

vigor and distinction to one of America's oldest universities. Carolina now has global reach thanks in part to graduates of the Institute of International Studies that now bears "Dixie's" name. These graduates now are leaders in their own right in positions of great responsibility in the cause of freedom, endowing their own colleagues, students and friends with the inspiration given to them by "Dixie Walker." Their names may sometimes be awkward for the native Carolina tongue to pronounce or for the Carolina ear to comprehend. But these distinguished foreign leaders will forever be linked in their hearts and spirit to Carolina and to the undying example of their mentor.

Less widely known than his history-making ambassadorship and Carolina leadership is his landmark scholarship on communism in China, the controversy it sparked a half century ago when it first appeared, the fierce criticism he endured, and the rightful vindication he never sought and not even grudgingly received. In the winter of 1956-57, the Yale University Press published "China Under Communism: The First Five Years" one of the first scholarly analyses of China under Chairman Mao. The book was the focus of a front page review in the Sunday New York Times Book Review. Praise came from the informed public and was widespread.

But there were academic critics who lamented the book as an "anti-communist tract." At the heart of the controversy was the assertion in certain scholarly quarters that communism in China was legitimate because it was founded on timeless Chinese cultural traditions. "Dixie's" view was the reverse. He asserted that Maoist authoritarianism would not last precisely because of its attempted destruction of Chinese culture. Twenty years and millions of lives later, "Dixie's" view prevailed because Maoism was what he said it to be. Maoism did not outlive Mao. Chinese culture suffered deterioration from which full recovery will not be quick. Many past and current leaders and their families were jailed, some killed. The pain for China lingers on but cultural renewal is accelerating. A kind of "Dixie Walker" focus on underlying fundamentals of culture is steadily gaining momentum in music, dance, visual arts, motion pictures, science, religion, and in public debate. China is on its way to new levels of cultural achievement as he said it would when freedom began to take hold.

Why should the controversy and unpleasantness of China a half century ago be retold at a time of homage and remembrance? Why not let the past remain in the past? After all, a vaunted tradition among Carolina natives is the warning not to look too deeply into the past lest unwanted things be found. What is to be gained? An understanding of the essence of "Dixie's" life and his insights into the character of

freedom is what awaits our reflection. What has been true for China is true elsewhere. Tyrants don't endure. Freedom prevails when peoples unite in their common humanity while giving respect and dignity to those things that make them different from one another. Power by the few yields to the freedom of the many when unity is based on cultural diversity and dignity.

Brave Americans are once again risking their lives for freedom, our own and that of subject peoples, fighting in far off lands whose cultures defy our popular comprehension and confound our leader's predictions. Our military strength is absolutely indispensable for this fight. Alone, it is insufficient. Once again as so frequently over the past half century, we find how closely our own freedom is linked to languages, cultures, religions, family patterns, and traditions that we do not know and for which there has been limited study. What to do? "Dixie Walker's" living legacy will always be there to remind us that freedom is never to be taken for granted and cannot be assured without our learning about, understanding, respect, and nourishing of the cultures of the human family on which it is founded.

Farewell beloved friend! You will live forever in our hearts and everywhere that freedom is cherished. ●

IN MEMORY OF KEMAPHOOM CHANAWONGSE

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I honor the memory of Marine CPL Kemaphoom Chanawongse, of Waterford, CT, who was killed in action earlier this year in Iraq.

Mr. President, those of us who are privileged to live in this great Nation of ours know that its greatness is rooted in its people—people who have come to this country over the years from lands near and far, and have succeeded in making extraordinary contributions to their new home. And there is no greater contribution, no greater sacrifice, than the one made by Kemaphoom Chanawongse.

CPL Chanawongse, who was known as "Ahn," came to this country from Thailand with his mother and stepfather when he was just a young boy. He soon learned to speak English, but also retained his native Thai. He enjoyed architecture and engineering, and was a budding artist.

From the very beginning, Ahn seemed destined to serve his country. His family had a proud tradition of military service—his grandfather and his uncle were both veterans of the Thai Air Force, and his stepfather served in the United States Navy. Even at an early age, Ahn would dress up in his stepfather's uniform, perhaps knowing that someday, he would proudly wear one of his own.

Ahn graduated from Waterford High School in 1999, and joined the Marines shortly afterwards. He served with the 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment,

2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade. His fellow soldiers called him "Chuckles" for his outgoing personality and sense of humor.

When it came to serving his country, though, Ahn was all business. He knew that the path he had chosen was a dangerous one, but he also knew that the causes he represented—freedom, democracy, and opportunity—were worth fighting for.

Ahn Chanawongse's American dream was a dream cut short—but his story is an inspiration to us all. And his bravery, heroism, and valor will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the United States Senate, the State of Connecticut, and all of America, I offer my deepest gratitude to Corporal Kemaphoom Chanawongse for his service to the United States of America. My utmost sympathies go out to Ahn's mother, Tan Patchem, his stepfather Paul, his brother Kemapawse, and to all of his friends and family. ●

TRIBUTE TO HALINA GRABOWSKI

● Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and remember the life of an extraordinary woman—a woman who experienced events that exist to most of us merely as stories in our history textbooks. I am proud to call this woman a fellow Ohioan—one who, as a teenager, fought in the Warsaw Uprising against the invading Germans.

This woman, Halina Grabowski, lived her life with a rare courage and loyalty, and her level of service to humanity is something to which we all should aspire. Halina recently passed away in Cleveland at the age of 75. I would like to share her amazing story with my colleagues in the Senate.

Halina was born in 1928 to a homebuilder and his wife in Warsaw, Poland. She grew up as one of 12 children living comfortably in the city. However, the outbreak of World War II changed forever the kind of life she and her family knew.

The German army swept through Poland in September 1939. As we know all too well, the atrocities the Nazis inflicted on the Polish people were truly horrific. Halina and her family were unable to escape the occupiers. Her house was burned to the ground and her brother died in her arms following a brutal beating by German soldiers. Halina's mother was killed when German planes bombed the church in which she was seeking refuge. At this point, most of us would give up—but not Halina. In the midst of this devastation, she decided to join the resistance movement in Warsaw.

The Warsaw Uprising erupted out of the city's ghettos on August 1, 1944. After the Jews resisted early efforts to quell the rebellion, masses of German reinforcements entered the city with an order to kill all of its inhabitants. Despite the threat, Halina joined the Armia Krajowa, or Home Army.

Even though the Home Army was greatly disadvantaged, they fought

fiercely and bravely. Halina was assigned to duties as a messenger, nurse, and guard. During the resistance, her foot and arm were severely injured by German shells. However, rather than succumbing to her injuries, Halina bandaged herself and returned to her unit. Several times, she and her comrades escaped enemy troops by crawling through sewers and fighting off rats.

Despite their courageous efforts, the Home Army eventually ran out of food, medicine, and ammunition. The Germans captured Halina and her unit and sent them to concentration camps in Germany.

The resistance engaged the German occupiers for 63 days of intense fighting—the longest Polish resistance battle fought during World War II. In addition to its length, the Warsaw Uprising was the greatest military operation undertaken by any resistance movement in Europe at the time. It was an amazing act of courage and overwhelming valor. When it was over, more than 200,000 Polish people had lost their lives fighting for their freedom.

Halina survived the War. She survived the ghetto, the resistance, and a German concentration camp. Throughout this, she also managed to find the love of her life—George Grabowski. They married in England in 1948 after they left Germany. In 1952, Halina and George moved to Cleveland, and although she lived as an American for the next 50 years, her ties to her home country were never severed.

Halina served as an officer in the Polish American Congress, PAC, an umbrella organization of 3,000 Polish-American organizations and clubs. The PAC promotes civic, educational, and cultural programs designed to further not only the knowledge of Polish history, language, and culture, but also to stimulate Polish-American involvement in the United States. Additionally, Halina served as a member of the organization of Polish Veterans Combatants and the SPK Polish service organization.

While much of her new American life was dedicated to Polish causes, Halina was also a devoted mother and wife. She had a daughter and a son, who she raised while working for twenty years in the payroll department of Society National Bank.

Halina lived through one of the most harrowing events the world has ever seen. However, she did not let it overwhelm her. Rather, she courageously fought for her freedom and never gave up. Halina was awarded Poland's A.K. Cross and four other medals for her service in the Home Army. I offer my condolences to her entire family—especially to her husband George; their two children, Theresa and John; and their seven grandchildren.

Halina Grabowski was an amazing woman—we will never forget her.●

TRIBUTE TO BIRUTE SMETONA

● Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to

Birute Smetona—an exceptional woman and an exceptional Ohioan who passed away recently at the age of 91. Birute was a gifted musician, who lived a life of great courage and perseverance. She was a beloved figure and an inspiration to all who knew her in her Cleveland-area community.

Birute, born in Subacius, Lithuania, began her distinguished career as a concert pianist by soloing with the symphony orchestra in Kaunas—then the capital of Lithuania. She went on to graduate from the Lithuanian National Conservatory in 1935, where she met her future husband Julius, an athlete and an assistant law professor who was also the son of Lithuania's President Antanas Smetona. After the start of World War II, she had to leave a respected music conservatory in Paris to return to Lithuania with her husband and infant son, Anthony. During the trip, they sometimes had to get off their train and walk alongside because sections of track had been destroyed as a result of the War.

When they arrived in Lithuania, the Smetona family found their native land changed. Birute's life, which up until that point may have seemed like a modern-day fairy tale to some, was about to be thrown into a state of upheaval. Amidst the ever-present dangers of a war creeping closer and closer to home, Birute and her family made the difficult decision to leave Lithuania—the home they loved so dearly—in search of a better life.

Birute and her family left Lithuania in June 1940, just as the Soviet army was entering the country. While Russian troops initially stopped them at the border, they ultimately allowed them to pass into Germany. From there, the family was constantly on the move, living in Switzerland, France, Spain, and Brazil all in the space of a little over a year.

Eventually, Birute and her family arrived in Chicago in 1941, before finally settling in Cleveland, where Birute's husband found work as a factory laborer for just 65 cents an hour. The Smetona family was living on the second floor of a house on Ablewhite Avenue when a sudden fire consumed it. Tragically, Birute's father-in-law, the former President Smetona, lost his life in the blaze, unable to escape from where he lived in a converted attic on the floor above them.

These were difficult times for Birute and her family. After all that Birute and her family had been through—from having to leave their homeland of Lithuania to losing Julius's beloved father and having their home destroyed—Birute and her family started over yet again. As a testament to her strength of character, Birute endured at a point in her life when many others less determined and courageous than she would have crumbled under the sheer pressure of all the adversity her young family suddenly faced.

Birute held steadfast, however, and truly flourished in Euclid, Ohio. To

help support her family, Birute took buses for a time from her family's public housing in Euclid to homes in Shaker Heights to give piano lessons. But eventually, she was able to build a full schedule at her own home. She soon returned to the concert stage and went on to perform in major cities, including New York, Chicago, and Washington.

In Cleveland, she belonged to and performed for the Fortnightly, Cecilian, and Music and Drama clubs of Cleveland. While living in Cleveland Heights, Birute shared her gift with the community and taught for years at the Cleveland Music School Settlement and Ursuline College. Birute was also a visiting instructor at Youngstown State University, Appalachian State University, and the School of Fine Arts in Willoughby.

While known as a gifted performer, Birute Smetona was also a devoted mother and exceptional teacher. Her two surviving sons, Anthony of Cleveland Heights and V. Julius of Medina, both followed in their mother's footsteps to become concert pianists and teachers. Birute was dedicated to her students. She taught them to avoid a stiff appearance when playing by using a supple, flowing motion of hand, wrist, and forearm. Most of all, Birute was well known for her unique ability to clearly explain difficult musical concepts in a way that even children could understand.

Birute was a strong, courageous, and exceptionally talented mother, instructor, and pianist. She was a vibrant member of the Cleveland community, and I am proud to honor her life—a 91-year journey and adventure. I extend my condolences to her entire family—to her two sons, her nine grandchildren, and to all who knew and loved her. She will be truly missed, but will remain forever a testament to the character and depth of courage of the Lithuanian community in Ohio.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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.)

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 2799. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.