana. For decades, they created a soundtrack for countless swing dancers across the State. While performances from the group are extremely rare today, Louis continues to play his steel guitar every morning. At 91 years old, he is one of the most experienced steel guitar players alive.

Louis, with the support of his devoted wife, Donna, has become a pillar in the Livingston community. Not only have the couple raised and fostered an estimated 30 children, they are an indispensable part of the Livingston Roundup Rodeo. For many cowboys and cowgirls, this event is known as Cowboy Christmas; Louis Armentaro is their Santa Claus. He is the dependable voice and orchestrator and is the most recognizable attraction in the rodeo parade. During the parade and the rodeo, Louis blares his curated collection of western swing music. For the

last six decades, he has introduced people of all ages to sounds of American country and the history these songs can teach.

I am proud to honor this unique man for his service to his community and our country.●

##### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL JEFFERY W. TALLEY

• Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I honor a dedicated soldier and business entrepreneur who has demonstrated illustrious service to our Nation while in uniform and in private, public, and academic sectors. After 34 years of service as a model citizen-soldier, LTG Jeffery W. Talley is retiring from his distinguished Army career.

LTG Jeffrey W. Talley served as both the Chief of the Army Reserve and the Commanding General of U.S. Army Reserve Command from 11 June 2012 to 1 June 2016. Lieutenant General Talley led the Army Reserve through one of the most tumultuous times in its history, guiding the command through the initial phases of a drawdown of forces as it simultaneously supported the war in Afghanistan and executed multiple contingency deployments in support of our Nation. Through his leadership, Lieutenant General Talley has forever changed the mission, culture, and composition of the Army Reserve. He leaves a combat-tested component that is more responsive to the Joint and Army warfighting requirements and contributes directly to our ability to fight and win our Nation's wars.

Lieutenant General Talley is responsible for developing and executing critical enabler capabilities to the Joint Force through the use of Army Reserve Engagement Cells and Teams, AREC/Ts. AREC/Ts assist Army Service Component Commands and Combatant Commands by integrating Army Reserve capabilities into plans, exercises, and operational activities and provide reachback capability to the whole of the U.S. Army Reserve Command's CONUS-based theater enabling commands. The Army Reserve possesses the majority of force structure of the Army's total capability in many key areas to include more than 90 percent of the Army's Civil Affairs capability, more than 50 percent of the Army's total logistics and medical capability, and nearly all of the Army's theater opening capability. Nothing is more important to Lieutenant General Talley than taking care of our Nation's most precious resource: our soldiers. As a citizen-soldier himself, Lieutenant General Talley is acutely aware of the challenges and sacrifices of Army Reserve soldiers as they juggle their service to the Nation, community, and family well-being. This focus on soldiers and their families, combined with the recognition that soldier support is a critical component of soldier readiness, led him to create the Private Public Partnership Office, P30. P30

has blossomed into one of the DOD's most effective hiring and readiness generating programs. This indispensable capability recognizes the tie that Army Reserve soldiers have with their local communities.

Lieutenant General Talley codified the comprehensive transformation of the Army Reserve from a strategic, static component of the Army, to an integral, operational asset critical to the success of the Army's mission to provide trained and ready forces. Lieutenant General Talley's accomplishments will benefit the Army Reserve, the Army, and the Joint Force for years to come.

Jeffery Talley and his wife, Linda, have four children: Christopher, Joshua, and Matthew—a combat veteran—and Ashley. The Talley family moved 23 times throughout Jeffery's military career. During those times, Linda volunteered as a senior family readiness adviser. For her dedication, she was named "Volunteer of the Year" and received the Essayons Award for spouses who make significant contributions to the Army Engineer Regiment. I wish Jeffery, Linda, and the entire Talley family the best in their future endeavors and the next chapter of their lives.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL SCHULTE

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Michael Schulte, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Michael is a graduate of BOLD High School in Olivia, MN. Currently, Michael is attending South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD, majoring in political science and global studies. Michael is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Michael Schulte for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

##### TRIBUTE TO REGAN SCOTT

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Regan Scott, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Regan is a graduate of Sioux Falls Christian in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, Regan is attending Northwestern College in Orange City, SD, majoring in business administration. Regan is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Regan Scott for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

##### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to