

Millions of people have survived civil unrest, famine and other disasters because of a project called Food-for-Life which makes emergency operations the primary focus of the World Food Program. Other projects include Food-for-Work which uses food as a tool to encourage people to work within their communities in order to become self-reliant and Food-for-Growth which distributes food aid at schools, clinics and hospitals to help children and pregnant women.

I am proud to say that Judy Lewis, a native of Scott County, Mississippi, and past Director of Organization of my 1978 campaign staff, has been named the World Food Program's Country Director for Ethiopia. Since 1992, Ms. Lewis has many times endured dangerous conditions to participate first-hand in helping to bring food to starving people whose lives were threatened by natural disasters or armed conflicts. She has played a key role in many of the World Food Program's biggest emergency and development projects around the world in places like Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Somalia. As Country Director for Ethiopia, Ms. Lewis will be managing a \$30 million emergency and development operation aiming to help over 800,000 people, focusing on refugees, famine relief and urban poverty.

I commend Ms. Lewis for her strength and diligence. And I congratulate the World Food Program for all of its good work.●

RENO_x '98

● Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am pleased to announce today the release of findings from an important environmental conference held in my home State this summer. RENO_x '98 gathered together experts from across the country to focus on the issue of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) pollution. NO_x is a hazardous pollutant that is produced primarily by internal combustion engines and power generation boilers and furnaces.

In 1996, more than 23 million tons of NO_x were released into the atmosphere in the U.S. alone. NO_x is a key component in the formation of ground-level ozone and urban smog. The health effects of ground-level ozone are well-documented. It contributes to respiratory diseases that cause premature death. It is harmful to children who play actively outdoors and damages agricultural crops and natural vegetation.

RENO_x '98 explored all of these effects and identified strategies and solutions for the control of NO_x pollution. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has some NO_x reduction programs under way in both the transportation and power generation sectors. However, one of the messages of RENO_x '98 is that more needs to be done and it needs to be done more quickly if we are to make our cities more livable for children and the elder-

ly, who are the most vulnerable to the effects of NO_x emissions.

For these reasons, I hope that all Members of the Senate and their staff will take some time to read the copy of the RENO_x '98 proceedings that was mailed to each office last week. After reading it, I believe you will see the urgency of this issue. I know the Gunnerman Foundation, the lead sponsor of RENO_x '98 intends to aggressively pursue legislation and policy changes that will make NO_x emissions reductions a higher national priority. Dr. Jack Gibbons, formerly Science Advisory to the President and one of the keynote speakers and RENO_x '98, said: "We must move the NO_x problem, which has languished, toward the front of the line."

This is an issue worthy of our attention and I urge you to give it a closer look.●

NATIONAL DAY FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, as Americans prepare to celebrate Columbus Day, I notice that there are other celebrations going on around Washington, including "National Day" celebrations in Chinatown. October 10, 1998 marks the 87th anniversary of the founding of modern China. This is a very special day for Chinese people around the world, and especially in Taiwan where October 10 is celebrated as National Day in the Republic of China on Taiwan.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen is the father of modern China, and is widely regarded and revered both in mainland China and in Taiwan. On October 10, 1911, Dr. Sun's Revolutionary Alliance succeeded in putting an end to imperial rule in China, a date which also marked the formal planting of the seeds of democracy which continue to flourish in Taiwan today.

People often speculate as to the real reasons for the "Taiwan Miracle" and how Taiwan continues to defy the odds today; how this island nation continues to expand economically when nations all around her are at an economic standstill or contracting; and they speculate as to how Taiwan not only survives politically, but how she has evolved into such a strong democracy despite the pressures by the People's Republic of China (PRC) to isolate her from the international community.

While there is no easy answer to this question, Taiwan is a flourishing and successful society in every sense of the word, and is a source of optimism in an increasingly uncertain world. In this light, it gives me particularly great pleasure to wish everyone on Taiwan, and Chinese people around the world, a very special October 10 National Day. And so to all of you, congratulations.●

THE DRUG CURRENCY FORFEITURES ACT

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, Mark Twain once said, "Get your facts first,

and then you can distort them as much as you please." There has been some distortion and misinformation about my bill, the Drug Currency Forfeitures Act, and I appreciate the opportunity to discuss the facts.

First of all, the purpose of my bill is to dismantle the fortunes of drug traffickers by helping law enforcement seize their drug profits. It is all about confiscating the money of drug dealers, drug traffickers, and drug kingpins. It is NOT about seizing the money of innocent, law-abiding citizens, as some have charged. Confiscating the money of innocent citizens violates the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution, and I would oppose such an attempt with every effort at my command. That is why this legislation includes constitutional safeguards which protect innocent Americans against illegal searches and seizures.

Mr. President, let me tell you why I introduced my bill. There have been a recent series of court cases which have handed down some very disturbing verdicts. In each case, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, the court ruled against seizing the assets of drug traffickers—one of our most effective weapons in the war against drugs. Let me give you just one example.

A traveler was stopped in an airport carrying almost \$14,000 in cash. A trained drug dog responded positively to the presence of drugs on the money. When asked for an explanation, the drug courier produced a fake ID and lied about the money's source. He also had a previous drug arrest on his record. Yet despite the evidence, the court gave the money back to the trafficker. Why? The court ruled there was sufficient evidence to show that the money came from some kind of criminal activity. But the court held there was insufficient evidence to prove that the crime was drug trafficking. *United States v. \$13,570.00 in U.S. Currency*, 1997 WL 722947 (E.D. La. 1997).

Every year drug sales in this country generate \$60 billion in drug profits. Every day drug couriers move huge quantities of this multi-billion-dollar pot out of the U.S. in loads big enough to fill suitcases, trucks, and even airplanes. This movement of drug kingpins' cash crop is the most vulnerable part of their drug operation. Yet current law allows the drug trafficker and his couriers to say nothing at all when their money is seized. That's right, Mr. President. Under the law, the drug trafficker is obliged to give no explanation at all as to where his money came from. If the government can only show that the money was involved in a crime—but can't show that it was a drug crime—the drug dealer gets his money back.

My legislation proposes a presumption that the money is drug proceeds if certain clearly defined circumstances are present—circumstances which typically are found in drug trafficking cases: the presence of drugs or drug residue; a positive alert by a properly