

To be clear, I am not saying we, as a nation, will no longer be unified in this effort to combat terrorism. I am simply saying that we all need to actively participate in developing, not simply rubber-stamping, policy.

As a legislative body, we can return to the comparatively mundane and, consequently, more polarizing issues without losing sight of our resolve to fight terrorism. By doing so, we will not have swayed our national values to placate forces of evil.

Yes, in times of tragedy, it is imperative to find a common bond to bring our nation together. But, as we heal our wounds, we must give all people, on all sides of an issue, a chance to be heard. After all, democracy is the healthiest alternative to war. Our weapons are words, and our nation's internal battles are fought on the grounds of the Constitution, rather than on the grounds of the combat zone.

I do not believe in the bitter partisanship that has, at times, characterized our nation, but I do believe that debate is critical to a strong democracy. Freedom of expression is fundamental to life in America and, by extension, to healthy debate here in Congress. We in the Senate are free to speak our minds and hearts. And as a result of that freedom, we need to freely come together and return to 'normal' debate empowered by the Constitution. Then, and only then, we will have successfully given back to the country that has given so much to each of us.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MAJOR GENERAL EDWARD SORIANO

• Mr. ALLARD. Madam President, I rise today to honor a great military leader, MG Edward Soriano, the outgoing commanding general of 7th Infantry and Fort Carson, CO. Major General Campbell will assume command and General Soriano will be moving on to greater responsibilities. As he and his wife Vivian depart Ft. Carson, they leave with a record of outstanding public service and numerous significant accomplishments.

Among these accomplishments is the Army's first housing privatization project. This project has been a major success, is ahead of schedule, and is now a model for military installations throughout the country. Additionally, General Soriano has overseen numerous successful deployments of units, including the deployment of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment to Bosnia. Now, as our military forces conduct the war on terrorism, it is evident that the service members and their families of Ft. Carson will benefit greatly from his work.

His efforts to improve the readiness and capability of Ft. Carson and its units has met with great success and will have a long lasting and significant positive impact on the soldiers and civilians who live and work there. Furthermore he has ensured that Ft. Carson will provide our President and Secretary of Defense a first class platform from which to deploy military power.

General Soriano has done his excellent work on the facilities at Ft. Carson, despite funding shortfalls. His most significant achievement, however, has been in preparing the war fighting capability of its people. The soldiers and civilians at Ft. Carson are among the best in the Army, and are proven performers. Any venture managed by the men and women of "The Mountain Post" will certainly meet with success.

Finally, General Soriano and his wife have developed and nurtured an outstanding working relationship with the people of Colorado Springs, surrounding local communities, and the nearby Air Force Bases. They will be sorely missed, but they leave an organization committed to the pursuit of excellence. I wish him good luck and God speed.●

COMMENDING WILLIAM F. HOFMAN

• Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I welcome this opportunity to commend a distinguished citizen of Massachusetts, William F. Hofmann III of Belmont, who is now completing his highly successful term as president of the nation's largest insurance association—the Independent Insurance Agents of America.

Bill is partner in Provider Insurance Group, which has offices in Belmont, Brookline and Needham in Massachusetts, and his career has long been notable for his outstanding contributions, and dedication to his community and his profession.

Bill began his service in the insurance industry with the Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agents where he served as president. He also served the State as its representative on the national board of the Independent Insurance Agents of America.

Bill was elected to IIAA's Executive Committee in 1995, and became its president last fall. He has worked effectively through the IIAA to strengthen the competitive standing of independent insurance agents by helping to provide the support they need to run more successful businesses. He served as chairman of IIAA's Education Committee for four years, and in 1994 he received a Presidential Citation for his work in this area.

For many years, Bill has also been an active and concerned member of his community. He served as president and as a member the Board of Directors for

the Boston Children's Service, and has been active in the Belmont Youth Basketball program. He served as chairman of the Belmont Red Cross, and as treasurer for the Belmont Religious Council. Bill is an elected town meeting member, finance committee member, and registrar of voters in Belmont.

I commend Bill for his leadership in all these aspects of his brilliant career, and I know he will continue his service to our community in the years ahead. Massachusetts is proud of him for all he has done so well.●

THE STATE OF IDAHO'S PROCLAMATION OF WORLD POPULATION AWARENESS WEEK

• Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, I rise today to enter into the RECORD a proclamation signed by the Governor of the State of Idaho.

Rapid population growth and urbanization have become catalysts for many serious environmental impacts and they apply substantial pressures on many facets of our infrastructure. These pressures often result in transportation, health, sanitation, and public safety problems, making urbanization an issue that cannot be ignored.

It is, therefore, important for us to recognize the problems associated with rapid population growth and urbanization. The Governor of the State of Idaho has proclaimed the week of October 21-27, 2001, as World Population Awareness Week in my State. I would like to commend the Governor for his commitment to this issue.

I ask that the proclamation be printed in the RECORD.

The proclamation follows:

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the world population stands today at more than 6.1 billion and increases by some one billion every 13 years; and

Whereas, the most significant feature of the 20th century phenomenon of unprecedented world population growth was rapid urbanization; and

Whereas, cities and urban areas today occupy only 2% of the earth's land, but contain 50% of its population and consume 75% of its resources; and

Whereas, the most rapid urban growth over the next two decades is expected in cities with populations ranging from 250,000 to one million; and

Whereas, along with the advantages and amenities, the rapid growth of cities leads to substantial pressure on their infrastructure, manifested in security, health and crime problems, as well as deterring the provision of basic social services; and

Whereas, in the interest of national and environmental security, nations must redouble voluntary and humanitarian efforts to stabilize their population growth at sustainable levels, while at all times respecting the cultural and religious beliefs and values of their citizens; and

Whereas, World Population Awareness Week was proclaimed last year by Governors of 32 states, as well as Mayors of more than 315 United States cities, and co-sponsored by 231 organizations in 63 countries; and