

threat that can be accomplished quickly and without the controversy associated with a national missile defense system.

There are few issues more important than reducing the risks posed by nuclear weapons. For the past half century, the world has lived with these weapons, and it is easy to underestimate the huge threat they represent. Yet it is critical that we remain vigilant and do everything in our power to reduce that threat. The fate of the world, quite literally, is at stake.

I urge my colleagues to support this simple but powerful measure.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 142—EX- PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMI- NATION, XENOPHOBIA AND RE- LATED INTOLERANCE

Mr. DODD submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 142

Whereas racial discrimination, ethnic conflict, and xenophobia persist in various parts of the world despite continuing efforts by the international community;

Whereas in recent years the world has witnessed campaigns of ethnic cleansing;

Whereas racial minorities, migrants, asylum seekers, and indigenous peoples are persistent targets of intolerance and violence;

Whereas millions of human beings continue to encounter discrimination solely due to their race, skin color, or ethnicity;

Whereas early action is required to prevent the growth of ethnic hatred and to diffuse potential violent conflicts;

Whereas the problems associated with racism will be thoroughly explored at the United Nations World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in Durban, South Africa from August 31 to September 7, 2001;

Whereas this conference will review progress made in the fight against racism and consider ways to better ensure the application of existing standards to combat racism;

Whereas the conference will increase the level of awareness about the scourge of racism and formulate concrete recommendations on ways to increase the effectiveness of the United Nations in dealing with racial issues;

Whereas the conference will review the political, historical, economic, social, cultural, and other factors leading to racism and racial discrimination and formulate concrete recommendations to further action-oriented national, regional, and international measures to combat racism;

Whereas the conference will draw up concrete recommendations to ensure that the United Nations has the resources to actively combat racism and racial discrimination; and

Whereas the United States is a member of the United Nations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United States should attend and participate fully in the United Nations World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

(2) the delegation sent to the conference by the United States should reflect the racial and geographic diversity of the United States; and

(3) the President should support the conference and should act in such a way as to facilitate substantial United States involvement in the conference.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the possibility that the United States will not send a full delegation to the United Nations World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance. I believe this is both a worthwhile and important endeavor, and I am greatly troubled by the prospect that the United States may not attend.

According to a Washington Post article last week, the Bush Administration's reservations about attending the conference stem from concerns regarding certain proposed items on the agenda. The Administration's concerns are legitimate ones, but it is my belief that the Conference organizers are so anxious to have high level U.S. participation in Durban that contentious issues can be resolved prior to the August event, provided the United States signals its genuine interest in participating. Clearly the overarching objectives of the conference are of great importance to the American people and to peoples throughout the planet. As members of the global community, and as a global leader and vocal advocate for human rights, it would be tragic if the United States could not find a way to support the conference's honorable ambitions.

I do not need to list for my colleagues all the many injustices that occur each day, worldwide, that can be attributed to racism and ignorance, racism's frequent collaborator. As we all know, despite the best efforts of the international community, the effects of racial discrimination, ethnic conflict, and xenophobia continue to threaten and victimize people the world over. We have seen the violent devastations of racism in the former Yugoslavia, in Indonesia, and sadly, at home in America as well. The hateful term "ethnic cleansing" is now all too often used to describe violent international conflicts, and, increasingly, international humanitarian relief efforts focus on the tides of refugees fleeing persecution based on skin color, religion, and ethnic heritage. The task that lays before all nations therefore, is to peer deeply into the corners of our societies that we find most distasteful and hurtful, and to shine some light honestly onto the devastation that racism has inflicted.

In my view, the United Nations World Conference on Racism is the place to begin this difficult, but crucial process of racial introspection. It is not enough for the United States to pay lip service to the ideals of racial equality.

We should attend this conference, and lend our full support to this worthy cause. I believe that in the conference we have a unique opportunity to work with other nations, our neighbors and partners, to begin the process of addressing the many crimes caused by racism, and the underlying societal causes of racism itself. This conference has the power to raise awareness about these issues, to form international consensus on best to combat racism, and to educate the international community on the ravages of racially motivated persecution and conflict.

It is my hope, that the Bush Administration will conclude that our presence at the United Nations Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance is vital and appropriate, and will work to ensure that problems related to U.S. participation are resolved before the conference convenes next month. I would also hope that the President would designate Secretary of State Colin Powell to lead a racially and geographically diverse delegation from the United States to the conference in South Africa. Toward that end, I am submitting a resolution which urges the active participation of the United States in the conference, and it is my hope that my colleagues will support this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 143—EX- PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE DE- VELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ON VETERANS' CON- TRIBUTIONS TO THE COUNTRY AND THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11 THROUGH NOVEMBER 17, 2001, AS "NATIONAL VETERANS AWARE- NESS WEEK"

Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. INOUE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MILLER, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. THURMOND, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. BOND) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 143

Whereas tens of millions of Americans have served in the Armed Forces of the United States during the past century;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Americans have given their lives while serving in the Armed Forces during the past century;

Whereas the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining our freedoms and way of life;

Whereas the advent of the all-volunteer Armed Forces has resulted in a sharp decline in the number of individuals and families who have had any personal connection with the Armed Forces;

Whereas this reduction in familiarity with the Armed Forces has resulted in a marked decrease in the awareness by young people of the nature and importance of the accomplishments of those who have served in our Armed Forces, despite the current educational efforts of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the veterans service organizations;

Whereas our system of civilian control of the Armed Forces makes it essential that the Nation's future leaders understand the history of military action and the contributions and sacrifices of those who conduct such actions; and

Whereas on June 14, 2001, the Senate adopted an amendment to the Better Education for Students and Teachers Act expressing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Education should work with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Veterans Day National Committee, and the veterans service organizations to encourage, prepare, and disseminate educational materials and activities for elementary and secondary school students aimed at increasing awareness of the contributions of veterans to the prosperity and freedoms enjoyed by United States citizens: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the week of November 11 through November 17, 2001, be designated as "National Veterans Awareness Week" for the purpose of emphasizing educational efforts directed at elementary and secondary school students concerning the contributions and sacrifices of veterans; and

(2) the President should issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate educational activities.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today I have the honor of joining with 51 of my colleagues in submitting a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the week that includes Veterans' Day this year be designated as "National Veterans Awareness Week." The purpose of National Veterans Awareness Week is to serve as a focus for educational programs designed to make students in elementary and secondary schools aware of the contributions of veterans and their importance in preserving American peace and prosperity.

Why do we need such an educational effort? In a sense, this action has become necessary because we are victims of our own success with regard to the superior performance of our armed forces. The plain fact is that there are just fewer people around now who have had any connection with military service. For example, as a result of tremendous advances in military technology and the resultant productivity increases, our current armed forces now operate effectively with a personnel roster that is one-third less in size than just 10 years ago. In addition, the success of the all-volunteer career-oriented force has led to much lower turn-

over of personnel in today's military than in previous eras when conscription was in place. Finally, the number of veterans who served during previous conflicts, such as World War II, when our military was many times larger than today, is inevitably declining.

The net result of these changes is that the percentage of the entire population that has served in the Armed Forces is dropping rapidly, a change that can be seen in all segments of society. Whereas during World War II it was extremely uncommon to find a family in America that did not have one of its members on active duty, now there are numerous families that include no military veterans at all. As a consequence of this lack of opportunity for contacts with veterans, many of our young people have little or no connection with or knowledge about the important historical and ongoing role of men and women who have served in the military. This omission seems to have persisted despite ongoing educational efforts by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the veterans service organizations.

This lack of understanding about military veterans' important role in our society can have potentially serious repercussions. In our country, civilian control of the armed forces is the key tenet of military governance. A citizenry that is oblivious to the capabilities and limitations of the armed forces, and to its critical role throughout our history, can make decisions that have unexpected and unwanted consequences. Even more important, general recognition of the importance of those individual character traits that are essential for military success, such as patriotism, selflessness, sacrifice, and heroism, is vital to maintaining these key aspects of citizenship in the armed forces and even throughout the population at large.

Among today's young people, a generation that has grown up largely during times of peace and extraordinary prosperity and has embraced a "me first" attitude, it is perhaps even more important to make sure that there is solid understanding of what it has taken to attain this level of comfort and freedom. The failure of our children to understand why a military is important, why our society continues to depend on it for ultimate survival, and why a successful military requires integrity and sacrifice, will have predictable consequences as these youngsters become of voting age. Even though military service is a responsibility that is no longer shared by a large segment of the population, as it has been in the past, knowledge of the contributions of those who have served in the Armed Forces is as important as it has ever been. To the extent that many of us will not have the opportunity to serve our country in uniform, we must still remain cognizant of our responsibility as citizens to fulfill the

obligations we owe, both tangible and intangible, to those who do serve and who do sacrifice on our behalf.

The importance of this issue was brought home to me last year by Samuel I. Cashdollar, who was then a 13-year-old seventh grader at Lewes Middle School in Lewes, Delaware. Samuel won the Delaware VFW's Youth Essay Contest that year with a powerful presentation titled "How Should We Honor America's Veterans'?" Samuel's essay pointed out that we have Nurses' Week, Secretaries' Week, and Teachers' Week, to rightly emphasize the importance of these occupations, but the contributions of those in uniform tend to be overlooked. We don't want our children growing up to think that Veterans Day has simply become a synonym for department store sale, and we don't want to become a Nation where more high school seniors recognize the name Britney Spears than the name Dwight Eisenhower.

Now, it is appropriate to ask, "We already have Veterans Day, why do we need National Veterans Awareness Week?" Historically, Veterans Day was established to honor those who served in uniform during wartime. Although we now customarily honor all veterans on Veterans Day, I see it as a holiday that is focused on honoring individuals, the courageous and selfless men and women without whose actions our country would not exist as it does. National Veterans Awareness Week would complement Veterans Day by focusing on education as well as commemoration, on the contributions of the many in addition to the heroism and service of the individual. National Veterans Awareness Week would also present an opportunity to remind ourselves of the contributions and sacrifices of those who have served in peacetime as well as in conflict; both groups work unending hours and spend long periods away from their families under conditions of great discomfort so that we all can live in a land of freedom and plenty.

Earlier this year, the Senate adopted my amendment to the education bill calling on the Department of Education to assist in the development of educational programs to enlighten our country's students about the contributions of veterans. Last year, my Resolution designating National Veterans Awareness Week had 60 cosponsors and was approved in the Senate by unanimous consent. I ask my colleagues to continue this trend of support for our veterans by endorsing this resolution again this year. Our children and our children's children will need to be well informed about what veterans have accomplished in order to make appropriate decisions as they confront the numerous worldwide challenges that they are sure to face in the future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 144—COM-
MENDING JAMES W. ZIGLAR FOR
HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED
STATES SENATE

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 144

Whereas James W. Ziglar was elected the 35th Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the United States Senate on October 15, 1998

Whereas "Jim" served the United States Senate with great dedication, integrity and professionalism;

Whereas Jim Ziglar always performed his duties with unfailing good humor and bipartisanship;

Whereas as Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate Jim Ziglar has utilized his previous 23 years in the public financial industry to the benefit of the entire Senate in implementing new and innovative programs in an efficient and effective manner.

Whereas James W. Ziglar will leave the Senate in August for the position of the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Senate commends James W. Ziglar for his service to the United States Senate, and wishes to express its deep appreciation and gratitude.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to James W. Ziglar.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLU-
TION 62—CONGRATULATING
UKRAINE ON THE 10TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE RESTORATION OF
ITS INDEPENDENCE AND SUP-
PORTING ITS FULL INTEGRA-
TION INTO THE EURO-ATLANTIC
COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES

Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 62

Whereas August 24, 2001, marks the tenth anniversary of the restoration of independence in Ukraine;

Whereas the United States, having recognized Ukraine as an independent state on December 25, 1991, and having established diplomatic relations with Ukraine on January 2, 1992, recognizes that fulfillment of the vision of a Europe whole, free, and secure requires a strong, stable, democratic Ukraine fully integrated in the Euro-Atlantic community of democracies;

Whereas, during the fifth anniversary commemorating Ukraine's independence, the United States established a strategic partnership with Ukraine to promote the national security interests of the United States in a free, sovereign, and independent Ukrainian state;

Whereas Ukraine is an important European nation, having the second largest territory and sixth largest population in Europe;

Whereas Ukraine is a member of international organizations such as the Council of Europe and the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), as well as international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD);

Whereas in July 1994, Ukraine's presidential elections marked the first peaceful

and democratic transfer of executive power among the independent states of the former Soviet Union;

Whereas five years ago, on June 28, 1996, Ukraine's parliament voted to adopt a Ukrainian Constitution, which upholds the values of freedom and democracy, ensures a citizen's right to own private property, and outlines the basis for the rule of law in Ukraine without regard for race, religion, creed, or ethnicity;

Whereas Ukraine has been a paragon of inter-ethnic cooperation and harmony as evidenced by the OSCE's and the United States State Department's annual human rights reports and the international community's commendation for Ukraine's peaceful handling of the Crimean secession disputes in 1994;

Whereas Ukraine, through the efforts of its government, has reversed the downward trend in its economy, experiencing the first real economic growth since its independence in fiscal year 2000 and the first quarter of 2001;

Whereas Ukraine furthered the privatization of its economy through the privatization of agricultural land in 2001, when the former collective farms were turned over to corporations, private individuals, or cooperatives, thus creating an environment that leads to greater economic independence and prosperity;

Whereas Ukraine has taken major steps to stem world nuclear proliferation by ratifying the START I Treaty on nuclear disarmament and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, subsequently has turned over the last of its Soviet-era nuclear warheads on June 1, 1996, and in 1998 agreed not to assist Iran with the completion of a nuclear power plant in Bushehr thought to be used for the possible production of weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas Ukraine has found many methods to implement military cooperation with its European neighbors, as well as peacekeeping initiatives worldwide, as exhibited by Ukraine's participation in the KFOR and IFOR missions in the former Yugoslavia, and offering up its own forces to be part of the greater United Nations border patrol missions in the Middle East and the African continent;

Whereas Ukraine became a member of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance (NATO), signed a NATO-Ukraine Charter at the Madrid Summit in July 1997, and has been a participant in the Partnership for Peace (PfP) program since 1994 with regular training maneuvers at the Yavoriv military base in Ukraine and on Ukraine's southern-most shores of the Black Sea;

Whereas on June 7, 2001, Ukraine signed a charter for the GUUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Moldova) alliance, in hopes of promoting regional interests, increasing cooperation, and building economic stability; and

Whereas 15 years ago, the Soviet-induced nuclear tragedy of Chernobyl gripped Ukrainian lands with insurmountable curies of radiation which will affect generations of Ukraine's inhabitants, and thus, now, Ukraine promotes safety for its citizens and its neighboring countries, as well as concern for the preservation of the environment by closing the last Chernobyl nuclear reactor on December 15, 2000: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) as a leader of the democratic nations of the world, the United States congratulates the people of Ukraine on their tenth anniver-

sary of independence and supports peace, prosperity, and democracy in Ukraine;

(2) Ukraine has made significant progress in its political reforms during the first ten years of its independence, as is evident by the adoption of its Constitution five years ago;

(3) the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence of Ukraine within its existing borders is an important factor of peace and stability in Europe;

(4) the President, the Prime Minister, and Parliament of Ukraine should continue to enact political reforms necessary to ensure that the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Government of Ukraine transparently represent the interests of the Ukrainian people;

(5) the Government and President of Ukraine should promote fundamental democratic principles of freedom of speech, assembly, and a free press;

(6) the Government and President of Ukraine should actively pursue in an open and transparent fashion investigations into violence committed against journalists, including the murders of Heorhiy Gongadze and Ihor Oleksandrov

(7) the Government of Ukraine (including the President and Parliament of Ukraine) should uphold international standards and procedures of free and fair elections in preparation for its upcoming parliamentary elections in March 2002;

(8) the Government of Ukraine (including the President and Parliament of Ukraine) should continue to accelerate its efforts to transform its economy into one founded upon free market principles and governed by the rule of law;

(9) the United States supports all efforts to promote a civil society in Ukraine that features a vibrant community of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and an active, independent, and free press;

(10) the Government of Ukraine (including the President and Parliament of Ukraine) should follow a westward-leaning foreign policy whose priority is the integration of Ukraine into Euro-Atlantic structures;

(11) the President of the United States should continue to consider the interests and security of Ukraine in reviewing or revising any European military and security arrangements, understandings, or treaties; and

(12) the President of the United States should continue to support and encourage Ukraine's role in NATO's Partnership for Peace program and the deepening of Ukraine's relationship with NATO.

SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL OF THE RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States with the further request that the President transmit such copy to the Government of Ukraine.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLU-
TION 63—RECOGNIZING THE IM-
PORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF
THE YOUTH FOR LIFE: REMEM-
BERING WALTER PAYTON INI-
TIATIVE AND ENCOURAGING
PARTICIPATION IN THIS NATION-
WIDE EFFORT TO EDUCATE
YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT ORGAN
AND TISSUE DONATION

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: