TRIBUTE TO MAJ. GEN. DAVID W. GAY

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Major General David W. Gay, the Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard. General Gay will retire on June 1st, so this is an appropriate time to recognize his nearly 40 years of service to the National Guard and to recount his achievements during his seven years as head of Connecticut’s Guard forces.

Members of General Gay’s Air National Guard component—the 103rd Airlift Wing—will soon travel from Orange, Connecticut to Italy in support of NATO operations in Kosovo. Like the nearly 5,000 National Guard members throughout the nation who have answered the call and are now overseas supporting the NATO mission, those men and women from Orange were engaged in their normal day-to-day lives one week and found themselves working in a massive, full-time military operation the next week. Such a scenario is not uncommon in the National Guard. Whether it is a military operation, a natural disaster, or civil unrest, our citizen soldiers in the Guard stand ready to put aside their private lives and report to their duty station, be it at home or abroad.

General Gay has dedicated his career to serving this country with a willingness to be called upon at any time to defend this nation and our way of life. He began his military service as a Marine in 1953. In 1960, he enlisted as a full-time member of the Connecticut National Guard, and, in 1962, he received his commission as a Second Lieutenant. His steady rise through the ranks led to command assignments in the Connecticut National Guard’s artillery and infantry branches. In 1982, General Gay was appointed Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard, a position he has now held for seven years. During his career, the General earned two of the most prestigious awards this nation gives to its military officers—the Legion of Merit and the National Guard Bureau’s Eagle Award.

Beyond his duties as Adjutant General, ranking member of the Governor’s Military Staff and commissioner of the State Military Department, General Gay has committed himself and his troops to taking positive action to improve the communities of Connecticut. Most noteworthy are the host of youth programs that began under General Gay’s tenure. Many of them are a part of the Drug-Free Construction Program which brings National Guard personnel into the community to serve as role models for children, to encourage youth to excel in school, and to convince kids to avoid drugs. The various and ingenious offshoots of the program, including Take Charge, Character Counts Coalition, Safeguard Retreat, Aviation Role Models for Youth, and Say “Nay” To Drugs have swept the state. Last year alone, under General Gay’s able leadership, those programs touched nearly 20,000 children in 88 towns across Connecticut.

Furthermore, General Gay serves as President of the Nutmeg State Games which feature Connecticut’s finest young amateur athletes. Beyond his own time, he has committed the resources of the Guard to support the Games thereby enhancing the experience for athletes and spectators alike. Just as important, the General has promoted an excellent working relationship between the Guard and Connecticut’s employers through the ESGR, or Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. When personnel may be called upon in times of crisis to leave their jobs for months on end, strong bonds with affected employers are critical. The General has made it a priority to strengthen those bonds. Additionally, to assist federal and state agencies in training personnel, he initiated the Community Learning and Information Network which allows employees of such agencies to take advantage of the Guard’s computer distance learning tools. Over the years, the Network classes have enabled numerous employees to acquire the desired training at minimal cost to government agencies.

General Gay’s commitment to the community has been recognized by several awards and accolades, a Leadership Award from Eastern Connecticut State University and a Character Counts Centers of Influence Award top the list. I have deeply enjoyed working with the General over the past several years and look forward to continuing our relationship as he becomes the Chair of Connecticut’s Y2K task force. I also give my best wishes to his wife, Nancy, and their children, David, Jennifer, and Stephen.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES K. KALLSTROM

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I want to say a few words today about a man who is one of America’s finest civil servants and a man who I am proud to call a friend, Jim Kallstrom.

Jim Kallstrom is the director of an illustrious career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”), one in which he played a major role in building up the Bureau’s counter-terrorism capabilities. Jim Kallstrom led the successful FBI investigations into the World Trade Center bombing and the intended bombing of the Lincoln Tunnel. Those investigations broke the back of one of the most violent terrorist groups ever to operate in this country. Their speedy conclusion also did much to reassure the American people in the wake of the World Trade Center bombing, and they sent a message to terrorists around the world that no person or group can expect to get away with terrorist actions in the United States.

Mr. Kallstrom put the FBI’s new emphasis on counterterrorism into motion. He led the FBI in the investigation of the TWA Flight 800 explosion of July 17, 1996. My colleagues and I have been impressed with his speed and his determination. He has never been intimidated by a rumor, nor has he been swayed by the political pressures that come with investigations of such a magnitude. And he has always been willing to give up the full truth, if that is what is required. He is a man of integrity, and we can be sure that he will always do what is right, even when it is politically difficult.

In recent weeks, one of my colleagues has raised the possibility that Jim Kallstrom tried to delay the transmission of a report to the National Transportation Safety Board of a report by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (‘’BATF’’) that concluded that the TWA Flight 800 explosion was caused by a mechanical flaw in the center fuel tank.

Mr. Kallstrom denies that allegation. He insists that he forwarded the BATF report to the National Transportation Safety Board within a few days of receiving it. He admits that he was angry that BATF would issue its conclusions while the counterterrorist and criminal investigation was still ongoing.
I do not know whether Mr. Kallstrom delayed transmission of the BATF report, although I note that two FBI officials testified that he did not. What I do know is that Mr. Kallstrom was performing most admirably in a situation fraught with challenges.

Let me emphasize those challenges. Millions of Americans drew the initial conclusion that this explosion was caused either by a bomb or by a missile. There was an urgent need not only to conduct a thorough investigation into that possibility, but also to demonstrate to the American people that the United States Government was doing everything humanly possible to bring any perpetrators to justice, while still doing anything humanly possible to meet the needs of hundreds of bereaved families and showing proper respect for the dead.

This was no easy task, and no small one, either. Jim Kallstrom assumed those duties and brought the TWA Flight 800 investigation to a successful conclusion. I say “successful” very purposely, for the investigation did not fail to uncover any terrorist or criminal act. Rather, it eliminated those possibilities and gave the American people confidence that the explosion was instead a tragic accident.

Some have expressed concern that the FBI might have unwittingly delayed necessary action to correct safety flaws in U.S. commercial aircraft. I understand this concern and I would agree that recommendations of the National Transportation Safety Board have not been given sufficient attention by the Federal Aviation Administration. But safety board officials apparently reached the same conclusion as BATF weeks earlier, and they reportedly do not believe that any delay in reporting recommendations hindered their ability to persuade the FAA to take corrective action.

Some people feel that the FBI was too determined to find evidence of a terrorist or criminal act. I don’t doubt for a moment that some investigators found Jim Kallstrom rather intimidating in his determination to find any such evidence. The bad news is that Jim Kallstrom is sometimes intimidating. He gets the job done. He also projects confidence and determination. That is what was needed of the head of the FBI’s New York office, and that is what was needed by the head of the TWA Flight 800 investigation.

I am sorry if some investigators felt that Jim Kallstrom stepped on their toes. But I am happy as can be that he was the man to whom our nation turned when a conspicuously thorough investigation was needed—so as to catch and convict the murderers if there were any, and otherwise to give us complete confidence that the Flight 800 explosion was truly an accident.

Jim Kallstrom accomplished that feat, and we are all in his debt for his tremendous service to his country.●

SECTION 201 TRADE ACTION FILED BY THE DOMESTIC LAMB INDUSTRY

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, during the last 2 weeks, we have been hearing from our colleagues concerned about the lamb industry in the United States and the Section 201 trade action filed by them. I would like to join them in commenting on the situation and dispel some myths and confusion surrounding the Section 201 trade action filed by a coalition representing the domestic lamb industry.

The case now lies before the President, and I urge him to impress upon agencies effective steps that will curb the devastating surge of imports that has swamped the domestic lamb market and now threatens to drown an entire industry.

Some worry the nations of Australia and New Zealand may retaliate against the United States if we take action to protect our domestic industries. They won't because they can't—not for at least 3 years. That is because of the laws that govern the Section 201 case—laws that, let me be clear about this, are and have been a part of every single trade treaty this nation has signed since the Trade Act of 1974. That means all signatories to GATT also signed onto the Section 201 provisions.

Importers say they have not done anything unfair. The U.S. lamb industry never said they had. Frankly, the Section 201 rules don't pertain to unfair trading. It is never alleged, never argued by them. I would like to join them in commenting on the situation and dispel some myths and confusion surrounding the Section 201 trade action filed by a coalition representing the domestic lamb industry.

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