

shining moments alike. They have kept the solemn covenant established by honored patriots past and have earned the gratitude of a grateful nation.

With 139 facilities serving 3.5 million veterans and survivors, however, the task at hand is a daunting one. While broadly speaking, the VA provides high-quality health-care and services to our veteran community, ensuring that such a standard is maintained requires constant attention and a firm guiding hand. I am confident that Secretary Principi has the leadership and managerial skill, and perhaps more importantly, the compassion, to serve well our veterans and their families, as they have served our country.

I commend President Bush for putting forth such a quality and qualified nominee. Secretary Principi will be a credit to this Administration. I am pleased that the Senate has moved emphatically to confirm him as Secretary of Veterans Affairs. I look forward to working closely with him on issues of mutual concern, and I wish him well.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am very pleased to support the nomination of Anthony Principi to serve as Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Mr. Principi is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, and a combat-decorated veteran who commanded a River Patrol Unit in the Mekong Delta during the Vietnam War.

Since completing his service in the U.S. Navy, Mr. Principi has had a distinguished career in public service serving as staff director of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs for several years until he was appointed Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs by President Bush in 1992. Now, as Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony Principi will have responsibility for a \$48 billion budget in the Federal Government's second largest department, coordinating a nationwide system of health care services and benefits to serve America's more than 25 million veterans.

As we begin the 107th Congress, there are few challenges we face more important than ensuring that America's veterans receive the health care and benefits that they so justly deserve. The challenges include providing adequate funding for veterans health care services, ensuring access to VA health care for homeless veterans and veterans living in rural areas, providing timely access to specialized medical care, and responding to the many concerns of Persian Gulf Veterans as well as veterans with service in the Balkans. Secretary Principi, as a combat veteran in Vietnam, is well aware of these challenges. He has been a strong advocate on behalf of veterans during his service in the Senate and as Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

As ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee, I look forward to

working with Secretary Principi to ensure that the FY 2002 budget for veterans health care services and benefits are sufficient to meet the growing needs of our veterans population, particularly our aging veterans. We must also make certain that the Department of Veterans Affairs is equipped to meet the many new challenges that are emerging as a result of the activities of our military personnel in peacekeeping operations and more non-traditional assignments around the world. I congratulate Secretary Principi on his appointment and commend him for his commitment to serve our Nation's veterans. No individual has a more solemn responsibility than the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

#### RETIREMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL DRENNAN A. CLARK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor an outstanding individual, patriot and friend, Major General Drennan A. "Tony" Clark from my home state of Nevada. Major General Clark is retiring from the Nevada National Guard after more than 40 years of loyal and dedicated service.

Major General Clark first joined the Nevada National Guard as a young photo lab technician in 1960, and eventually rose to Adjutant General, the highest position in the Nevada Guard—a position he held for 14 years, a remarkably long time. It speaks volumes of the respect that General Clark commands in Nevada that he was re-appointed to that position four times, by Governors from both parties.

During his 14 years as Adjutant General, Tony Clark led the Guard through many upheavals, ranging from floods, to earthquakes, to civic emergencies, to the war on drugs. Units of the Nevada Guard fought in the Persian Gulf War. Hundreds of Nevadans owe their lives to the timely assistance of the Guard in all manner of emergencies.

The face of Nevada has changed dramatically since General Clark first assumed command—the state's population has nearly tripled in the last decade alone, small towns have exploded into cities, and Las Vegas has become an attraction to the world—and the Guard's military role has also shifted, from reconnaissance, to airlift, to Medevac, to tank-busting—but through it all, Tony Clark kept the Guard constantly vigilant, ready and able to answer any call. General Clark has led the Guard so capably and for so long that it will be hard to imagine the Nevada Guard without him in command.

General Clark grew up in Reno, Nevada and graduated from Bishop Manogue High School in 1955. He studied political science at the University of San Francisco, joined the Nevada Air National Guard shortly after graduation, and served in the Guard while attending law school.

After receiving his law degree in 1964, he began a budding career as a lawyer. But fate had something different in mind, and in 1968, young Second Lieutenant Clark was called to active duty during the Pueblo Crisis and served as the Commander of the 6314th Supply Squadron at Suwon Air Base and Osan Air Base, Korea.

He was released from active duty in 1969, and returned to Nevada and his career as a rising young lawyer. But a few years later, he sacrificed what in all probability would have been a distinguished and lucrative career in the legal profession to accept assignment as the Nevada Guard's Staff Judge Advocate, where he handled the Guard's legal matters, and a few years later was appointed the State Judge Advocate. After only a year as the State Judge Advocate, Tony Clark was appointed Assistant Adjutant General in 1984, and then became the acting Adjutant General in 1986. In 1987, he was formally appointed Adjutant General and held that position until his retirement last week.

During his tenure as the Adjutant General for the state of Nevada, General Clark was responsible for enhancing the National Guard nationally and within the state. General Clark was appointed by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Air Reserve Forces policy committee. Additionally, he served on the Reserve Forces Policy Board, as chairman of the Advisory Board to Air National Guard Professional Military Educational Center, and chairman of the National Guard Bureau Executive Environmental Quality Board. In each of these critical and prestigious assignments, General Clark played a key role in enriching and highlighting the National Guard.

General Clark's military awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one silver oak leaf cluster, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with four bronze oak leaf clusters, Air Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with one silver and three bronze oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with one silver hourglass device, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with one bronze star, and many others.

Yet in spite of his long list of accomplishments and the many hours he spent working to improve the Guard

and ensure the safety of Nevada, Tony Clark never lost sight of the things that are truly important in life—his wife Andrea, his six children, and his many friends.

Many years ago, General Clark sacrificed a lucrative career as a lawyer to serve the people of his state and his country, and we are all better for his choice. And although he retired from the Guard last week and could have done many things with his career, Tony Clark chose to remain in public service, as Nevada's Solicitor General, where he will continue to serve the people of Nevada.

Mr. President, on behalf of myself and all of Nevada, I want to thank Tony Clark for his long years of sacrifice and service in the Nevada National Guard, and to wish him the best in his new career.

#### PIPELINE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I am pleased to have co-sponsored a bill to modernize our Nation's pipeline safety programs. The issue of our country's pipeline safety came to the forefront after tragic explosions in Bellingham, Washington, and later, in my own state of New Mexico.

Just after midnight, August 19, 2000, an El Paso Natural Gas pipeline exploded on the Pecos River near Carlsbad, New Mexico. Twelve members of an extended family were camping near the explosion, which sent a 350 foot high ball of flame into the air. Six of the campers died instantly, and the remaining six later died from their horrific injuries.

Pipelines carry nearly all of the natural gas and about 65 percent of the crude oil and refined oil products. Three primary types of pipelines form a network of nearly 2.2 million miles, 7,000 miles of which lie throughout New Mexico.

Last Congress, the Senate unanimously passed similar legislation. Our colleagues in the other Chamber voiced serious concerns regarding that bill. Many of their criticisms related to the Office of Pipeline Safety, the Office within the Department of Transportation charged with keeping our Nation's pipelines safe. Unfortunately, the Office of Pipeline Safety has had a poor history of regulation and enforcement. It is true that the Office has traditionally been slow to act.

That said, we should not allow a former executive agency's failures to dictate our failure to act in accordance with our legislative mandate. In that regard, I intend to discuss the issue with our current Secretary of Transportation nominee, Mr. Mineta. I am confident that he will address our concerns regarding the Office of Pipeline Safety's record of enforcement with the new Director of the Office when he

or she is nominated by our new President.

Mr. President, this bill; significantly increases States' role in oversight, inspection, and investigation of pipelines; improves and expands the public's right to know about pipeline hazards; dramatically increases civil penalties for safety and reporting violations from \$25,000 to \$500,000, and increases the maximum civil penalty for a related series of violations to \$1 million; increases reporting requirements of releases of hazardous liquids from 50 barrels to five gallons; provides important whistle blower protections prohibiting discrimination by pipeline operators, contractors or subcontractors; furthermore, the legislation would provide much needed funding for research and development in pipeline safety technologies. In fact, technology currently exists that might have detected weaknesses in pipelines around Carlsbad. Unfortunately, due to insufficient funding for their products to reach the market; La Sen Corporation in my own State of New Mexico has developed technology that can detect faulty pipelines where current pipeline inspection technology is not useable. La Sen's Electronic Mapping system can be very effective even in pipelines where conventional pig devices cannot be used; pipeline inspection is costly and slow. Innovative new technologies could allow us to inspect all 2.2 million miles of pipeline each year in a cost effective manner. Today, pipeline inspection technology only covers 5-10 miles per day at a cost of \$50 per mile. Again, La Sen's technology can survey 500 miles per day at a cost of \$32 per mile; ensuring the safety and integrity of our nation's pipelines is important to all of us.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL MARJORIE A. JACKSON

• Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, it is a privilege to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Colonel Marjorie A. Jackson, United States Army Medical Service Corps, on her retirement after 26 years of distinguished and dedicated service to the nation.

Colonel Jackson is a native of Louisiana. She graduated from Walter L. Cohen High School in New Orleans, earned her bachelor's degree from Xavier University and earned her M.A. in Executive Development from Ball State University. In 1974, she enlisted in the Army as a Pharmacy Technician serving in Fort McPherson, Georgia. In 1975, she was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and went on to serve in a variety of key operational and staff positions including Assistant Inspector General, U.S. Army Health Services Command and Clinical Pharmacist, He-

matology/Oncology Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The culmination of Colonel Jackson's career was assignment as Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

Colonel Jackson has been at the forefront of military medicine, completing a one-year residency in Hematology-Oncology Pharmacy at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and a one-year assignment as a Pharmacy Consultant to the 18th Medical Command in Seoul, South Korea. She has been honored with the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, the Order of Military Medical Merit by the Army and was selected as the College of Pharmacy Alumnus of the Year in 1996 by Xavier University for her achievements in the field.

Colonel Jackson has been a ground breaker her entire career. She was the first woman to serve as Chief of Staff, Administrative Services at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, the first African-American woman promoted to the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps, the first African-American female pharmacist in the history of the U.S. Army Pharmacy Service and the first woman to direct an Army major medical center pharmacy.

For twenty-six years, seven months and eighteen days, Colonel Jackson has served her country on the forefront of military medical care. Her exemplary military career is ending, but her contributions and achievements will continue to be felt throughout the Army and the Department of Defense.

Colonel Marjorie A. Jackson served her country with great ability, valor, loyalty and integrity. On the occasion of her retirement from the United States Army, I commend her for her outstanding service. She is one of Louisiana's finest, represents all that is special about our nation, and I wish her well in the years ahead. ●

##### IN HONOR OF DR. MICHAEL MULLIN, PHD AND DR. MIA JEAN TEGNER, PHD.

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to recognize and honor two exceptional research scientists from one of the world's finest oceanographic research facilities who lost their lives in recent weeks. Both were two of the brightest stars at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, in La Jolla, California.

Michael Mullin, a research biologist at Scripps, and undergraduate professor at the University of California, San Diego, died December 19th of complications following surgery. He was 63 years old.

His research over the past 36 years at Scripps has included the study of phytoplankton, zooplankton and larval fish in the marine food web.

He was the author of more than 70 scientific publications, including his