be convened on the third anniversary of the treaty's opening for signature to determine how to ''accelerate the ratification process in order to facilitate the [treaty's] early entry into force.'' Although both countries that have and have not ratified the treaty before the date of this conference may attend, the non-member countries of the treaty are only invited as observers and may not participate.

The United States is one of the 44 named countries that is required to sign and ratify the treaty before it can ''enter into force''. If the United States does not ratify this treaty, we are preventing the CTBT's implementation. The United States must ratify this treaty so that it can continue its leadership role in arms control. We should not be the holdout country that threatens the CTBT's entry into force. By demonstrating our commitment to halting nuclear testing, the United States creates an environment that encourages other countries to ratify the treaty.

The threat of rogue nations developing nuclear weapons is real and urgent. The July 1999 Deutch Commission's Report, entitled ''Combating Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction,'' cites several examples: in the spring of 1998, India and Pakistan conducted nuclear tests, worsening instability on the subcontinent; during the recent crisis in Kashmir, a nuclear war in South Asia looked possible for the first time; and countries in the Middle East and East Asia attempted to acquire weapons of mass destruction. The CTBT prevents other nations who ratify it from conducting nuclear tests. It helps rein in rogue nations now and in the future that attempt to acquire and develop weapons of mass destruction.

Finally, this is a treaty that the American people want. Recent polls show that 82 percent of Americans support ratification of the CTBT. They know that ending nuclear explosions is a better way to protect the United States against nuclear weapons threats.

I urge the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to hold hearings on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty so that we may take action on this agreement before it is too late. We cannot allow the United States to be locked out of its rightful leadership role at the September review conference on this treaty. This treaty is the most effective step that we can take to enhance international security and to maintain nuclear safety.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST T. BRUCE CLUFF

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, a memorial service was held on Monday in Ft. Bliss, Texas, to honor five American men and women who lost their lives last week in the service of this country. On July 23, an Army airplane was reported missing over Colombia with five U.S. military personnel and two Colombians on board. The wreckage was located later in the week and days later, the Department of Defense confirmed the deaths of those on board.

Coffins draped with the Stars and Stripes left Bogota, and were flown to Ft. Bliss Texas, a wreching reminder of the continued sacrifice made by American men and women in the Armed Forces and of course their families.

One of the soldiers killed in the crash was Private First Class T. Bruce Cluff, a former resident of the city of Washington in my home state of Utah. Private Cluff served as one of 300 soldiers in a Battalion whose uniforms bear a crest that states ''Silently We Defend.''

Mr. President, because we cannot, and should not, allow the untimely loss of those in uniform to go unnoticed, I rise today to pay tribute to Private T. Bruce Cluff, a soldier killed in the line of duty; a soldier who received the Army Good Conduct Medal; a soldier who volunteered to risk his life for the protection of our nation and its defense against aggressors.

T. Bruce Cluff was born in Mesa, Arizona, and as a member of the Boy Scouts of America, attained the rank of Eagle Scout at the age of 13. He graduated from Whitehorse High School in 1992, and served a two year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the state of Montana. Private Cluff attended Dixie College in Utah and worked as a Computer Aided Draftsman before enlisting in the Army in 1997. He completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

In mourning Cluff's death and announcing his posthumous promotion to the rank of specialist, a statement from the Army read, ''His commander and NCO supervisors regarded his skills—as superlative. His can-do attitude and enthusiasm embodied the motto of his platoon, which reads, 'Excellence—Nothing Else is Acceptable.' ''

As a reminder to those of use who didn't know any of the soldiers personally, I share writings from George Washington which I believe shed light on a soldier's quiet commitment, and perhaps a tendency to forget what is asked of our men and women in uniform. The winter of 1777 was a bleak time in our nation's military history. George Washington, after his defeat at the Brandywine, established Winter Headquarters at Valley Forge. The soldiers were in rags, were sick and starving. Criticism of Washington from the Congress was loud, and spreading to the public.

On December 23, General Washington wrote to the Continental Congress, explaining that ''no less than 2,898 men now in camp are unfit for duty, because they are barefoot and otherwise naked.

He then addresses the criticism, ''But what makes this matter still more extraordinary in my eye is, that these very gentlemen—who were well apprised of the nakedness of our troops—should think a winter's campaign, and the covering of these States [New Jersey and Pennsylvania] from the invasion of an enemy, so easy and practicable a business. I can assure those gentlemen, that it is a much easier and less distressing thing to draw remonstrances in a comfortable room by a good fireside, than to occupy a cold, bleak hill, and sleep under frost and snow, without clothes or blankets.

Those of us who are in a 'comfortable room by a good fireside,' should be reminded that the missions of the military are not comfortable nor are they easy. Even in peacetime, America has troops stationed all over the world, engaged in all manner of missions, and regrettably, none without threat.

There will be few who know about the Cluff's loss. Specialist Cluff, to use his new rank, has not had his picture on the cover of any magazine. His life hasn't been the subject of wide media attention. However, his young wife who is expecting their third child, and his remaining two children, have lost a husband and young father. His siblings have lost a brother and his parents have lost a son. This country has lost a good soldier. It mourns with his family and honors his memory.

May the Cluffs be comforted in their time of grief. As we remember them and ask God to watch over them and bring them solace, may we also remember the family members of the other military personnel who, with Specialist Cluff, made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, let me say I was very moved by the remarks of the Senator from Utah. I am sure every Member of the Senate shares in expressing our sympathy for the men who were killed in that air crash. Certainly the Senator has done the Specialist and other Members very proud in his comments before the Senate.

HOLD ON THE NOMINATION OF RICHARD HOLBROOKE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on June 24 I announced that I had placed a hold on the nomination of Mr. Richard Holbrooke to be the new U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. At that time, I had indicated that it was not a personal dispute with Mr. Holbrooke, but that it was a signal to the State Department. The Department has been mistreating a whistle blower, Ms. Linda Shenwick. She had made protected financial mismanagement disclosures to Congress. Her disclosures led to the creation of an Inspector General at the U.N., as well as other management reforms and statutory requirements.

My interest in this matter is simple. Congress cannot function as an institution if government employees cannot