

This scholarship has increased the number of doctors in eastern Kentucky.

For his service to the community, General Beach received several awards, including the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year and the Community Bankers of Kentucky Outstanding Community Banker of the Year awards. The Beattyville/Lee County Chamber of Commerce recognized General Beach for his 58 consecutive years as president. And, Beattyville Mayor Joseph Kash described Beach as “a true gentleman and a hero of this community. It is appropriate that his passing was on Veterans Day. He was a true patriot.”

The positive impact that General Beach has made on Kentucky and this Nation has certainly not ended with his passing. His legacy will continue to live on through the individuals and the communities he so lovingly helped lead. Known nationally for his leadership and service to our country, I know all Kentuckians join me in grieving the loss of Charles Beach.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CORPORAL ANTHONY CARRASCO, JR.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a brave son of Anthony, NM.

Army CPL Anthony Carrasco Jr. was killed November 4 after being hit by sniper fire while serving his country in Iraq. He was 25 years old.

Corporal Carrasco—or “Tony” as he was called by family and friends—was a husband and father and son. He and his wife Johana are expecting a child. And he had two small step-children who adored him.

Tony served as truck commander for armored vehicles. It was his job to direct his vehicle down streets infested with roadside bombs and targeted by insurgents attacking from the shadows of buildings. Tony understood the danger. He accepted the risk. And he died doing what he loved, serving a country he loved.

His fellow soldiers described Tony as an optimist. His platoon sergeant, Timothy Brown, put it best: Tony “saw the good in everything. He was a soldier who never, ever complained.” Sergeant Brown called Tony “the best soldier I ever had.”

As Senators or as citizens, we cannot fully experience the sadness that Tony’s family and friends are feeling. But when a soldier dies, the Nation as a whole feels the loss. We are linked to Corporal Carrasco by the ties that bind a grateful Nation to its faithful servant. His loss is ours.

Please join me in honoring Anthony Carrasco, and extending our sympathies to his wife Johana, his father Antonio, his mother Juana, and the rest of the Carrasco family.

SPECIALIST JOSEPH GALLEGOS

Mr. President, I want to acknowledge the recent passing of brave New Mexi-

can. Joseph Gallegos, a specialist with the New Mexico Army National Guard, died of a heart attack while serving in Iraq.

While his death was not due to injuries suffered in combat, that fact does not lessen the pain of his loss.

Specialist Gallegos was 39 years old. He served with the Guard as a light wheel vehicle mechanic. When not serving his country, he worked for the Forest Service on the Carson back home in Questa, NM. Throughout his life, he also worked as a firefighter, an ambulance driver and a policeman.

Specialist Gallegos gravitated toward work that allowed him to help his fellow citizens. While working for the Forest Service, he even saved a life—spotting a burning truck one day, he saw a man inside and pulled him to safety.

As Specialist Gallegos’ brother, Donald, said: “He was always taking different jobs, but they always put him in the service of others.”

Today, I ask you to join me in thanking Specialist Gallegos’ family for his service, and for his sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GARETH PARRY

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor the service of a great Federal employee.

Human ingenuity is boundless. This is especially true in America, which has always been driven by an entrepreneurial spirit and a belief that nothing is impossible.

From Whitney’s cotton gin to the first elevator, from the electric telegraph to the refrigerated rail car, our forerunners used their ingenuity to help build a nation. Such invention and perseverance closed the western frontier in the nineteenth century. In the century that followed, Americans continued to be pioneers on that frontier which has no end—the frontier of science.

Sixty-seven years ago this week, a team of American physicists led by Enrico Fermi conducted a critical experiment. On a cold winter’s afternoon, they huddled under the stands of the old football stadium at the University of Chicago. Using graphite blocks, wooden rods, and uranium pellets, they initiated the first-ever controlled nuclear reaction.

That experiment, called “Chicago Pile One,” marked the beginning of the nuclear age.

Today all Americans know that the discovery of nuclear power was a mixed blessing. With it came the potential for a new form of energy to power our homes and businesses. For the first time, our naval ships could remain at sea—and on guard—for extended periods without refueling.

But with nuclear energy came nuclear weapons. These led to the dangerous prospect of the mass destruction of hundreds of cities within minutes. They brought us a generation of “duck and cover” and backyard fallout shelters.

Thankfully—though our nation and others continue to possess these weapons in our time—the Cold War is over. No longer are we minutes from “mutually assured destruction” the way we once were.

Today, peaceful nuclear energy provides a fifth of our electricity, and there are 104 civilian reactors in operation across the country.

Developing and enforcing the regulations that keep these reactors safe are the men and women of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

This week I wish to recognize the contribution of an outstanding public servant, Dr. Gareth Parry. Gareth has had a distinguished career at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission advancing our nuclear safety.

He is also a 2004 recipient of the distinguished Arthur S. Flemming Award for public service.

Gareth, who immigrated to this country from the United Kingdom, has over thirty years of experience in developing models for probabilistic risk analysis—or PRA. He retired this September after a long and distinguished career.

As senior adviser on PRA for the Commission’s Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Gareth became one of the leading experts on analyzing common cause failure and human reliability. His work led to the development of PRA standards and the use of PRA to support risk-informed decision-making with regard to nuclear safety.

Gareth, as a scientist and a public servant, worked hard to ensure the safety of America’s civilian nuclear facilities.

The kind of work he performed is highly mathematical and complex, and it may not sound glamorous to the average American, but it is critical and contributes enormously to the security and economic well-being of our Nation.

Sixty-seven years ago, Fermi and his team first harnessed the power of the atom. Today, the men and women of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ensure that our modern nuclear reactors continue to do so safely.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring the service of Dr. Gareth Parry and all who have worked—and continue to work—at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

EXPIRATION OF START

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, tonight, the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty will expire, and with it the primary framework for the reduction of nuclear weapons for the last 20 years. Today, I would like to speak a few minutes about the critical importance of an offensive strategic arms reduction, and why we must establish a follow-on treaty to START.

In September, President Obama proposed a resolution to the United Nations Security Council to eliminate nuclear weapons, ban production of the fissile material, outlaw nuclear tests,

and safeguard existing weapons stockpiles. World leaders approved the resolution, joining with the President's previous statements that "America seeks a world with no nuclear weapons." This is not a vision of unilateral disarmament, but a vision for multilateral action. It is a vision of working step by step with every nation to draw down nuclear arsenals together. It is a critically important goal, and one of the best ways to ensure a safer future and a safer world.

In the past few years, we have seen a rise in clandestine nuclear programs developed by rogue states, including those which have successfully acquired a nuclear arsenal. This growing threat—primarily from North Korea and Iran—underscores the value of international strategic arms treaties. These are global challenges which require global solutions and a multilateral approach. The best way to combat proliferation is unity of the international community, and I am pleased that one of the greatest successes of President Obama's policy of engagement with Iran has been a growing convergence of views identifying Iran's nuclear program as a threat not just to one region but to the world.

While multilateralism is the best way to effectively reduce the threat posed by nuclear weapons, we must look to successful bilateral agreements as a model, including START. This historic agreement laid the groundwork for a common understanding between the United States and Russia regarding nuclear weapons, and truly symbolized the end of the Cold War. It allowed us to talk about previously taboo subjects, such as the Triad and intrusive verification, and develop a shared language of expertise and evaluation that reduced our nuclear arsenals. More importantly, it provided a process of arbitration that avoids confrontation, establishes legal mechanisms to forever avoid a nuclear war.

The stability START provided allowed both the United States and Russia to reduce our nuclear stockpiles and engage in negotiations about curbing proliferation worldwide. It also built great confidence in the other as a partner. Since its inception, START has served as an enabler of global non-proliferation efforts. Now this critical treaty is set to expire, and it is time to move to establish a follow-on which reflects the requirements of the 21st century, and allows the United States and Russia to continue this valuable partnership in nonproliferation together.

This is why I am a cosponsor of legislation which provides a legal basis for extending the START verification regime, and I strongly support the work of the Obama administration—under the leadership of Assistant Secretary of State for Verification and Compliance Rose Gottemoeller—to negotiate the follow-on treaty. We owe it to Americans to place consideration of the new treaty at the top of the agenda when it is submitted, so the United

States can continue to pave the way toward a safer and more secure world.

SOMALIA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, just over 6 months ago, this Congress was abuzz with concern about piracy off Somalia's coast. Following the attack on a U.S.-flagged ship, the MV Maersk Alabama, and capture of CPT Richard Phillips, no less than five congressional committees held hearings on this topic. There was intense discussion about the steps that should be taken by our ships and our Navy to help prevent these attacks. And the State Department subsequently announced several steps it would take to combat piracy, including working with the International Contact Group on Piracy to expand the multinational naval operation to patrol the waters off Somalia's coast. The United States, China, India, Russia, the European Union and many other countries have deployed naval forces to the region that are working together to combat piracy—a remarkable show of international cooperation.

Those naval efforts have had some success. But while piracy attacks declined considerably over the summer months with the monsoon season, attacks appear to be on the rise again. The International Maritime Bureau reports that 38 ships have been attacked and 10 hijacked in the past 2 months. This includes the Maersk Alabama, which was attacked again on November 18. It also includes a supertanker carrying \$20 million in crude oil that was seized this week en route from Saudi Arabia to New Orleans. The UN Secretary General warned in July that "as a result of the military presence in the region, pirates have employed more daring operational tactics, operating further seawards, toward the Seychelles, and using more sophisticated weaponry." The recent attacks bear out the Secretary General's concern. Even more disconcerting, Jeffrey Gettleman of the New York Times reported this week that more Somalis and new Somali subclans are being drawn into the piracy business, attracted by the vast ransom payments.

I said back in the spring that while naval action was needed to confront these pirates, we would likely see more episodes of piracy if we did not also address the conditions on land that contribute to this problem. The recent events have proven this to be true. Both Director of National Intelligence Blair and Defense Intelligence Agency Director Army LTG Michael Maples, in their testimony before Congress earlier this year, cited lawlessness and economic problems on land in Somalia as the cause of rising piracy at sea. In the absence of local law enforcement capacity and amidst a dire economic situation, piracy is an attractive choice for many young people in northwest Somalia. The renewed piracy attacks show that this remains the case, regardless of the increased pressure from naval

forces and maritime vessels adopting new defensive precautions.

Now, let me be clear: when I say we should address the conditions on land, I do not mean that we should carry out some kind of military action against those villages where the pirates are known to live, as some have suggested. In fact, such operations would do little to change those conditions and they would likely make matters worse by inciting local resentment. Nor am I in any way excusing the behavior of the criminals behind these attacks—nothing can justify their actions. What I am saying is that what is needed is a serious international commitment to help establish stability, functional governance, capable law enforcement, and economic opportunity in Somalia. As leading Somalia expert Dr. Ken Menkhaus has said, it will be impossible to end the piracy when "the risks are so low, rewards so high and alternatives so bleak in desolate Somalia." Changing that equation requires real change on land.

In particular, we know that most of the pirates come from communities in northern Somalia. Yet, despite this, we have done little to directly engage the regions of Puntland and Somaliland, and their regional governments. I am not arguing that we should recognize their independence, but I believe it is in our national interest to engage these regions—diplomatically and economically—and to promote governance and stability there. It is in our interest from the standpoint of not just counterpiracy, but also counterterrorism. The terrorist threat in northern Somalia is, or should be, more apparent now than ever. Last October, terrorists attacked in Somaliland and Puntland. And last month, a well-known judge and legislator in Puntland were assassinated. We need to help both of these regions to maintain and shore up their relative stability. And in the case of Somaliland, there is a unique tradition of democratic rule that we ought to encourage, although I am disappointed that Somaliland's elections have been repeatedly postponed.

At the same time, more engagement with northern Somalia does not mean we should neglect the rest of the country. The raging conflict and resulting humanitarian crisis in central and southern Somalia is worse than ever. Just yesterday, a suicide bomber attacked a graduation ceremony in Mogadishu, killing at least 10 people, including 3 Ministers of the Transitional Federal Government. This demonstrates the fragility of the TFG, which continues to face a strengthened al Shebaab and allied militias. Over the weekend, al Shebaab, a group with links to al-Qaida, seized another major town in southern Somalia. In addition to these security challenges, the TFG has struggled to broaden its grassroots appeal or demonstrate its ability to make a difference in people's lives. The result is that the TFG is reportedly