

security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

6. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Tunisia.

TRIBUTE TO NEW JERSEY STUDENTS ENLISTING IN THE ARMED SERVICES

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I wish to honor 61 high school seniors in Camden County, NJ, for their commendable decision to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Of these 61, 20 have elected to join the U.S. Army: Dalton Bretz, Freddy Guzman, Alliyah Rowe, Joseph Davis, James Helsel, Siobhan Reheuser, Joseph Stone, Natalie Reyes, William Landsaw, Marcon Quinagon, Joshua Roque, Pasquale Joseph Livecchi, Jalen Reginald Tompkins, Erik Santos, Quiyara Alexis Miller, Anthony Eugen Evans, Raymundo Ricco, Luis Francisco Mansilla, Maxwell Flaherty, and Michael Felix.

Six have elected to join the U.S. Navy: Keelei Galloway, James Hyland, Domenic Miraglia, Delaney Carr, Ryan Moore, and Vincent Dinicolas.

Five have elected to join the U.S. Air Force: Madison Shields, Noah Forsman, Samuel Lugo, Dustin McGunnigle, and Krystal Ford.

Eighteen have elected to join the U.S. Marine Corps: Jonathon Brunick, Bilal Gibson, Jacob Rivera, Keith Mennig, Michael Andrescavage, Anthony Shaffer, Vincent Bulgarino, Sarah Astor, Austin Cole, Antoniel Rivera-Santos, Christopher Morales, Andrew Jago, David Foulks, Joseph Esguerra, Jacob Jelesiewicz, Andre Lopez, Lineilys Ramos Sanchez, and Joseph Rios.

And 12 have elected to join the New Jersey National Guard: Shersy Batista, Sherly Batista, Joselyn Chevere, Anthony Crispaldi, Allison Johnson, Nicholas Lombardo, Mary Grace Oinal, Nicholas Oliver-Simons, Jasmine Perez, Angel Rivera, Savanna Sanchez, and John Scullan.

These 61 individuals will also be honored on May 17, 2016, at the Our Community Salutes of South Jersey recognition ceremony in Voorhees Township, NJ.

The future of our Nation remains strong because of young men and women like these 61 individuals who have decided to step forward and commit themselves to the defense of our Nation and to upholding the ideals upon which it was founded. Indeed, these New Jerseyans represent the very best of America, and they should rest assured that the full support of the Senate as well as that of the American people are with them in whatever challenges may lie ahead.

It is thanks to the dedication of untold numbers of patriots, like these 61 whom we are able to meet here today in the Senate and openly debate the best solutions to the many and diverse

problems that confront our country. It is thanks to their sacrifices that the United States of America remains a beacon of hope and freedom throughout the world. We owe them, along with all those who serve our country, a deep debt of gratitude.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 JOHN HEFFERNAN

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize CWO2 John S. Heffernan, Retired, for his leadership and dedication to our State and Nation as a soldier, a veteran, and a volunteer. He is truly a public servant.

Mr. Heffernan enlisted in the Army in 1962 and began his military career with basic training at Fort Chaffee, AR. He completed telecommunications training at Fort Gordon, GA, and then served as a cryptographer in the 33rd Signal Battalion at Fort Richardson, AK.

Mr. Heffernan was discharged from the Army on March 19, 1965, and briefly assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group, Reinforcement, before joining the Arkansas National Guard less than a week later. He served as a personnel staff noncommissioned officer, ultimately reaching the enlisted rank of sergeant first class, E-7. In 1980, Mr. Heffernan was appointed as a warrant officer and served as a military personnel technician and later promoted to the rank of chief warrant officer 2.

After completing more than 27 years of military service and approximately 25 years as a fulltime, dual status military technician for the Arkansas Army National Guard, Mr. Heffernan retired as a servicemember and as a civil service employee and was transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group, Retired Reserves, in 1990.

Shortly after his retirement, Mr. Heffernan went back to work as a family assistance officer at Fisher Armory in North Little Rock in support of the 148th Evacuation Hospital and the 25th Rear Operations Center, during their deployment to Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

Following Desert Storm, Mr. Heffernan saw the need to assist military retirees and their families, so for the next 5 years, he provided his voluntary services at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock. After his time at Camp Robinson, Mr. Heffernan spent the next 18 years, providing voluntary retirement services at the Little Rock Air Force Base, becoming the director of retiree activities in 2000. Mr. Heffernan has been a tireless advocate and the go-to person in central Arkansas for all matters related to military retirees and their families. In April, Mr. Heffernan retired as a volunteer, but remains active in the military and veteran community by serving as the retiree representative on the board of

directors for the National Guard Association of Arkansas.

For more than half of a century, Mr. Heffernan has been a selfless servant to others. I take this opportunity to recognize and say thank you to CW2 John S. Heffernan, Retired, for his service to Arkansas, our Nation, and his fellow man. May God continue to bless him in his retirement.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAN DIEGO ZOO GLOBAL

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join Senator FEINSTEIN and me in recognizing the centennial of the San Diego Zoo Global, a world-class facility dedicated to providing expert animal care and promoting wildlife conservation.

Founded in 1916, the San Diego Zoo Global began as a sanctuary for abandoned animals left behind after the Panama-California Exposition held in San Diego. The zoo expanded quickly, opening its doors to rare and exotic animals donated by private owners, purchased from circuses and other zoos, and rescued from the wild. In the 1950s, zoo director Dr. Charles Schroeder had the idea of exhibiting animals in a large, free-range habitat that provided space for breeding and conservation research. His dream became a reality in 1972 with the opening of the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, a one-of-a-kind 1,800-acre habitat that is now home to more than 3,200 animals. Over half of the park has been set aside as protected native species habitat.

Throughout the years, the San Diego Zoo Global has played a critical role in preserving rare wildlife and habitats through its Institute for Conservation Research, housed in the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center for Conservation Research. Founded in 1975, the institute is one of the largest zoo-based research centers in the world and has led several successful efforts to protect some of the world's most endangered species, including the magnificent California condor. The zoo led the effort to save the condor by designing and implementing a successful 25-year captive-breeding process that reintroduced the species to its native habitat. At the start of the program, the California condor was near extinction; today the current condor population is more than 420, with approximately 200 living in the wild in California, Arizona, Utah, and Mexico.

The San Diego Zoo Global is also making an immediate and lasting impact in our Nation's classrooms. Each year, the San Diego Zoo and the Institute for Conservation Research hosts a workshop for middle and high school teachers from across the United States. This hands-on experience allows educators to develop innovative lessons in conservation to bring back to their students.

Over the past 100 years, the San Diego Zoo Global has opened its doors to millions of visitors from around the

globe, setting a new standard for zoological institutions worldwide. Senator FEINSTEIN and I want to congratulate the staff, volunteers, and supporters of this extraordinary organization for the important role they play in the care and preservation of our earth's most beautiful creatures and habitats. We know their work will continue to make a profound difference for generations to come.●

REMEMBERING SAMUEL STATEN, SENIOR

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I remember the distinguished life and career of Mr. Samuel Staten, Sr., who passed away at the age of 80 on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. Sam was not only a trusted adviser and dedicated father, but a pillar of strength for thousands in the labor movement and Philadelphia. I would like to take this time to not only send my condolences to his family, but to reflect upon his remarkable life. He spent 50 years in the labor industry and dedicated his career to strengthening the rights of workers and the bonds of friendship between the communities of Philadelphia. He worked his entire life for the betterment of his fellow workers and experienced firsthand the hardships that inadequate wages and benefits can have on hard-working Americans.

Sam's presence was felt in the labor movement long before his time as one of Philadelphia's most prominent civic leaders. He spent 10 years as a construction laborer in Philadelphia in the 1960s and remembered working for \$2.60 an hour, without health care, without a pension plan, without any of the support many of our Nation's workers have come to enjoy today. His experience in the transformative decade of the sixties showed him not only the importance of the labor movement, but the power that collective action can have for the well-being of the community and the Nation.

Following 10 years as a construction worker, Sam's capacity for leadership and his ability to unite people were recognized when he became a field representative for Laborers' Local 332 in 1970. His skills and leadership helped him to quickly rise through the ranks, and in 1973, he was appointed assistant business manager for Local 332. The high esteem in which he was held by his colleagues continued to be evident in 1978 when he was elected business manager for Local 332 and held that position until 2008. He also served as the secretary-treasurer of the Laborers' District Council of the Metropolitan Area of Philadelphia & Vicinity. He officially retired from Laborers Local 332 and the Laborers' District Council in 2010.

Never one to narrow his focus to just one area, he brought his leadership and insight to countless other organizations. Over the years, he served as a trustee of the Laborers' District Council Building & Construction Health &

Welfare Fund, delegate to the Philadelphia Building & Construction Trades Council, board member of the Philadelphia Housing Authority, member of the African-American Chamber of Commerce, trustee of the Laborers' District Council Building & Construction Pension Fund, board member of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority, and member of the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Appeals Board. These represent only a few of the many organizations to which Sam lent his support, but show the extensive influence and support he has given to the Philadelphia area.

Given the breadth of his dedication to the workers and people of Philadelphia, it is unsurprising that his leadership extended even further through charitable work. He helped to found the Laborers' District Council Charity Fund through an act that, though remarkable, was typical of Sam. At a 1987 Friends of Labor Committee dinner held in his honor, Sam was presented with \$25,000 for his service over the years. However, he saw the gift not as a chance to help himself, but an opportunity to improve the lives of others. He chose to donate the money to charity, which in turn inspired his colleagues and gave birth to the Laborers' District Council Charity Fund. Renamed the Samuel Staten, Sr., Charitable Trust in 2011, the organization continues to provide thousands of dollars in services and scholarships to Local 332 members in need.

Throughout his life he fought for the dignity and well-being of hard-working Americans and, regardless of his success, never forgot his roots in the labor movement. He experienced both great success and hardship, but regardless of the hand he was dealt, he always saw an opportunity to extend that hand to others in need. As he rose through the ranks of Local 332, he brought together diverse communities and labor interests for the benefit of the community. Even when confronted with the tragic death of his son, Qaid Staten, Sam's dedication to the community could not be diminished. His son was killed just months before he was to attend Howard University, but Sam chose to honor his son not through grief, but through the creation of the Qaid Staten Memorial Scholarship Fund, which continues to provide support to other young students preparing to enter college. Sam's life was a story of uncommon acts of kindness in service of the common good.

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a grateful nation, I would like to once again extend my deepest condolences to the family of Samuel Staten, Sr. Philadelphia and the Nation may have lost a distinguished leader, dedicated public servant, and devoted father and grandfather, but we will never lose the positive change he brought to the city of Philadelphia, the impact he had on the lives of thousands, nor the legacy of idealism, compassion, and community

service that he has left so others may continue to fight for the causes of dignity and equality to which he dedicated his life.●

TRIBUTE TO PAUL COOKE

● Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Director Paul Cooke of the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control for his 35 years of service to Colorado.

Paul's steadfast leadership throughout his career in fire and emergency services has had an extremely positive impact on Colorado's public safety. Mr. Cooke first began as a volunteer firefighter in 1979, and he has since served in a variety of capacities as a career fireman, fire chief, and other influential roles in local and State government.

Paul's contributions to Colorado's fire safety and first responder system are immeasurable. I commend his bravery and fortitude during times of tragedy, specifically his direction during the South Canyon fire.

Additionally, his work with local and State officials developed and implemented some of Colorado's most significant fire prevention and safety programs. Most notably are the updates to the State's fire protection services, organization of the State-level fire and life safety programs, as well as the statewide first responder training programs.

I thank Director Paul Cooke for his dedicated hard work throughout his entire career and congratulate him on a well-deserved retirement.●

RECOGNIZING THE TWIN CITIES DIVISION OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Afton, MN, flotilla of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. Established in 1941, this flotilla is the oldest in Minnesota.

The volunteers of the Coast Guard Auxiliary dedicate their time to making sure our community's lakes and rivers are safe. As the Land of 10,000 Lakes, flotillas in Minnesota have a fulltime job. From performing search and rescue operations, to teaching boating safety courses, for 75 years, the Afton flotilla has helped to ensure that Minnesota waterways are safe and accessible.

Over the years, when our State has faced natural disasters such as flooding of the Mississippi River and the Red River, the Afton flotilla has worked side-by-side with local, State, and Federal authorities to aid in search and rescue operations, evacuations, and emergency communications. When the I-35W bridge over the Mississippi River in Minneapolis tragically collapsed in