

and our investments have performed less well than we might have hoped. But the biggest problem we have is that in a year and a half we have not had a single offer on our motor home. Friends tell us we will not be able to sell it. We took it to Bretz RV in Missoula, MT, one of the leading sellers of RVs including consignment sales. That was last August. We have dropped the price below what we owe on it and still cannot get any offers. The price of diesel is what is causing the market for motor homes to dry up. In short, our retirement cash flow is in trouble due to fuel prices, not to mention our costs have skyrocketed.

We are thoroughly disillusioned by our government's refusal to tell the environmentalists to go pound sand and let our oil companies develop the enormous oil and natural gas reserves we have, while competitor nations drill for our right off our shores. The "pristine parkland" in ANWR is a hoax—we have seen pictures of the small area where drilling rights were sought. We need nuclear power plants to be built as quickly as possible, oil refineries as quickly as possible, and the development of those resources.

Yes, alternative energy sources are a good thing, and we need eventually to phase out the gasoline auto, but this takes time. The government is responsible for our predicament, in our opinion, and needs to start putting the needs of America ahead of politics.

TIM and PEGGY, *Emmett*.

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to share our story with you. We are most definitely feeling the effects of the ever-increasing costs of fuel. We are a family of six. We own three cars and have four drivers. Our college-age daughter chose a summer job that was close to home just so she can save on gas money. We have been discussing how we will make ends meet with the rising fuel costs. We have decided to pull our youngest children (ages 11 and 13) out of piano lessons. They were in their 3rd and 5th year respectively. Our daughter, Katie, may have to give up flute lessons. Katie has been volunteering at St. Luke's Hospital for the past two years. She was hoping to volunteer there through her senior year of high school, but it may soon cost too much to get her there and back. Our son is volunteering at the Garden City Library. He is enjoying it, but we are uncertain how long he will be able to participate once again because the amount it costs us to get him there. We are a family that believes in volunteering and giving of our time and resources—but there is only so much we can do. We have recently switched to a doctor in Eagle just so we would not have to travel into downtown Boise. We evaluate every time we plan to go somewhere—can we really afford the gas? We have even denied our kids the opportunity to go to mid-week youth group at church because it is in Southeast Boise—too far to drive. We feel badly for the other families/organizations our decisions will affect—two moms who give piano/flute lessons from their homes, the volunteer office at St. Luke's, the library, etc. We do not have the luxury of buying newer more fuel-efficient cars; we must do with what we have.

We are extremely frustrated with Congress over its inability to do anything constructive to solve the problem, which for the most part they are responsible for causing. We support drilling for our own oil both offshore and in ANWR. We support building more refineries. We also fully support the expansion of our nuclear energy facilities, mining of coal and oil shale in addition to renewable forms of energy such as wind and solar. More hearings and investigations on "Big Oil" and speculators is a waste of time along with taxing "windfall profits". Please urge your

peers to do something constructive to solve the problem.

Thanks again for this opportunity.

KELLY and KRISTI, *Eagle*.

I work at the INL but commute 45 minutes both ways to work; my husband also works in Idaho Falls. However, we work at different times—my work begins at 7:00 and off at 4:30. He starts at 10 and off at 6—so we both drive. At the present time, we are considering selling our home of 35 years and moving closer to Idaho Falls. We are spending over \$110 a week with the two cars making the trip to Idaho Falls five times a week. I have started a car pool with a few employees that will help some, but the fact is—it hurts. For the first time in many years, we are finding ourselves in financial distress.

We do not want to sell the house, we have raised our kids there—we love it. And, we do not want to sell it at this time when the market is such that we will not get from it what it is worth.

There has to be a better way. I hope you can find it. Good luck.

UNSIGNÉD.

We should not lean on foreign oil providers to lower their prices when we have enough oil under American soil to last for hundreds of years. The so-called environmentalists have caused this massive problem which has the possibility to sink America.

I like the scene of oil rigs on the horizon, it is a beautiful landscape. I do not believe the so-called environmentalists care one whit about our environment, they are out to see America die, and they are well on their way to accomplishing their goal.

A word to the wise.

CURT, *Wilder*.

As a country, we had plenty of time to both prepare for and possibly prevent the situation we are in. However, we cannot change the past and now we are going to march into a new and different world. I wonder whether we will be smarter this time.

Frankly, I see the silver lining in the increased cost of energy. We are going to have to incentivize the discovery and use of new, sustainable forms of energy. Maybe we'll think long term instead of searching for the short term fixes.

We will get a chance to pay more attention to our local communities rather than driving away for fun or shipping produce (and water!) from the other side of the planet. We will get a glimpse of how a large part of the rest of the world lives. We'll start appreciating and caring for what we have rather than strive for ever increasing heights of consumption. We'll ride bikes, fix sidewalks, meet neighbors and save our energy use for when using energy is really necessary. Maybe we'll even revisit one of the most taboo of subjects—whether we should curb population growth. (Just think—1/100th the population means 100 times the resources.)

So, there you have it. The energy "crisis" is of our own making. We had our chances, but maybe now we'll pay attention. The question is whether the transition to a world of scarcity will be peaceful or turbulent. In times of stress, those with the most resources are often the least affected, yet they often control positions of leadership. By the way . . . if you thought an energy shortage was a big thing, wait till the water crisis hits. It is going to be a lot worse.

GEORGE, *Idaho Falls*.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

TRIBUTE TO ALBERT CORCOS

• Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, it is a privilege to bring to the attention of my colleagues the remarkable record of humanitarian work and numerous accomplishments of Albert Corcos, one of the truly great humanitarian leaders of our time.

He is now 98 and lives in Concarneau, France, with his loving wife Camille. He recently completed his memoir spanning his incredible career, during which he was awarded the Legion of Honor in France and a distinguished Royal Award from Thailand.

I first became acquainted with Mr. Corcos's humanitarian activities when I was serving as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Refugees in the 1970s. In fact, Mr. Corcos had begun his extraordinary career a generation earlier, by coordinating the international effort in 1945 to resettle millions of displaced persons and refugees uprooted by World War II. He was a young man of immense energy and compassion and had been persuaded to use those talents to work with the new United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to help refugees and displaced persons in Europe. He had actually had an even earlier role, performing the hazardous duty of a young courier for the French resistance during the war.

The good work that best exemplifies Mr. Corcos's compassionate concern for the disadvantaged was his indispensable role in coming to the aid of the Indochinese refugees. After an already very full career with the International Organization for Migration and its predecessors working to resettle the displaced, he blazed a unique trail in developing and implementing the initial response to one of the great humanitarian crises of the time—the international response to the exodus of 1.5 million Indochinese refugees in the 1970s.

As Indochinese refugees flowed into neighboring countries in Southeast Asia, in 1975, it was a monumental challenge to find opportunities for their resettlement in the United States and other Western nations and to provide the logistical support to make it possible. It was vital to move the refugees out of the region rapidly, in order to keep the doors open in the first asylum countries of the region. The goal was to prevent the land borders from being closed, which would have forced refugees to take to the sea in desperation and cost thousands of lives.

Mr. Corcos postponed his retirement and put together and oversaw the system for processing and transporting refugees to the United States and other countries for resettlement. The challenges were extraordinary. The refugees were strewn across dozens of camps from northern Thailand to Indonesia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Each refugee had to be documented, fingerprinted, photographed, given medical examinations and issued transit papers. The refugees

then had to be booked on flights to resettlement countries, even as air commerce shrank in Southeast Asia after 1975. The creativity, courage, and perseverance of Mr. Corcos and his team in making this process run smoothly was amazing and won him well deserved international praise.

Mr. Corcos came out of retirement again in 1979 to deal with a second surge of Indochinese refugees. This time, the numbers were even more enormous, but he was skillfully able to replicate the process of earlier years on a much larger regional basis.

Mr. Corcos is a true humanitarian and made a vast difference in the lives of countless refugees fleeing from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos in the 1970s. He is a legend among those who created and benefitted from the Indochinese Refugee Program, and his legacy will forever be remembered.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL LISA LEONARD AND LIEUTENANT COLONEL RANDY JOHNSON

● Mr. BOND. Madam President, we all know it would be impossible to do our jobs without the assistance of many dedicated professionals staffing the legislative liaison offices for all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Today, I pay tribute to COL Lisa Leonard and LTC Randy Johnson who joined the National Guard Bureau's Office of Legislative Liaison as the Army and Air Liaison Officers and together collectively served 12 years and are now, unfortunately for us, retiring at the same time.

Colonel Leonard and Lieutenant Colonel Johnson have served competently and well at a pivotal time in the history of the National Guard. Now, more than ever, America relies on the National Guard both at home and abroad. Since 9/11 more than 200,000 Guard troops have left their homes, their jobs, and their families to participate in the global war on terror. The National Guard has provided as much as half of the combat force and 40 percent of the total force in Iraq. Guard troops are also called upon to respond to natural disasters at home like Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Understanding these dual missions is a job in itself.

During Lisa and Randy's tenure, the National Guard has also had to weather a controversial base realignment and closure, BRAC, round and several other major legislative battles concerning relative troop strength, equipment levels and the ability of the Guard to participate in major Pentagon decisions.

Lisa's and Randy's contributions to the Senate began with their natural ability to establish personal relationships with staff while telling the story of the National Guard. They earned the respect of Members and staff on both sides of the aisle with their expertise, strong work ethic, and dedication to the job.

These are truly the unsung heroes of the legislative process, faithfully providing information, expertise, and analysis on behalf of the National Guard on myriad national security and homeland security issues.

We wish them both well in their well-earned retirement from Active Duty and from this assignment. They will be missed.●

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS W. RICHARDSON

● Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, Mr. Thomas W. Richardson of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will soon retire with over 37 years of exceptional service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He is member of the Senior Executive Service and is the Director of Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center Coastal Hydraulic Laboratory. His accomplishments and dedication to the Corps of Engineers' laboratory community and the Army are exceptional and will have a significant and long lasting positive impact on this Nation.

Following 3 years of service as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mr. Richardson began his Army civilian career in 1974 as a research hydraulic engineer at the U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, in Vicksburg, MS. Through the 1970s and early 1980s he was a principal investigator for research studies on dredging systems for beach nourishment for offshore sources and an assistant investigator on a research study to develop new systems for bypassing sand past tidal inlets. During this time he designed and constructed the world's first portable, land-based hydraulic sand bypassing system, which was delivered to the Corps of Engineers North Central Division as an operational plant. A systematic approach became available to address a major national concern with both economic and strategic aspects; that of bypassing sand to preserve beaches and to maintain harbor channels.

In 1983, Mr. Richardson became chief of the coastal structures and evaluation branch, Coastal Engineering Research Center where he supervised 16 researchers specializing in functional design and performance of coastal structures, dredging and sand bypassing systems, geomorphic evaluation, and empirical design methods for coastal projects. From branch chief he quickly moved up to division chief in 1985 and served in that capacity for 14 years, first as chief of the Engineering Development Division and then as the Chief of the Coastal Sediments and Engineering Division. He directed numerous comprehensive research and development investigations, and studies of coastal processes, sediment transport, shoreline change modeling, beach fill design methods, prototype systems design and development, and functional design of coastal projects. Notably, he developed general technical approaches

and R&D programs that produced the extraordinarily successful and patented CORE-LOC concrete armor unit and the Scanning Hydrographic Operational Airborne LIDAR Survey—SHOALS—system.

Mr. Richardson assumed the duties of acting assistant lab director in January 2000. In June of that same year, he was elevated to acting director, CHL. Mr. Richardson joined the Senior Executive Service in March 2002 upon becoming director of the CHL.

Under the leadership of Mr. Richardson, the Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory directly supported the Army transformation, civil works strategic plan, global war on terrorism operations, and high priority civil works operations. In addition, CHL addressed critical levee issues for the Department of Homeland Security by developing a unique system to rapidly repair breaches in levees caused by natural phenomena or terrorist attack.

Throughout his career, Tom Richardson has demonstrated a profound commitment to the Army, the Corps of Engineers, and the Nation. He is a consummate professional whose performance in over 37 years of service has personified those traits of competency and integrity that our Nation has come to expect of its senior civilian leaders. I congratulate Mr. Richardson on his distinguished service to the U.S. Army and the Nation.●

REMEMBERING RYNE DOUGHERTY

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to Ryne Dougherty, a young man from Montclair, NJ, whose young life was tragically cut short on October 15. He suffered a fatal brain hemorrhage while playing football, the sport about which he was so passionate. Although he was only 16 years old, Ryne made a tremendous impact on his teammates, friends, and community. He was a caring and loving young man who displayed a special kindness and a deep commitment to his friends and family. An honor student and linebacker on the Montclair High School Junior Varsity football team, Ryne also found time to fix computers to benefit underprivileged families. Ryne was admired by all who knew him—over 1,000 mourners gathered together to remember him and comfort each other.

Ryne worked toward his goals with steadfast determination, eager to succeed. His football coach said that Ryne never sought glory or praise; he came to the field every day prepared to work his hardest out of respect for his teammates and love for the game. Family and friends said that Ryne always wanted to talk about football. He was always ready with the latest NFL statistics and greatly enjoyed playing football video games with his friends in his spare time. To honor Ryne, the New York Giants held a moment of silence during their game on October 19, a fitting tribute for a young fan.