

constitutional responsibilities in a safe and open environment.”

I have no doubt in my mind that the Capitol Police has done just that in a manner that is nothing short of heroic.

The U.S. Capitol Police has faced every danger undeterred, ensuring that Congress and its mission can continue uninterrupted. Their courage, efficiency, and commitment allowed Congress to continue with its constitutional responsibilities. We could not do this without them. For this, and for our safety, all of us owe them a great debt of gratitude.

As we proceed today with the routine business of the Senate—floor consideration of the fiscal year 2010 Defense authorization bill, Judiciary Committee hearings on the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor for the U.S. Supreme Court nomination hearings and other myriad legislative tasks—all of us are able to breathe easily knowing that we are protected by such a dedicated and talented force.

Thank you again for all of your hard work and sacrifice.

CONDEMNING ALL FORMS OF ANTI-SEMITISM

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I am gratified that the Senate is poised to approve S. Con. Res. 11, which condemns all forms of anti-Semitism and reaffirms the support of Congress for the U.S. Special Envoy to monitor and combat anti-Semitism around the world.

I cosponsored this resolution with Senator COLLINS to affirm my commitment to ending global anti-Semitism, bigotry, and hatred. In the 21st century, there is no place for people or groups who would harm or deny rights to others based on their religion, race, gender, or ethnic identity. Yet anti-Semitism—spawned from centuries of hatred, persecution, and repeated attempts to destroy the Jewish people from their early days of slavery through the Inquisition, Holocaust, and beyond—still pervades many cultures and societies.

In some places around the world, this deeply rooted hatred can quickly turn political rallies into hate crimes, with chants of “death to Israel” and expressions of support for suicide or terrorist attacks against Israeli or Jewish civilians all too frequent. These calls have often been followed by violence and vandalism against synagogues and Jewish institutions. Hate crimes send a powerful message because they affect more than the individual victims; they are meant to intimidate and instill fear in entire groups of people. Hate crimes create a sense of vulnerability and insecurity in others who may share characteristics with the victims. And this sense of fear is precisely the intent of those who commit such crimes.

Even here in the United States, anti-Semitism frequently rears its ugly head, most recently in the horrific shooting attack at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

I am privileged to be chair of the Helsinki Commission and a member of the both the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee. In those capacities and as a Senator generally, I am afforded numerous opportunities to speak out against the scourge of anti-Semitism, racial bigotry, and ethnic hatred worldwide. Part of the battle is to publicize intolerant and hateful activities. This resolution is meant to shed light upon anti-Semitism, and I am grateful that so many of my colleagues have joined me in these efforts and on this resolution.

COMMENDING NORM COLEMAN

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I commend the extraordinary career of Norm Coleman. Norm began his public service as a prosecutor for the Minnesota State Attorney General’s Office, working his way up to chief prosecutor before eventually serving as solicitor general of Minnesota. In 1993, he became mayor of St. Paul. During his tenure as mayor, Norm worked faithfully to revitalize the city, even securing a National Hockey League franchise for St. Paul. In 2002, at the urging of President Bush, Norm ran for U.S. Senate. He was the challenger in a close, hard-fought race, and his ultimate victory was an exciting one.

I am proud to have served alongside Norm in the Senate. He was an excellent comrade in the fight against partial birth abortion and worked hard to prevent waste and fraud at the United Nations. Known for his willingness to work with both parties, Norm fought for tax cuts, renewable energy, and prescription drug benefits for seniors. He worked for the passage of legislation improving rural health care, increasing funding for Pell Grants and securing our ports.

He leaves an impressive record as testament to his service in the Senate, but his presence here will be missed. Though the outcome of last fall’s election ended differently than I had hoped, I know great things are in store for Norm. He has much more to offer our great country. I wish Norm, his wife Laurie, and their two children, Jacob and Sarah, all the best as they embrace the new and exciting opportunities before them.

COMMENDING REV. LEONARD ROBINSON

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, the word “hero” is used often and lightly these days. Yet there are those special people that walk among us in our hometowns across America who genuinely rate that title. The terrible days of the Second World War produced an entire generation of such people. Today they are our friends and neighbors. They endured great trials and gave so much of themselves for so many of us in the most difficult of circumstances. They served in our nation’s darkest

hour. And then they came home. They went back to work, to school, bought homes, and raised families. Many did not care to speak about what they had seen or suffered through. I come to the floor of the U.S. Senate today to honor one such individual.

Mr. President, on April 9, 1942, American and Filipino forces defending the peninsula of Bataan from the invasion of Imperial Japan ended a gallant holding action to prevent the Japanese conquest of the Philippines. The soldiers lacked supplies and air support, and were crippled by starvation and disease when they were finally overwhelmed on that fateful day. What would follow the surrender would go down as one of the most brutal and ghastly chapters written in human history.

More than 75,000 men, including nearly 12,000 Americans, were turned out onto a broken, dusty road and forced to march nearly 70 miles to the dreadful prison camp, Camp O’Donnell, that would be their home until the war’s end. The journey was barbarous. Over the next 5 days, thousands died from starvation, dehydration, disease, heat prostration, and sheer exhaustion. Survivors of the Death March of Bataan tell of the horrific atrocities of their captors. Prisoners were beaten at random and denied food and water. Those who fell behind or stopped to help fallen comrades were executed. One survivor tells the story of Japanese soldiers driving alongside the column of weary men with outstretched bayonets, slicing throats and decapitating those poor souls who happened to get in the way. The sides of the trail were littered with the bodies of the dead. There are no words that can describe such horrendous barbarity and inhumanity. It is estimated that 54,000 of the 75,000 who started the march made it to Camp O’Donnell—a death rate of about 1 in 4. Many more would meet their deaths at the Camp. But there were also those who made it.

A hero is someone who displays courage, bravery, and perseverance in the face of great adversity. Those who survived the Bataan Death March exhibited a heroism that we rarely see today. One of those heroes is from my hometown of Casper, WY, the Reverend Leonard L. Robinson. Leonard is my friend and neighbor. In fact, I had the privilege as a surgeon to replace both of his knees.

Leonard L. Robinson was born in Englewood, CO, and spent his youth growing up in the Englewood and Denver area. While attending college at the University of Colorado, Leonard was drafted to the U.S. Army in 1941. He was assigned to Battery E of the 200th Coast Artillery Regiment, Anti-Aircraft, at Fort Bliss, TX. In September 1941, he was shipped out to Fort Stotsenburg in the Philippines. Leonard was in the first group of U.S. soldiers captured at Cababayan and started the march out of Bataan towards Camp O’Donnell. He was then held as a Japanese prisoner of war for 3½ years; 2 of