

But Handgun Control Inc. tells victims not to resist rape or robbery in any way: "The best defense against injury is to put up no defense—give them what they want or run." This anti-gun position, too, is bereft of criminological support. Twenty years of National Institute of Justice data show that victims who resist with guns are less likely to be injured, and much less likely to be raped or robbed, than victims who submit. Indeed, in more than 80 percent of cases where a victim pulls a gun, the criminal turns and flees whether he has a gun or not.

When speaking at universities here and abroad, I am often asked, "Wouldn't it be a better world if there were no guns?"

I am a criminologist, not a theologian. If you want a world without guns and you think there is a God, pray for him to abolish guns. Human laws cannot disarm lawbreakers, but only the law-abiding.

Firearms are the only weaponry with which victims can reliably resist aggressors. In their absence, the ruthless and strong can oppress the weak.

Such oppression in the District is really the crime emergency. And as the District responds, it should take an unbiased look at the social-science data. It should rethink its gun bans now under legal challenge. And after 30 years of failed prohibition, it should now let its law-abiding citizens arm themselves for their own protection.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT FRANCIS McDERMOTT

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I would like to take this moment to honor a dear friend and dedicated community leader who passed away on August 28, 2006. GEN Robert McDermott leaves behind a legacy of distinguished service to his country and his community, and he will be dearly missed.

GEN Robert Francis McDermott was born on July 31, 1920, in Boston, MA, to Alphonsus and Anna McDermott. He graduated from the Boston Latin School in 1937 and continued his education at Norwich University. He received an appointment to the United States Military Academy in 1940 and was commissioned on January 19, 1943. In 1950, General McDermott earned an MBA degree from Harvard University.

On January 20, 1943, General McDermott married Alice Patricia McDermott at Trinity Chapel at West Point. Their marriage would last 47 years until Alice's death in 1990. Following their wedding, General McDermott was assigned to the 474th Fighter Bomber Group as its deputy group operations officer and flew 61 combat missions in a P-38 during World War II in the European Theatre. After the war, he remained in Europe on General Eisenhower's staff and later served in the Pentagon.

After teaching economics at West Point for 4 years, General McDermott was assigned to the newly established Air Force Academy as vice dean and professor of economics. In 1956, he was appointed Dean of Faculty, and in 1959, President Eisenhower appointed General McDermott the first Permanent Dean of Faculty and promoted him to

brigadier general. At that time, he was the youngest flag-rank officer in all of the armed services. In recognition of General McDermott's contributions and innovations at the Air Force Academy, the Air Force named the cadet library for him and called him the "Father of Modern Military Education." He retired from the Air Force in 1968.

General McDermott joined USAA—United Services Automobile Association—as executive vice president, and became its president in January 1969. Throughout his career, McDermott's philosophy was to nurture the employees and to promote their personal and professional growth treating them and USAA's customers by the Golden Rule. His efforts bore success. In 1993, USAA was ranked No. 1 in "The 100 Best Companies to Work for in America." General McDermott retired as chairman and CEO of USAA in 1993.

On August 6, 1994, General McDermott married Marion Slemmon of Colorado Springs. They enjoyed his retirement in San Antonio and Colorado Springs, but General McDermott did not slow down. He was active in the San Antonio community with business and charitable organizations, enjoyed traveling to visit family and friends, and continued playing golf and his trombone.

As a dedicated and enthusiastic advocate for San Antonio, General McDermott worked tirelessly to advance economic development in the area. In 1974, he was elected chairman of the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and promoted San Antonio as a center for domestic and international growth. He also founded the Economic Development Foundation and was a cofounder of United San Antonio. In the 1980s, General McDermott focused on the development of biotechnology in San Antonio to provide the city with a viable economic sector for the 21st century. In 1984, he founded the Texas Research and Technology Foundation which began development of the Texas Research Park—TRP—the core of biotechnology for San Antonio. In the early 1990s, General McDermott also led a group of local investors to buy the San Antonio Spurs to assure it would stay in San Antonio. To coach the Spurs, he selected Air Force Academy graduate Gregg Popovich who led the team to win three NBA championships.

For General McDermott's wide-ranging efforts on behalf of San Antonio, the city of San Antonio named a section of Interstate Highway 10 West as the "Robert F. McDermott Freeway." He also received recognition for his business and educational activities, including an elementary school named for him, induction into the Texas Business Hall of Fame in 1987 and the American National Business Hall of Fame in 1989; the recipient of the Distinguished Graduate Award from West Point in 1993; the recipient of Harvard Business School's Alumni Achievement Award in 1998; and most recently, the

University of the Incarnate Word established the Robert F. McDermott Professorship in Organizational Leadership this year.

Today I honor the passing of a great family man, a terrific friend, and an outstanding community leader. •

NATIONAL MINE RESCUE COMPETITION

• Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I am pleased today to report some good news with regard to mine safety and to congratulate FMC Corporation's White Team for being the best mine rescue team in the Nation. As we all know, the mining community experienced a profound loss this year with the disasters at the Sago and Aracoma coal mines in West Virginia and at the Darby Mine in Kentucky. The tragic loss of life in these accidents served to reaffirm the commitment of all those involved in the industry to ensuring and improving the safety and welfare of our Nation's miners.

Essential to that effort, and emblematic of our commitment, was the passage of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response, MINER, Act of 2006. The MINER Act passed this body unanimously. It was then signed into law by President Bush and implemented by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, MSHA.

As the primary sponsor of the MINER Act, I am confident that this new law will improve the safety of our underground mines and reduce the likelihood of similar tragic accidents in the future. In the careful and deliberate process of developing the MINER Act, the views of all stakeholders were solicited and carefully considered. Although in many areas there were differences of opinion, all those involved in the issue of mine safety were in agreement on the critical role played by mine rescue teams and universal in their praise of the dedicated individuals who serve on them.

Rescue teams represent the very finest traditions of the mining community. Composed of volunteers, highly trained and experienced, these teams stand ready to come to the aid of their fellow miners in the most critical and dangerous of situations. The MINER Act explicitly recognizes the essential role of mine rescue teams and the importance of their training and support.

Part of the training and the tradition of mine rescue teams is their participation in competitions that pit the teams against each other. Each year MSHA holds a national mine rescue competition that draws teams from throughout the United States. This year, the metal, nonmetal mine competition was held in Reno, NV. I am particularly pleased to report four teams from southwestern Wyoming placed in the top six spots in a field of 34 teams from across the Nation.

The FMC Corporation White Team, which was led by Leroy Hutchinson, won the competition. The White Team