

of the 479th Tactical Training Wing at Holloman Air Force Base, NM; the 33rd Fighter Wing at Eglin Air Force Base, FL; and 1st Fighter Wing at Langley Air Force Base, VA.

The Senate began to learn more about General Martin's reputation when he was confirmed as Commander of United States Air Forces in Europe and Commander of Allied Forces Northern Europe. In this capacity, during Operation Enduring Freedom he directed airdrop support for United States and allied forces as well as Afghani refugees. The following year, General Martin provided deployment support, combat airdrop operations, and all air delivered sustainment support for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As a testament to his effectiveness as a leader, not only did General Martin accomplish these tasks for his Nation, but he also earned the respect and dedication of the Air Force enlisted personnel who served with him. This was reflected in the decision of the Air Force's enlisted personnel to honor General Martin with the Order of the Sword, the highest tribute the Air Force enlisted corps can pay to a commander.

After this successful tour of duty, General Martin was confirmed to his present post as Commander of the Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH. As Commander, Air Force Materiel Command, General Martin leads more than 78,000 men and women of the world's most respected air and space force, and he is all too eager to state that this has been the most satisfying assignment in his career.

During his tenure, General Martin transformed Air Force Materiel Command, which is charged with delivering on-time, on-budget war-winning capabilities to our Nation's warfighters as well as providing "cradle to grave" management of every Air Force weapon system. General Martin led the development of a new Air Force Science and Technology vision that will guide critical research and development work for decades to come. He strengthened, unified, and streamlined the Air Force Program Executive Office to ensure more effective acquisition support for current and future Air force weapon systems. He led the implementation of Continuous Process Improvement initiatives within the Air Force logistics and sustainment activities, achieving the best on-time, on-cost performance in the history of our Air Force logistics centers. Under General Martin's leadership, the Air Force Materiel Command returned \$570 million last year to the Department of Defense to support the global war on terrorism. That is how good this man is, and the people who serve with time.

All that being said, none of these accomplishments would have been possible without the support of his wife, General Martin's high school sweetheart. They have been married for 35 years. I know I join a grateful Nation

in saying thank you to Wendy for the sacrifices she had made for her husband and for her country throughout the years.

As I conclude my remarks on the announcement of the General's retirement, I am reminded of the Air Force's motto: No one comes close. That is how I would describe General Martin: no one comes close.

Mr. President, on a personal note, General Martin's call sign is "Speedy". There is good reason for that. He is one of the most efficient, revered and honored generals in the history of the Air Force. He is a person who has given a great deal to our country. He deserves a great deal of respect. He is a man of honor. My remarks do not even begin to do justice for this great man, his wife, and those who have served with him in the Air Force and in the defense of our country over all of these years. This is a man who makes a difference. This is a man who I hate to see retire because there is nobody better. However, I wish him well in retirement. Speedy Martin deserves a great retirement, and if he wishes a greater opportunity to continue to serve in whatever capacity he wants for the rest of his life. Until then, we salute him and let him know that we have appreciated the great service he has given to our country. We appreciate him as a person and as an example to all of us.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRYING TERRORISTS IN OUR COURTS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, it has come to my attention that there was a significant decision by a criminal court in Seattle. The decision, as I understand it, was made this week, and it involved a U.S. district judge, John C. Coughenour. I hope I have pronounced his name correctly. Judge Coughenour was tasked with an awesome responsibility—the prosecution of Ahmed Ressam, who had been accused of terrorist acts against the United States.

The case was rather straightforward. The man had plotted to bomb the Los Angeles Airport on the eve of the celebration of our millennium. It was in imposing the sentence that Judge Coughenour said some things which are worth repeating. He called into question some conclusions that many people have reached about our system of justice and really reminded us of our legacy in terms of constitutional responsibility in this country.

I ask unanimous consent that the judge's entire statement at the sentencing hearing be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### Judge's Statement

U.S. District Judge John C. Coughenour made a statement during Wednesday's sentencing hearing for Ahmed Ressam. "Okay. Let me say a few things. First of all, it will come as no surprise to anybody that this sentencing is one that I have struggled with a great deal, more than any other sentencing that I've had in the 24 years I've been on the bench.

"I've done my very best to arrive at a period of confinement that appropriately recognizes the severity of the intended offense, but also recognizes the practicalities of the parties' positions before trial and the cooperation of Mr. Ressam, even though it did terminate prematurely.

"The message I would hope to convey in today's sentencing is twofold:

"First, that we have the resolve in this country to deal with the subject of terrorism and people who engage in it should be prepared to sacrifice a major portion of their life in confinement.

"Secondly, though, I would like to convey the message that our system works. We did not need to use a secret military tribunal, or detain the defendant indefinitely as an enemy combatant, or deny him the right to counsel, or invoke any proceedings beyond those guaranteed by or contrary to the United States Constitution.

"I would suggest that the message to the world from today's sentencing is that our courts have not abandoned our commitment to the ideals that set our nation apart. We can deal with the threats to our national security without denying the accused fundamental constitutional protections.

"Despite the fact that Mr. Ressam is not an American citizen and despite the fact that he entered this country intent upon killing American citizens, he received an effective, vigorous defense, and the opportunity to have his guilt or innocence determined by a jury of 12 ordinary citizens.

"Most importantly, all of this occurred in the sunlight of a public trial. There were no secret proceedings, no indefinite detention, no denial of counsel.

"The tragedy of September 11th shook our sense of security and made us realize that we, too, are vulnerable to acts of terrorism.

"Unfortunately, some believe that this threat renders our Constitution obsolete. This is a Constitution for which men and women have died and continue to die and which has made us a model among nations. If that view is allowed to prevail, the terrorists will have won.

"It is my sworn duty, and as long as there is breath in my body I'll perform it, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. We will be in recess."

Mr. DURBIN. Let me read a few things from this statement that I think are so significant. The judge said at the sentencing hearing for Ahmed Ressam, an alleged terrorist now prosecuted and convicted, the following:

Okay. Let me say a few things. First of all, it will come as no surprise to anybody that this sentencing is one that I have struggled with a great deal, more than any other sentencing that I've had in the 24 years I've been on the bench.

The judge went on to say:

I've done my very best to arrive at a period of confinement that appropriately recognizes the severity of the intended offense, but also recognizes the practicalities of the parties' positions before trial and the cooperation of

Mr. Ressay, even though it did terminate prematurely.

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It is my sworn duty, and as long as there is breath in my body I'll perform it, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

That is the end of the statement by Judge Coughenour. This judge was appointed by a Republican President. He clearly speaks to constitutional principles which know no party bounds.

All of us, Republicans and Democrats, swear to uphold that same Constitution in our service to the Senate and our service to this Government. It is clear that in some cases the open and public trial which this accused, Ahmed Ressay, received in Seattle could never occur because of concerns over classified information, over concerns of security for individuals. But it is very clear that in this case extraordinary efforts were made to make certain that we said to the world, this man can be tried in open court, judged by a jury of 12 ordinary citizens and his guilt determined according to a system bound by the Constitution we have sworn to uphold.

I am humbled by the wisdom of this simple statement from this Federal judge. I hope it serves as a reminder to all that we must seek not only security in this time of peril, but we must seek it in a way that never imperils our basic freedoms in America.

## DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, during the consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill, several of our colleagues offered an amendment concerning the treatment of prisoners. It was an important amendment. It was offered by Senator MCCAIN and Senator GRAHAM. Senator WARNER offered a related amendment. The McCain Amendment made it clear that the United States would not engage in conduct related to detainees and prisoners which could be characterized as "cruel, inhumane or degrading."

I salute my colleagues for their courage in stepping forward to address this very difficult and controversial issue. I hope when we return to the Department of Defense authorization bill, we will give them a resounding vote of support. They speak for all in their dedication to make certain that we live up to the rules of law and to the standards of American values which have guided us for so many decades.

I look forward to that debate. I thank them for their political courage in offering this to the Department of Defense authorization bill.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SESSIONS). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SHIELD LAW

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I would like to briefly mention three items in these closing minutes before the Senate takes its traditional August break. One has to do with the legislation Senator LUGAR of Indiana and I have introduced in this Senate and its companion which has been introduced by Congressman PENCE and Congressman BOUCHER on a bipartisan basis in the other body. I refer to the so-called shield law bill, which we have offered to the Congress as a Federal proposal to complement the statutes that exist across the United States in 31 States as well as the District of Columbia. Eighteen other States have rules of law that provide some protections for reporters who rely on confidential sources for their stories.

This law Senator LUGAR and I are proposing in the Senate is only nominally about reporters. It is fundamentally about those who rely on the free flow of information in our society to gather important information that is critical for our democracy.

As we are about to take this recess for the next 4 or 5 weeks, we would do well to remember that a few short miles from where we are this evening, there is a reporter who sits in a prison cell. Her only offense is that she has

steadfastly refused to reveal a journalistic source. In a society such as ours, this should not be, in my view, an imprisonable offense. A free society obviously requires a free press. Thomas Jefferson once said that given the choice between a free government and a free press, he would choose the latter. Others, such as Madison, have suggested that in a nation where you do not have the free flow of information, it puts a nation at great risk.

That has been the tradition of our society for more than 200 years. We are entering dangerous territory in the 21st century when a reporter gets thrown in jail because she or he honors a commitment to keep a source confidential.

I believe it is time we enact a Federal shield law to mirror what 49 States and the District of Columbia have done by law or rule.

It is thought that our bill would absolutely guarantee under any and all circumstances that a reporter's sources ought to remain confidential. It does by and large protect that confidentiality. However, we create exceptions for national security. Obviously when there is no other means by which you could glean important information, the reporter should release the information that may be critical in a prosecution. But we try to keep sacrosanct that relationship between the source and the reporter. Again, not for the sake of the reporter, but for the sake of our citizenry, for the sake of the free flow of information which is critical in a democracy.

The distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee on which the Presiding Officer today serves held a very good hearing a few days ago. I commend the members of that committee. It was a very good participation by members of the Judiciary Committee who listened to various witnesses talk about a shield law.

This is not a liberal or conservative issue. As I mentioned, we have Congressman PENCE and Congressman BOUCHER in the House of Representatives. Congressman PENCE, a conservative from Indiana, Congressman BOUCHER a Democrat from Virginia, along with Senator LUGAR and I and others have introduced this legislation because as Senators and Congressmen, as American citizens, we believe it is important in our society that we have this free flow of information. Therefore, we are hopeful this body in the coming months before we adjourn sine die would enact a shield law.

I sat with an executive in the news business who told me the incarceration of Judith Miller, the reporter who is in jail tonight in Alexandria, is having an impact in his own newsroom. Reporters and their editors are thinking twice about going forward with stories, important stories, stories in the public interest, because they fear the harshest sanctions should a prosecutor knock on their door one morning and demand to know the sources of those stories. This