

them their ninth straight win against opponents ranked in the Associated Press Top 10 and finishing with a perfect 12-0 season.

The Rose Bowl victory clinched the Wolverines the Associated Press National Championship trophy and secured the co-national championship. The season became even sweeter for the Wolverines when University of Michigan junior Charles Woodson won the 1997 Heisman Trophy, football's most prestigious individual honor, and head coach Lloyd Carr was recognized as Coach of the Year. 1997 was undoubtedly an outstanding year for Michigan football, and possibly the best in school history. On April 9, President Bill Clinton will honor the University of Michigan Wolverines at the White House for their extraordinary athletic accomplishments and remarkable teamwork. I extend my heartiest congratulations to the University of Michigan football team on a perfect 1997 season—Let's Go Blue!

#### UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY IN SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF TORTURE

• Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I would like to call the Senate's attention to a recent initiative that addresses a very important international issue: the use of torture. At its last session, the United Nations General Assembly decided to proclaim June 26th as "United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture." The General Assembly proclaimed the day "with a view to the total eradication of torture and the effective functioning of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which entered into force on 26 June 1987." Governments and non-governmental organizations are developing plans on how to observe this day in a manner that will recognize the needs of torture victims and the necessity of preventing torture.

Torture is a most effective weapon against democracy. Torture victims are often in the forefront of the struggle for human rights and democracy in their own country. The advocates for these ideals are tortured in order to disable them and instill fear in anyone who might aspire for human rights and democracy. As a refuge for the persecuted, the United States may have as many as 400,000 victims of torture. They come from all regions of the world. Many come from Iraq, Iran, China, Ethiopia, Liberia, El Salvador, Guatemala and many other countries too numerous to mention. Because of their experience with torture, they often have special difficulties applying for asylum and adjusting to a new country. They must overcome the physical and mental effects of torture—the latter often requiring months or years of therapy. Nightmares, flashbacks, anxiety attacks, and depression are just some of the mental con-

sequences of torture. In some cases it may be years before the victim recognizes that treatment is necessary to overcome these psychological roadblocks.

Plans are being made around the world to recognize the contribution of torture victims. In Denmark, the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims and the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims are planning a series of event and activities. In Greece, where torture was prevalent not so many years ago, the Medical Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims (MRCT) will hold an event at what was, during the dictatorship, the Special Interrogating Unit of the Military Police (a notorious torture and detention center). The building is now used for historical memorial purposes, and symbolically the area has been renamed Park of Freedom. A variety of activities are planned, including speeches by torture victims and refugees.

I am very proud that the first and most comprehensive treatment center for victims of torture in the United States, the Center for Victims of Torture, is located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It now treats an average of 150 clients a year who come from all regions of the world and are now settled in Minnesota. Many of the Center's clients and former clients are now making significant contributions to our communities and we are grateful to have them. The Center is planning a special event for June 26th.

Mr. President, on February 4th I introduced the Torture Victims Relief Act (S.1606). My bill is co-sponsored by Senators TOM HARKIN, EDWARD KENNEDY, DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, BARBARA BOXER, BYRON DORGAN, and RICHARD DURBIN. The legislation provides a focus and a framework of the debate about where torture survivors, and our response to the practice of torture by other countries, fit within our foreign policy priorities. Providing treatment for torture survivors is one of the best ways we can show our commitment to fighting human rights abuses around the world.

Mr. President, I strongly urge this administration and this Congress to undertake activities on June 26th to recognize the important contributions torture victims have made on behalf of human rights and democracy and the contributions they have made to our country as well. I suggest that President Clinton invite some torture victims to attend a ceremony at the White House where they would be recognized for their contributions. The invitees should be from countries representing a wide geographic and political distribution.

On that occasion the President could announce some initiatives the administration is taking to support torture victims and prevent torture. I would suggest that the President consider taking the following initiatives: (1) Increase the U.S. contribution to the

United Nations Voluntary Fund from \$1.5 million to \$3.0 million, as recommended in the conference report of the State Department authorization bill; (2) Direct the Agency for International Development to set aside \$5 million in fiscal year 1998 funds to assist treatment centers for torture victims abroad; (3) Direct the Department of Health and Human Services to set aside \$5 million in fiscal year 1998 funds to assist treatment centers for victims of torture in the United States; and (4) Announce administration support for the Torture Victims Relief Act (S. 1606).

Finally, Mr. President, I would like to mention the valuable contribution being made by the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. It provides financial assistance to treatment centers for victims of torture throughout the world. These centers are providing both an essential humanitarian assistance program as well as an important strategic instrument for advancing human rights and democracy around the world. In 1997 the Fund assisted 104 projects in about 70 countries on a budget of little more than \$3 million dollars. An article that appeared in Human Rights, a publication initiated by the new U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, tells why we need to increase our contribution to the Fund. I ask that the text of the article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

#### U.N. SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF TORTURE

(By Daniel Prémont)

Torture continues to occur on a worldwide basis, despite enhanced efforts by Governments and organizations in keeping with provisions contained in domestic law and international human rights conventions whose objective is its total eradication.

The practice of torture was first prohibited in 1948 by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and by the International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; the concept was reaffirmed in 1966 by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and more recently, in 1984, by the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

#### WHAT IS THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE?

The effects of torture should not be underestimated. Physical and mental consequences of torture can endure for several years and may be irreversible, often affecting not only thousands of victims themselves, but also their relatives. One of the means of mitigating the subsequent effects of torture on victims and their families is to provide them with medical, psychological, social, legal and economic aid. With this in mind, the General Assembly created the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture in 1982. The purpose of the Fund is to receive voluntary contributions and distribute them to non-governmental organizations and treatment centres for assisting victims of torture and their relatives whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of torture, as well as for the funding of projects for training healthcare professionals specialized in the treatment of victims of torture.

The Fund is administered by the United Nations Secretary-General with a Board of

Trustees acting in an advisory capacity and comprising five members with wide experience in the field of human rights. The members serve in their personal capacity and are appointed by the Secretary-General for a renewable three-year term of office on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. Currently, members of the Board of Trustees are Jaap Walkate, Chairman, from The Netherlands; Ribot Hatano from Japan; Elisabeth Odio-Benito from Costa Rica; Ivan Tosevsky from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and Amos Wako from Kenya.

The inadequacy of available resources is a limiting factor in the field of assistance of victims; as a consequence, programmes of assistance are subjected to interruptions. For some 100 organisations the support of the United Nations Voluntary Fund remains essential.

#### HOW DOES THE VOLUNTARY FUND WORK?

The Fund receives projects which focus on providing medical, psychological, economic, social and legal assistance to victims of torture and to members of their families. A few projects also share the objective of organizing training seminars for health professionals specialized in the treatment of torture victims.

Each May, the Board of Trustees makes recommendations on grants to the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Subsequently, in the following month, on the basis of those recommendations, the High Commissioner takes decisions on behalf of the Secretary-General. As a final step, grants are made available at the end of July.

From 1983 to July 1997, the Fund has financed 255 projects for direct assistance to torture victims. From US\$ 2.5 to US\$ 3 million of voluntary contributions received from about 30 Governments and a few individuals are disbursed every year to projects in some 60 countries representative of all the regions of the world. Further information on the activities of the Voluntary Fund can be found in the latest annual reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (UN document A/52/387) and to the Commission on Human Rights (UN documents E/CN.4/1998/37 and Add.1).

	Grants requested (US\$)	Grants awarded (US\$)	Percent granted	Additional amount required (US\$)
1997 .....	6,800,000	1,036,054	44.64	3,765,946
1996 .....	5,618,645	2,535,500	45.1	3,083,145
1995 .....	5,827,645	2,719,680	46.6	3,107,965
1994 .....	5,476,959	3,698,080	67.5	1,778,879
1993 .....	5,289,413	2,211,880	39.9	3,177,533

<sup>1</sup> Each year, the grants awarded correspond to the total amounts which the Board of Trustees is able to recommend to the Secretary-General for allocation. In view of the insufficient contributions received, the Board avoids the practice of carrying forward a reserve from one year to the next. The Secretary-General follows this recommendation by the Board.

As at 30 November 1997 only US\$ 1,174,499 has been paid into the Fund. Provided that the number of grant requested is maintained at the 1997 level, the Fund will need an additional amount of US\$ 5.6 million to meet all requests.

#### SOME PROJECTS RECENTLY SUBMITTED

Torture involves not only physical but also psychological forms, sometimes with long-term sequelae: in this regard, the Fund is supporting a project whose objective is to provide global assistance to formerly disappeared children of victims of torture in Latin America. The organization identifies disappeared children as those born in detention, abducted by security forces and illegally adopted. Once located by the organization, the children may be returned to their biological families. The best interests of the child have to be taken into consideration. This project consists of two main parts: investigation—some 1,030 interviews were carried out in the past year in conjunction with blood tests and analyses of genetic data—and psychological support provided to some 431 persons during 1996. Most of these persons

suffer from sequelae of post-traumatic stress disorder including anxiety, nightmares, depression, as well as affective and intellectual inhibitions and benefit from individual psychotherapy. The number of youths seeking assistance remains high while many children have yet to be found: to date, 172 children still need to be located and 6 who were found have yet to be returned to their biological families.

Another project which was being implemented in Asia in 1996 focused on providing physical and mental relief to torture survivors and their families. Firstly, fact-finding missions on the incidence of torture were carried out establishing that people had been subjected to torture by the police and other law enforcement agencies: this involved methods such as beatings all over the body, kicking them with police boots, applying electric shocks, scalding them with hot water, suspending them by the legs from roofs and inflicting them with bullet injuries. Long-term consequences, apart from obvious physical complaints, were psychological and included phobia, depression, sexual problems and mental disorders. The more commonly occurring complaints were social maladjustments at work, in the family and society in general, through the overall loss of social dignity and a departure from social values. In 1995, 263 victims between 15 and 45 years of age received treatment. The drug therapy included prescription of antipsychotics, physiotherapy as well as psychotherapeutic assistance. Parallel to the main objective of providing physical and mental relief to the victims, the Care Center organized other activities such as seminars on torture for health professionals, missions in collaboration with the national Human Rights Commission in order to establish contact with victims, encourage them to visit the Care Center and prepare a report for submission to governmental authorities asking for justice. The organization also established a legal division which has already successfully assisted in five cases.

In North America, a treatment centre is currently providing clinical services to victims of torture who are now refugees, mainly from Africa and the Caribbean. 167 persons were assisted who had been subjected to rape, electric shocks, deprivation of human needs, as well as being obliged to eat excrement or perform acts of violence or murder often targeting their own family members. The treatment provided ranges from psychiatric and medical examination, to treatment in the form of crisis intervention and support counselling, psychotherapy, physiotherapy, social service, education, medical referrals, social support interpreters and legal assistance. In 1996, the center also established a children's art therapy branch as a medium for treating anxiety and dysfunctions related to traumatic experiences which children were unable to express verbally in the family setting.

The Commission on Human Rights, by its resolution 1997/38 of 11 April 1997, requested that the General Assembly proclaim 26 June a United Nations international day in support of the victims of torture and appealed to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute annually to the Fund.●

#### 1998 APRIL QUARTERLY REPORTS

The mailing and filing date of the April Quarterly Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Wednesday, April 15, 1998. All Principal Campaign Committees supporting Senate candidates in the

1998 races must file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116. You may wish to advise your campaign committee personnel of this requirement.

The Public Records office will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on April 15th, to receive these filings. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Public Records on (202) 224-0322.

#### REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for 1998 first quarter mass mailings is April 27, 1998. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations, or negative reports, should be submitted to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116.

The Public Records office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records office on (202) 224-0322.

#### REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 105-39

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on April 1, 1998, by the President of the United States: Inter-American Convention Against Corruption (Treaty Document No. 105-39).

I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The message of the President is as follows:

#### To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption ("the Convention"), adopted and opened for signature at the Specialized Conference of the Organization of American States (OAS) at Caracas, Venezuela, on March 29, 1996. The Convention was signed by the United States on June 27, 1996, at the twenty-seventh regular session of the OAS General Assembly meeting in Panama City, Panama. In addition, for the information of the Senate, I transmit the report of the Department of State with respect to the Convention.

The Convention was the first multilateral Convention of its kind in the