

His legacy was the most professional and technologically advanced military the world has ever known. He knew we needed the world's best military not because we wanted war but because we wanted to prevent war.

I was struck by an excerpt from Cap Weinberger's memoir "In The Arena," published in the Washington Post this morning. It said this:

Some thought it was incongruous that I did so much to build up our defenses but was reluctant to commit forces abroad. I did not arm to attack. . . . We armed so that we could negotiate from strength, defend freedom, and make war less likely.

Cap Weinberger stands out as the model—the model—of what a Secretary of Defense should be. When I was president of the World USO in the late 1980s, I had the privilege of working very closely with Secretary Weinberger. As a Senator, I sought often his wise counsel and sound advice. Without fail, he was always candid, thoughtful, and generous with his time and, I would say, always correct in his analysis.

All Americans owe this great patriot our gratitude and deepest respect. We have much to learn from the lessons of Casper Weinberger's service to his country and his exemplary life. Lilibet and I offer our thoughts and our prayers to Secretary Weinberger's family, as I know do all Americans.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

#### TRIBUTE TO HERB TOBMAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Herb Tobman, who passed away on Tuesday. Herb was from a different era of Las Vegas. The town was a lot smaller then, and everyone knew him as a successful businessman and a community leader. What impressed me most about Herb though was his quiet generosity that impacted the lives of countless Nevadans. I know that Las Vegas would not be the place it is today without Herb Tobman.

I first saw Herb as a preteenager at Squires Park ballfield. He played fast-pitch softball in the Horseshoe Club championship league with my brother Dale. His athletic accomplishments were widely known: Herb was a high school all star in every sport. He was a champion handball and racquetball player, and later he went on to play professional basketball.

Herb was born in the Bronx in 1924. In the 1950s, Herb moved to Las Vegas, where he secured a \$1,200 loan. This small sum allowed Herb to open City Furniture Exchange, the first used furniture store in Las Vegas. The business thrived, and it was a Las Vegas landmark for more than 25 years.

His success as a businessman led Herb to start Western Cab Company in 1965. Herb started with one cab, and ended with more than 134 taxicabs and 355 employees.

Soon after, Herb took his business acumen to the gaming industry. He

was an associate of Moe Dalitz, the developer of the original Desert Inn Hotel and Casino. Herb helped develop the Sundance Hotel and Casino in downtown Las Vegas. Before the modern Las Vegas casinos were built, the Sundance was the tallest building on the Las Vegas skyline. In addition to these accomplishments, Herb also managed the Marina, Fremont, Aladdin, and Stardust resorts. Herb was known throughout the industry for his kindness and generosity to his employees.

In addition to his business accomplishments, Herb was also an active participant in Nevada politics. In 1986, he ran in the Democratic gubernatorial primary against incumbent Richard Bryan. Instead of using his wealth to fuel his political aspirations, Herb limited contributions to \$10 per individual. Needless to say, those limits put him at a competitive disadvantage, but Herb still managed to receive more than 15 percent of the primary vote. The vote total is a testament to Herb's reputation throughout the state.

Accomplishments in business and politics would be enough for some men, but it was not enough for Herb. From an early age, Herb learned the importance of giving back to his community. Herb never sought recognition for his efforts, but he impacted almost every life in southern Nevada.

Every year, during the holidays, Herb anonymously fed hundreds of homeless individuals in Las Vegas. He helped local children with their college expenses, and he helped people who were down on their luck. No challenge was too great. If Herb knew you needed help, he was there to provide it often—times unknown to his beneficiaries. I needed help on several occasions, and Herb was always available. Herb was my friend and I will miss him very much.

There are many successful individuals throughout Nevada, but very few had the sense of community of Herb Tobman. Nevada is a better place because of Herb.

#### THE VALUE OF SERVING OTHERS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Cameron Ball of Henderson, NV, recently delivered a moving speech on the value of serving others to the Coronado High School Honor Society. Over the past year, Cameron and the student body of Coronado High School have worked tirelessly to improve their community. Many of these students will enter college next year, but I hope they will keep Cameron's speech close to heart; service is a lifelong pursuit, and we all have an obligation to help others. I congratulate these students on their accomplishments for Coronado High School and Henderson, NV.

I ask unanimous consent Cameron Ball's speech be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### SPEECH TO 2005-2006 INDUCTEES OF CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Throughout the year, you have all proved yourselves involved, caring, and crucial parts of our community. If we were to have taken turns volunteering, one at a time, we would have performed community service for more than a year. Although this is a formal recognition of all your hard work and service, you must all remember that dedication to a cause does not end here, but it is a lifelong process. Induction into NHS does not directly make your deeds significant, and stops short of granting you success in life. Induction into this club provides you with the experience you will need to launch yourself into greater tasks. Emerson wrote: "The only reward of virtue, is virtue: the only way to have a friend, is to be one."

Induction into National Honor Society is not a life-defining moment, but an infinitesimal instant in a continuum of time. The significance of this club and its actions, your actions, will seem to fade over the years. Spent will be the money we worked so hard at raising from Hip Hop 4 Hearts; the smiles we have put on the faces of those whom we fed, clothes and given gifts will have waned. The tangible accomplishments of this club will vanish gradually like footprints in the sand. Instead, thoughts of college life will fill your mind; money will still be sorely needed the world over; and everywhere, pariahs of humanity will hide in obscure poverty, waiting to be lifted from the black pit of circumstance.

Nevertheless, our actions and intentions have not been in vain. NHS has not immortalized the happiness of an individual. That would be impossible. National Honor Society has catalyzed your involvement in a lifelong process: a journey of love; a wrestle with dignity; a mission to make a difference. The road that lies before you is intrinsically more important than what you have done with these past three quarters of your high school career. With your experience and whetted appetite to serve, you will find that it becomes easier to replenish the smiles on the faces of troubled friends and strangers. If you pledge yourself to improving the lives of others, you ensure that life continues. My life, taken alone, is meaningless. As soon as I become one with my community, I gain an identity: a purpose. I can do this by volunteering, donating the fruits of my labor to a worthy cause, or simply by giving everyone I see a smile. After all, "a friend may well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature" (Emerson). Deeds, both great and small, are never wasted. As Emily Dickinson wrote:

If I can stop one heart from breaking,  
I shall not live in vain;  
If I can ease one life the aching,  
Or cool one pain,  
Or help one fainting robin  
Unto his nest again,  
I shall not live in vain.

Your deeds have been exceptional thus far, and for that we recognize you here today. The next step in serving is to shed yourself of recognition for your actions. Give back to your community more than you take from it, and do so modestly. Do not boast of your accomplishments. Conceit never cured any illnesses. Lao Tzu, ancient philosopher, proclaims: "True virtue does not 'act,' and has no intentions . . . Know glory, but cleave to humiliation." By doing this, you will rally others to your side—kindle in the despondent, a flame of hope. Know your charge. Lift

others to your side, and never push them down. As for yourself, transcend the grasps of hubris, and look to austere altruism for your guidance, albeit at times seemingly insignificant, for even the smallest action can change the course of history.

#### DEATH OF FORMER ESTONIAN PRESIDENT LENNART MERI

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today I would like to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of the late Estonian President Lennart Meri. President Meri was an inspiration to his countrymen, a true friend of the United States, and a stalwart advocate for freedom. His passing on March 14, 2006, was a tremendous loss to the people of Estonia and the world.

Born in 1929 to the renowned diplomat and Shakespearean translator Georg Meri, Lennart's early childhood exemplified the plight of the Estonian people. Living in a country ravaged by war and subjected to the brutality of Soviet occupation, Lennart attended nine different schools and studied in four different languages. He was eventually deported from his homeland to Siberia along with thousands of other Estonians, Latvians, and Lithuanians. During his forced exile, he helped feed his family by picking potatoes.

President Meri experienced more hardship as a boy than most men do in a lifetime, but he was quick to turn his struggles into opportunities. In the course of his itinerant education he became fluent in French, German, English, and Russian. He also developed a tenacity that would serve him well throughout his life.

Lennart eventually came back to Estonia to study history and languages, graduating from Tartu University with honors in 1958. The Soviet Government prevented Lennart from working as an Estonian historian, but he again found possibility where others might have only seen discouragement. Instead of accepting defeat, he established himself as a writer, filmmaker, and dramatist, and used these avenues to preserve Estonia's national identity.

For over 20 years, the Soviet Union refused to allow Lennart to venture beyond the Iron Curtain. Ultimately, when he did travel abroad, he served as a lone, unofficial emissary of what was by then an almost forgotten country. He established contact with politicians and journalists, recounting the story of Estonia to whoever would listen. When the collapse of the Soviet empire finally freed his country, Lennart was able to continue representing his newly independent homeland as an Ambassador and Foreign Minister. Ultimately, Lennart served two terms as President of the country he had loved and championed for so long.

Lennart's accomplishments were myriad; he helped build Estonia's Foreign Service from the ground up, estab-

lished strong ties with the West, and reached an historic agreement with Boris Yeltsin to end Russia's military presence in Estonia. Beyond these remarkable achievements, though, Lennart left behind a bequest of liberty that will endure along with the free nation of Estonia. I hope each of us will appreciate that legacy and continue working to advance the cause of freedom.

#### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I want to give a statement on Women's History Month. This is an important time for Americans to reflect on the invaluable contributions women make in our society. Women are our families, our coworkers, and our neighbors. They juggle many roles in making our homes, our neighborhoods, and our country stronger. Eighty million women in our country are mothers. Sixty percent of American women work at least part time. Nearly 2 million American women are veterans. More than 200,000 women are doctors, and more than 2½ million women are registered nurses.

South Dakota's own history is filled with women who balanced the needs of their families and their communities to make our country better. Mamie Pyle is one such woman. In 1902, Mamie's husband passed away when she was just 36, leaving her to raise four young children on her own. Not only did Mamie find a way to send all four of her children to college in the early 1900s, but she also led the South Dakota women's suffrage movement for a decade. Because of Mamie's determination, South Dakota ratified the national women's suffrage amendment in 1919. Mamie continued to serve her community as a member of the Huron College board of trustees for more than 40 years. In 1947, South Dakotans honored Mamie by naming her the State's Mother of the Year at age 81.

It is women like Mamie who teach South Dakota girls—and all of us—of the difference one person can make in our society and of the thousands of women who have made South Dakota the great State it is today.

This month we remember that women are our soldiers, our doctors, our social workers, our mothers, and our teachers. And we remember the women who came before them and made these roles possible. So many of them are unknown to us, but our gratitude to all of them is no less real.

Women's opportunities continue to expand in South Dakota, in America, and throughout the world. They are leaders in South Dakota, taking on new roles every day in our communities. Cecelia Fire Thunder is one such woman. Cecelia is the first female president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. She has fought to improve the edu-

cation of her tribe's children and the health of her tribe's community. This is not Cecelia's first role as a caregiver to her community. Before becoming president, she was a nurse and healthcare provider.

Yet even as we celebrate South Dakota's women of yesterday and today, we live in uncertain times for women. As we honor the women who have helped us throughout history and those who make our country a better place today, it is imperative that we keep our promises to them.

As the 200,000 active American women soldiers return home, we must keep our promise to them to give them access to the health care they need. Four million women are battered in their homes in this country every year. We must keep our promise to them to fully fund law enforcement and violence prevention programs under the Violence Against Women Act. More than 2,500 children will be born into poverty today alone in this country. We must keep our promise to their mothers that every child in every community in this country will receive a quality education. One in four Native American women live in poverty. We must keep our promise to them to make their communities stronger with programs that provide access to quality, affordable housing under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act.

And most importantly, when the women in our communities are vulnerable, we cannot abandon them. We cannot ignore their needs. When we know that the leading causes of death for women are heart disease and cancer—and the average fatality rates for South Dakotans with these diseases are higher than the national average fatality rates—we cannot cut Government support for research that will cure these deadly diseases as the current 2007 budget proposes. We as a community must stand by our promise to women to find a cure for these diseases.

This month we honor the women who protect our values in our homes, in our communities and overseas. This month we thank them for their sacrifices, their compassion, and their leadership. This month we renew our promises to them to continue building a safer, better, more just society for them, for their families and for all Americans.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF GERALD J. LEELING

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Gerald "Gary" Leeling for receiving the Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Achievement Award from the Military Officers Association of America—MOAA—on March 18, 2006.

I have come to know Gary through his service as minority staff director of the Senate Armed Services Personnel