

that about three million people in Kenya would need food aid because the rainfall had declined so badly that farmers would not have adequate yield.

Of course, the immediate response to the crisis is the rainfall has not come. "The rains did not come." But very few of us ask, "Why didn't the rains come?" That's the challenge. We need to ask ourselves, and that's why we're being challenged to think holistically. For if we only want the rains to come but don't want to understand why rains may not come, then of course we're going to fail. I could have told the Minister that because of the damage that we have done to the mountains, to the five forested mountains in Kenya, because of the illegal logging that has been going on for years, charcoal burning that has been going on for years, because of the commercial plantations that have been expanded in the mountains and allowing literally thousands of people to go into the forests and cultivate in order to support this commercial plantation of timber, rainfall patterns sooner or later would be affected.

Now some people say it is climate change and they say, "Well, you know, even on Mount Kenya the glaciers are receding." That's also quite possible. It's possible that it is part of climate change. But climate change does not happen at a global level at once. Climate change starts at a local level. It is impacted by what we have done on these two mountains. Multiply that several million times, because it is happening in Kenya, it is happening in Africa, it is happening in Europe, it's happening elsewhere. And sooner or later, all these multiplied several million times create a climate that in certain areas will become extremely harsh, especially for people who don't have alternatives, such as the people in our region.

In trying to solve the problem, the Minister will probably say, "We must go out and do two things: One, we must buy food from those who have it, or we must seek food aid in the world." I'm glad that United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is represented here, because they are the ones who are usually giving us food aid. That's a short-term solution.

The long-term solution is for us to go back to the basics. Go back to the basics and listen to what the Norwegian Nobel Committee said: The environment is in an intricate way joined, is related, is intertwined, in our lives on an everyday basis. It is not something we think about or talk about or learn about sometimes. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat: Everything we do has to do with the environment. We need to take this concept and make it holistic, so that we can think in a holistic manner, and learn to protect the base on which everything else depends. Learn that if we destroy the mountain, the waters, when they take the soil, they take away the soil in which the farmer plants his seed.

If you ask an ordinary Kenyan woman why the rains do not come, the farmer will probably say, "God has not yet brought the rain, and we must pray so that God brings us the rain." In recent years I have seen the need to talk to the religion leaders and tell them that it is very important for them to see the connection between the book of Genesis and what is happening to the environment, and to begin to tell the faithful that they must take care of the Garden of Eden that God created in the book of Genesis, and to encourage them not to wait for God to bring rain, because the rains will come anyway.

But if the rains don't come, it has nothing to do with God. It has everything to do with the way they are managing their environment. So that that faithful [person], whether he can read the Bible or not, or maybe at

best can only read the Bible in his own language, is motivated to go out, dig a hole, and plant a tree. Or, is motivated to go and create a terrace, or a trench, so that the next time the rains come, they do not take away his topsoil, so that when he plants a seed it will germinate because there is water in the ground and the fertile topsoil has not been carried away. And he will be motivated to support those terraces with trees, with vegetation. As we [the Green Belt Movement] are doing now, [perhaps] he is willing to even go further and plant trees on public land, including going to the forest and planting trees in the forest.

If the farmer does that, then those of us who are in a more responsible position can make sure that what he plants, if he's going to export, he will get fair trade. He'll get a fair price. Most of these farmers that I'm talking about grow tea and coffee. But when they grow this tea and coffee and they send it to the international market, there are some rules of the game—I don't know whether the food law [program] looks at that—there are some rules of the game that do not allow this farmer to get enough for his labor. He gets very little from the international market, and he has no control over that. When he needs inputs for his coffee and tea he has to buy [them] at a price that has been set by somebody else, and he has no control over that. Somehow there is a law that does not create justice for this farmer, and as a result, because he doesn't get enough for his labor, he continues to scrape, to scratch this land and get very little out of it. So we call him poor, and we begin to say that it is partly because of his poverty that the environment is being degraded.

Well, it is not true. The farmer is doing his best. He needs to be assisted to learn that he has to protect his environment. But those of us at this level also need to protect his interests. So when he brings his produce to the market he gets a fair price. That is why we are saying that perhaps what many of these poor countries need so that they may protect the environment is fair trade, support for aid so that they can support that farmer, and they can protect that forest, and they can encourage the rehabilitation of these forests and these mountains so that the rivers can continue to flow and the rains will come back.

The only way we can do that is if we have governments that operate in a free, democratic space, so that they can encourage their people, and governments that are promoting cultures of peace, so that people can find a peaceful environment in which to do these activities.

That is the message that I'm trying to share with you. I believe that's the message the Norwegian Nobel Committee was delivering to the world. It is the challenge that we have been given, so that we can rethink what security and peace really mean for us, and to understand that at no time, either at the national level or at the regional level, can we have peace if we do not think holistically—think from the top to the bottom and as wide as we can.

If we do so, then we are prepared to capture that image of the traditional African stool with its three legs: Democracy, peace, and sustainable management of our resources. Then we can have a peaceful, secure base upon which development can take place.

Thank you very much.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HANSBORO, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th anniversary. On July 7, 2005, the residents of Hansboro celebrated their community's history and founding.

Hansboro is a community located in north central North Dakota only 4 miles from the U.S./Canadian border. With a current population of 12, Hansboro is a very small town. However, more than 500 people congregated there for its centennial celebration this summer. It is clear that Hansboro possesses the characteristics that make smalltown America so special and unique.

Founded in 1905 by railroad workers and farmers who were working to establish a rail line to connect the area to the larger community of Devils Lake, ND, it was not long before several grain elevators were built. Shortly after its founding, on November 11, 1905, a post office was established in Hansboro at which Alexander Messer served as postmaster. The name of the community was meant to honor Henry Clay Hansbrough. Hansbrough served as North Dakota's first representative in the U.S. Congress after the State's creation in 1889. He later went on to serve three terms in the U.S. Senate from 1891 to 1909.

Today, Hansboro's small population consists mainly of individuals devoted to farming and ranching. However, the town also possesses the unique characteristic and great responsibility of serving as a port of entry into Canada.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Hansboro, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years. By honoring Hansboro and all of the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Hansboro that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why Hansboro is worthy of our recognition.

Hansboro possesses a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF KINDRED, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On August 5-7, the residents of Kindred, ND, will celebrate their community's founding and history.

Kindred is a small town of 614 citizens in southeastern North Dakota. Despite its size, Kindred holds an important place in North Dakota's history. Kindred can trace its history to 1879 when a U.S. Post Office named Sibley was moved two miles north of its original location to the present day site of Kindred. Following this, in 1880 the Great Northern Railroad established a

town-site and railroad station, naming the town Kindred after William S. Kindred, a Fargo real-estate pioneer. Kindred was incorporated in 1920 and became a city in 1949. Today, Kindred is a rapidly growing community bolstered by a variety of thriving businesses including, Cass County Electric Cooperative, Dakota Ag Cooperative, and Odegaard Aviation.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Kindred, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring Kindred and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Kindred that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why the fine community of Kindred is deserving of our recognition.

Kindred has a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAWSON, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On July 2, the residents of Dawson, ND, gathered to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Dawson is a small town in south central North Dakota with a population of approximately 75. Despite its small size, Dawson holds an important place in North Dakota's history. The Sibley Expedition helped begin the settlement of this area, but it was the railroad's expansion that was responsible for Dawson's birth. J. Dawson Thompson, along with Fredrick D. Hager and Robert E. Wallace established the city of Dawson in 1880. This town started with a windmill and a water tower and later developed into an important city. As a railroad center, it was responsible for welcoming early settlers.

As the first established city of Kidder County, Dawson has experienced many changes over the years. Today, Mayor Rand Loveness leads this great city. Known for its excellent hunting and fishing, Dawson attracts a wide variety of sportsmen. Although small in size, Dawson has found ways to touch the lives of many people. Dawson has served thousands of children and adults through Camp Grassick. This camp specializes in giving people with disabilities and special needs a wonderful summer camp experience. The Veterans Memorial Wall in Dawson is another example of how this town has given back to its community. This wall honors 1,010 veterans serving from the Crimean War to the gulf war.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Dawson, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring Dawson and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering fron-

tier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Dawson that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Dawson has a proud past and a bright future.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF LANKIN, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th anniversary. On July 8-10, the residents of Lankin, ND, celebrated their community's history and founding.

Lankin is a small town in the northeast part of North Dakota. Despite its small size, Lankin holds an important place in North Dakota's history. The site was originally named "Young" for G.W. Young, a Park River lawyer and former teacher. He established the post office on April 7, 1898, and John Matajeck became the first postmaster. The name was changed to Lankin on July 27, 1905, when John Lankin became postmaster and the townsite was established on the Soo Line Railroad. Lankin was officially incorporated as a village in 1908. Among the town's residents were Jack McDonald, a trumpet player with Philip Sousa's famous band and Herman Witasek, a member of Lankin's 1930 State Class C High School basketball champions, who is considered to be North Dakota's first professional player of the sport.

Today Lankin is a delightful community in which to live and work. Lankin is home to a number of businesses, including a grain elevator, post office, bank, restaurant and an American Legion Club. There is also an active volunteer fire department and EMS squad. The community hosted a variety of festivities during its centennial celebration. On Friday, it held an all-school reunion, banquet and dance. Saturday kicked off with a parade and that will be followed by a day of entertainment featuring games, music, a three-on-three basketball tournament and a fireworks display that evening. The weekend will close with a church service and picnic on Sunday.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Lankin, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring Lankin and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering tradition spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Lankin that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why Lankin is deserving of our recognition.

Lankin has a proud past and a bright future.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MCCLUSKY, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th an-

niversary. On July 8-10, 2005, the residents of McClusky, ND, celebrated their community's history and founding.

The community of McClusky is located at the geographic center of North Dakota, approximately 65 miles northwest of the State capital, Bismarck, and 50 miles east of beautiful Lake Sakakawea, a manmade lake formed by the Garrison Dam on the Missouri River. Within 45 miles of 18 lakes, McClusky is home to some of the world's premier hunting and fishing.

Founded in 1905 as the result of railroad expansion into the area, McClusky became a bustling farming community. Farming was, and continues to be, the mainstay of McClusky. In fact, the community received its name from William Henderson McClusky, a local farmer responsible for the town's establishment. In addition to farming, however, at this time McClusky's 500 residents are also vital to the continued existence of numerous organizations and businesses, including 6 churches and a bed and breakfast.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating McClusky, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years. By honoring McClusky and all of the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as McClusky that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is worthy of our recognition.

McClusky possesses a proud past and a bright future.●

RETIREMENT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL VERNON SIMMONS

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to extend my best wishes to LTC Vernon Simmons who recently retired as deputy to the Director of Budget and Appropriations Liaison in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller. Vern's career as an Air Force officer defines service to one's country, and I know that Vern's dedication and leadership will be sorely missed by me and my staff, as well as his colleagues at the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

Lieutenant Colonel Simmons' career exemplifies hard work and commitment to excellence. In 1983, he graduated with honors from Northeastern University in Boston with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. It was there that he also completed his 4-year ROTC program, prior to entering active duty. He also earned a master of arts degree in economics from the University of Oklahoma in 1994.

Vern's first assignment was in Air Force Systems Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH. He was assigned to the program control office as a program control integrator on the F-15E aircraft. It was there that he