

another LA that they will be getting married this summer and Arlen and Staci have my best wishes for a long, happy life together.

I am excited by Arlen's new challenge at USDA and know he is well up to the task. Although I won't have the same opportunity to work with him on a daily basis, I look forward to our new working relationship and Arlen's continuing successes. His extensive knowledge of agriculture, natural resources and other policy issues will serve Arlen well in his new capacity.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ANTONIO R. BAINES

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the United States Army, Lieutenant Colonel Antonio R. Baines, upon his retirement after more than 20 years of distinguished service. Throughout his career, Colonel Baines has personified the Army values of duty, integrity, and selfless service across the many missions the Army provides in defense of our Nation. As a Congressional Legislative Liaison Officer in the office of the Secretary of the Army, many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Lieutenant Colonel Baines on a wide variety of Army issues and programs, and it is my privilege to recognize his many accomplishments. I commend his superb service to the United States Army and this great Nation.

Lieutenant Colonel Antonio R. Baines, the son of Mr. Albert and Yolanda Baines of Jonesboro, GA, attended high school in Hephzibah, GA, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Signal Corps after graduating from North Georgia College in 1984. His first assignment was as the Battalion Signal Officer for the 6th Battalion, 37th Field Artillery, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. He has served in multiple assignments within the United States, including two tours at Ft. Gordon, GA, and notably as the Signal Officer for 1st Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment at Fort Lewis, WA, and the 82nd Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC. Lieutenant Colonel Baines served two tours in Europe as the Signal Officer for the 3rd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment in Stuttgart, Germany, and deployed to South West Asia as part of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Later as the Assistant Division Signal Officer for the 1st Infantry Division in Wurzburg, he again deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina. As a signaler, Lieutenant Colonel Baines excelled in a wide variety of leadership and staff assignments to include Platoon Leader, Battalion Adjutant, Company Commander, Brigade Adjutant and Battalion Executive Officer.

In 1999, Lieutenant Colonel Baines was selected to be a Force Development Officer with assignment to the Pentagon. He served on the G-3 and G-8 staff as the Army's Systems Integrator for all tactical radios systems. He was subsequently selected as a Congressional Legislative Liaison Officer in the office of the Secretary of the Army, Congressional Legislative Liaison, Programs Division from June 2001 through June 2005.

Lieutenant Colonel Baines maintained constant liaison with the Professional Staff Members of the Senate and House Armed Services Committees on issues relating to Army Procurement programs focusing on Army Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Information Technology, and Ammunition Procurement. In 2003, Lieutenant Colonel Baines was selected to be the team chief of the hardware section of the Programs Division.

Throughout these assignments, Lieutenant Colonel Baines provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to both the Army and Congress. Antonio's actions and counsel were invaluable to Army leaders and Members of Congress as they considered the impact of important issues. On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank Colonel Baines, his wife Peggy, and his entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution that they have made throughout his honorable military career. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and extremely successful career. •

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL CARLISLE A.H. TROST, U.S. NAVY, RETIRED

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to ADM Carlisle A.H. Trost, U.S. Navy, Retired, as he steps down after 17 faithful, diligent, and honorable years as the chairman of the board of directors of the George and Carol Olmsted Foundation of Falls Church, VA. In years past it was a privilege to have worked closely with both George Olmsted and Admiral Trost.

Admiral Trost, who ascended to the position of Chief of Naval Operations during his long and distinguished career as a naval officer, offered his services first as a director, then as chairman of the board, of the prestigious Olmsted Foundation. Demonstrating a vital understanding of this complex world, he led the foundation in its expanding role to educate young, talented, and dedicated military officers in learning foreign languages and in understanding foreign cultures through the awarding of scholarships to study overseas for 2 years. With our military deployed for wars in over 100 countries across the globe, the importance of

having officers imbued with the cultural sensitivities and language capabilities provided by this special education is essential. Thanks to Admiral Trost's innate understanding of the importance of the training provided to Olmsted scholars and his visionary leadership, the number of scholars studying annually doubled and the foundation's endowment increased dramatically.

Admiral Trost also established the Tri-Service Academy Cadet and Midshipman Overseas Travel and Cultural Immersion Program at our three service academies in 2001. He later extended this important training and educational program to the three Service Reserve Officer Training Commands, ROTC, and the six senior military colleges, title 10 schools. Admiral Trost graduated from the Naval Academy in 1953, where he was first in his class of 925 midshipmen. He went on to become an Olmsted Scholar in 1960, studying in the German language at the University of Freiburg from 1960 to 1962. From there he had a most successful tour as a submarine officer, eventually commanding the blue crew of the nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, USS *Sam Rayburn*, SSBN 635.

As a young captain, he was selected by his superiors to serve as a naval aide to the Under Secretary and, later, Secretary of the Navy. It was my good fortune to have served in these positions and to have learned from this great teacher, peer, and life-long friend. Whether as a submarine group commander, a numbered fleet commander, Commander of the Atlantic Fleet, or as Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Trost always served his country with honor and dignity.

Admiral Trost has provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on many critical issues and at many key levels of decision making for both the Navy and the Nation. Indeed, his actions and wise counsel over the years have been of enduring importance to the U.S. Congress. Though he is a modest man, he truly is an extraordinary individual and leader who has contributed so much to this country and the cause of freedom. He has been dedicated fully to mission accomplishment, education, leadership, and professionalism in the highest traditions of the American spirit. •

HONORING THIRTY YEARS FOR R.J. VIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

• Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, every session in Congress, we spend a large amount of time discussing education in this country. Debates range from accountability to school construction to teacher recruitment. While our discussions are of the utmost importance, it is the implementation of our decisions by individuals within the education