

three of the enemy concealed there. He then worked his way across open terrain toward a line of enemy pillboxes. . . ."

He used grenades, a pick and his rifle to put seven pillboxes out of commission. "Later, when his platoon was attacked by an enemy tank, he advanced under covering fire, climbed to the top of the tank and dropped a white phosphorous grenade through the turret, destroying the crew."

Rudolph said he made it through all that without a scratch.

"I've said many times that I really don't know why I did it or why I got the medal," he said. "But I knew I had to do it. Otherwise we were going to lose more men."

It was about a month later that LaBelle died on Iwo Jima.

He was a private in the 5th Marine Division. On the night of March 8, as Japanese forces tried to break through American lines, a grenade landed in the foxhole that LaBelle shared with two other Marines.

He shouted a warning, then fell on the grenade, absorbing most of its impact with his body.

"His dauntless courage, cool decision and valiant spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of certain death reflect the highest credit on Pfc. LaBelle," his posthumous citation reads.

Medals of Honor awarded in major conflicts: Civil War 1,520; Indian campaigns (1861-1898) 428; Spanish-American War 109; World War I 124; World War II 433; Korean Conflict 131; Vietnam 239. Source: United States of America's Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients.

[From the Star Tribune, Apr. 13, 2003]

REMEMBERING A WRITER

(By Lou Gelfand)

Often he offered a touch of whimsy or a sweet bow to tradition, rarely a cheap shot or a critical word.

Those elements characterized the many hundreds of letters submitted to the Star Tribune editorial page over the years by Bob Proft, a retired Columbia Heights business owner.

His short missives filled with expressive words were an antidote to the stream of letters to the editor exhorting the citizenry to rise in anger and slay the dragon of the day.

That he knew only one letter every 30 days could qualify for publication didn't faze him.

His profundity could come in 14 words or less, as when Americans began packing their bags for Iraq: "Many things change from war to war, but never this: The goodbye kiss."

His change of pace was delightful: "The media exclaimed recently that Princess Diana has been dead four years. That means Mother Teresa has too. Ah, priorities."

That is not to say Proft had no passion.

"We cannot abide a government of the people, by the lobbyists, for the privileged and remain a bona-fide democracy. If this government of We the People is not, in fact and spirit, of us and by us and for us, we are operating with half-truths at best. And we are mocked by crafty hypocrites every time we are unctuously assured that we control this carefully designed system. In whatever manner and to whatever degree our representation is tainted, that is the manner and degree our government is a counterfeit of what our founding fathers created."

He lost his fettle for sports, but not for columnist Patrick Reusse.

"Older now, I seldom read the sports pages. However, thumbing through, I can't pass up Pat Reusse. For all the proper reasons I'm attracted to that face. It just came to me he reminds me of New York's Jimmy Breslin. With that face Reusse had to be a sports-writer or some guy living under the Third

Avenue bridge. Now don't get me wrong, I still don't know if I should like this guy. But my, my, how he can write! I'll bet my dentures Reusse is a closet poet. Robert Browning or Robert Service type, I don't know."

His love for holiday and tradition, spring and freedom and, above all, for family is expressed in these letters some readers may have saved to savor:

"Contracted Christmas greeting: Ho!"

"Sure signs autumn cometh: falling leaves, long sleeves."

"Our nation is free. For that reason we own everything we have to those we remember this day."

"Any force at any time in any country that can keep a loving father from a loving son for one second is a force of evil. A mob at any time in any country may have the power to prevent a loving father from reaching his loving son but it will never have the right."

His Veterans Day letter made him dear to the editor:

"While it is fitting and proper that we enjoy the fruits of our power and plenty, we must not forget those who destiny decreed should pay that price. Today is Veterans Day, set aside to commemorate that unique fraternity. Please, you needn't genuflect. Just give a knowing nod, and maybe a smile."

Proft enlisted in World War II and was training to fly bombers when peace came.

His love for country was funneled into publishing a 1,248-page book listing Medal of Honor Recipients and their official citations. Humility dictated that his initials, not his name, be on the cover.

The final letter from Proft, 78, arrived last week. He died at home early Thursday morning after a short illness.●

HONORING DR. MARTHA MYERS

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise today to remember a selfless American, Dr. Martha Myers. Many know Dr. Myers as one of the two Southern Baptist missionaries recently murdered by extremists in Yemen. She represents the bests in missionary service. She was, by her aid to those in need, a demonstrated friend of the people of Yemen and in the end, she laid down her life for them. Greater love hath no one than this. Her death has touched me deeply as it has touched many worldwide. It has also, unfortunately, heightened our concern for Christian missionaries throughout the world.

Dr. Myers was educated in my home State of Alabama where she earned degrees from both Samford University and University of Alabama Medical School. The daughter of the State of Alabama's long time health officer, Dr. Ira Myers, she was educated and trained as an obstetrician. Instead of seeking monetary gain, like a modern day Nehemiah she dedicated the rest of her life in selfless service to the indigent families of Yemen. She spent 24 years as a medical missionary in Yemen ministering by example. Her colleagues have stated that she often slept in her office cubicle to save money to give to poor families in communities surrounding the hospital.

I find it particularly telling that it was her choice to be buried on the grounds of the hospital in Yemen. I

find this important because it shows a total and complete devotion to the difficult and selfless work she felt called to do. It demonstrated her total commitment without thought of turning back. Former professors and college friends say that her sense of calling to the field of missions was "crystal clear." They also said it was evident to everyone around her that this clear call to serve others empowered and motivated her even as a college freshman in 1963.

Dr. Martha Myers' ability to rise above personal interest in service of others goes far beyond what most people can conceive. Dr. Mike Howell, her former biology professor, summarized her life and commitment well in saying "There aren't many people willing to dedicate their life to people. That is the greatest calling of a Christian."

While the world has lost a selfless servant, We may hope that the life of Martha Myers will serve as an inspiration for others. It demonstrates that religious faith can be the basis for a life dedicated to others, even if those served have a different religion. Dr. Myers did not limit her patients to Christians. She served all in need, and she never forced her views on anyone.

In these days of terrorism and the prospect of war, our world should think deeply about the well lived life of Dr. Martha Myers. In such loving humility can come the seeds of a more peaceful world.

Some may say that this senseless murder proves that radicalism rules the day and that such acts can only be dealt with by war. But, perhaps not. Certainly, some radicalized terrorist, someone with a twisted view of their faith, can end a lifetime of work. Still, such evil acts cannot erase the good she has done. And, maybe, just maybe, the thousands of poor, sick, and dying that she treated and comforted will have a different view of the United States, a different view of the West, and a different view of freedom and faith as a result of her life well lived. In that we can all take comfort.●

JARISSE J. SANBORN, B.G. U.S. AIR FORCE

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a great Alaskan upon the occasion of her promotion to Brigadier General in the United States Air Force.

I am speaking of Jarisse J. Sanborn who, on April 1, 2003, became the first active duty woman ever promoted to Brigadier General in the Judge Advocate Corps of any armed service in this country. Upon her promotion, General Sanborn was assigned to U.S. Transportation Command and the Air Mobility Command, where she serves as the Staff Judge Advocate to both commands.

General Sanborn, the daughter of a career Navy officer, began her Air Force career after graduating Magna Cum Laude from Randolph-Macon

Woman's College in Virginia. After serving as a squadron and wing executive officer, she was selected for the Air Force-funded legal education program, graduating from Creighton Law School in Omaha, NE, again Magna Cum Laude. She is also a graduate of the National War College.

General Sanborn has had a distinguished legal career, including her most recent assignment as the Staff Judge Advocate for the North American Aerospace Defense Command, better known by its acronym NORAD, and U.S. Northern Command, the newly created unified command responsible for the homeland defense of the United States. General Sanborn also has been the Staff Judge Advocate for U.S. Space Command, Air Force Space Command, and Alaska Command.

From her time as head of Alaska Command at Fort Richardson in Anchorage, she remains a resident of Alaska, where she and her husband Al still own a home in Eagle River. They have two sons: Tyler and John.

Brigadier General Sanborn is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, where she earned the Bronze Star as the Staff Judge Advocate for the Fourth Fighter Wing deployed to Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Now, at a time when women are making such important contributions to our efforts in Iraq, it's very appropriate that we recognize the success of this fine officer. It is also appropriate that we celebrate this important step for all women in the military. General Sanborn truly makes all Americans proud of the capabilities and accomplishments of our Armed Forces.●

MASSACHUSETTS STATE TROOPER SCOTT McDONALD

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I pay tribute to one of Massachusetts' finest law enforcement officers—Massachusetts State Trooper Scott McDonald. Recently, Trooper McDonald was honored by the Massachusetts State Police with a Medal of Lifesaving, awarded to bestow recognition upon troopers who undertake significant actions in the saving of another life.

On August 4, 2002, Trooper Scott McDonald was on patrol when he was dispatched to a motor vehicle accident in the town of Deerfield. Upon arrival, he observed a truck overturned on the road. As the driver was without a pulse and not breathing, he immediately began CPR. While a passing motorist stopped, identified herself as a doctor and said she would pronounce the victim dead, Scott continued lifesaving efforts. Amazingly, the driver was ultimately revived and flown to Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Trooper McDonald is a fine example of the Commonwealth's outstanding first responder community. I rise to join the Massachusetts State Police, the City of Holyoke, and Scott's family and friends in honoring a great American, Massachusetts State Trooper Scott McDonald.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1350. An act to reauthorize the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-398), the Minority Leader reappoints the following individuals to the United States-China Security Review Commission: Mr. George Becker of Pennsylvania, for a term to expire on December 31, 2005 and Mr. Michael Wessel of Virginia, for a term to expire on December 31, 2004.

The message further announced that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 188a(b)(2), Mr. Vernon J. Ehlers, Vice-chairman of the Joint Committee of the Library appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives as his designee to the Capitol Preservation Commission: Mr. John Mica of Florida.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 162. An act to provide for the use and distribution of certain funds awarded to the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian community, and for other purposes.

MEASURE REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1350. An act to reauthorize the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill and joint resolution were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.J. Res. 51. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

S. 14. A bill to enhance the energy security of the United States, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2046. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Wisconsin (FRL 7484-2)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2047. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Maryland, Virginia; Post 1996 Rate-of-Progress Plans; and One-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstrations (FRL 7484-6)" received on April 16, 2003.

EC-2048. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Louisiana: Revision to the Ozone Maintenance Plans for Beauregard, St. Mary, Lafayette, and Grant Parishes and the New Orleans Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (FRL 7485-6)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2049. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans, and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; California—Coachella Valley (FRL 7473-4)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2050. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; California—South Coast (FRL 7473-3)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2051. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Clean Air Act Approval of Operating Permits Program Revision; District of Columbia (FRL 7483-6)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2052. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Oil Pollution Prevention and Response; Non-Transportation-Related Onshore and Offshore Facilities (FRL 7484-7)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2053. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of rule entitled "Texas: Final Authorization of Statutory Hazardous Waste Management Program