

with everything that they need to come home from their missions abroad safely and securely. At the end of the day, that is a good start.

**PROFILES IN COMPASSION:
IOWANS PITCH IN TO HELP VIC-
TIMS OF KATRINA**

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, Iowans are a big hearted, generous people, especially toward people in need. And citizens of my State proved this, once again, by extending a helping hand to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Some Iowans as individuals or in organized groups—traveled directly to the region to give assistance in their areas of expertise. Other collected funds and supplies to send to the gulf coast region. Still others helped to welcome more than 1,400 evacuees who made their way to Iowa. And, of course, countless Iowans reached into their bank accounts to contribute to the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and other organizations participating in the relief effort.

I would like to mention at least a few of the individuals and groups that went far beyond the call of duty in the aftermath of Katrina.

Even before Katrina made landfall—within 2 hours of receiving an emergency call—the Iowa-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team based in Kirkwood, IA, began making its way to the gulf. Commanded by Dave Wilson, this team of rapid-response medical professionals set up headquarters in Bay St. Louis and Waveland, MS. In the first 14 days after the Hurricane hit, they took care of more than 2,700 patients. Their facilities were equipped to care for only 125 patients a day, but, on some days, the team cared for as many as 450 people.

Another Disaster Medical Assistance Team from Iowa, this one consisting of 30 members, helped to turn an abandoned hospital in Baton Rouge, LA into a full-fledged emergency room hospital. Key members of this team were Beth Boyd of Nevada, IA; Melissa Groet of Oskaloosa; and Kevin Long of Des Moines. A smaller crew from this DMAT team, all of them environmental health experts, deployed to rural Louisiana where they played a critical role in getting public water systems back online.

Some 140 members of the Iowa Army and Air National Guard deployed from Camp Dodge to the gulf region in a convoy of fuel tankers, water tankers, food and water trucks, and other much-needed equipment. Dubbed "Joint Task Force Iowa," their mission was to provide medical, logistics, and water-purification support in Mississippi. In addition, the 185th Air Refueling Wing of the Iowa National Guard provided evacuation, transport, security, and fuel-handling missions from its base in Sioux City.

Meanwhile, back in Iowa, thousands of Iowans went into action in those initial days and weeks after Katrina hit

the gulf. For example, the Iowa Jaycees collected enough supplies to fill 20 semi tractor trailers bound for Louisiana. Half of the semis carried clean drinking water, and the others carried diapers, baby wipes, batteries, hygiene products, canned food, and much more, all bound for Louisiana. Jaycee chapters all across Iowa contributed to this magnificent effort.

So many individual Iowans stood out as profiles in compassion during this difficult time. For example, Pastor Rod Bradley of the True Bible Baptist Church personally made three trips by car to pick up evacuees in Gonzales, LA. Wesley Jones traveled from Iowa to the gulf to help clear away debris. And school children in LeClaire, IA, helped evacuee children to adjust to their new school, and sold homemade bracelets to raise money for the evacuee families.

Mr. President, obviously, these are just snapshots. I cannot possibly name all the people from my State who gave generously of their time, talents, and energy to assist the victims of Katrina. Thousands of Iowans opened their hearts, their homes, and their pocket-books. I simply want to take this time to thank them—the named and the unnamed for their amazing response to this tragedy. They have done Iowa proud, and I am deeply grateful to them for their service and sacrifice.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS
SECURITY ACT**

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the Wastewater Treatment Works Security Act of 2005. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bill.

When Timothy McVeigh drove a rental vehicle up to a Federal building in Oklahoma City, Americans began to look at trucks in a completely new way. So we learned to screen vehicles to safeguard against such a tragedy ever happening again.

On September 11, 2001, a thing as ordinary as an airplane became an instrument of destruction and terror, robbing innocent people of the rest of their lives. As a result, we have gotten pretty good at screening people and their luggage at airports, and at keeping planes out of protected air space.

While these changes are necessary and prudent, there is another part of the equation to consider: the act of terror not yet committed. We must look at the threats our security experts have identified and address these potential threats.

One such threat is a possible attack on our Nation's wastewater treatment plants. Traditionally, wastewater treatment plants have stored chemicals that, if used properly, clean the water of harmful organisms. When most of these plants were built, we did not design them to ward against use as potential weapons of mayhem and destruction. Appropriately, we were only concerned about the environment, safety, and preventing accidents.

Since September 11, as security concerns have been identified in this sector, many of these facilities have taken steps on their own to switch to safer alternative treatments or to further secure chemicals and the facilities against deliberate acts of terrorism. But, such changes are expensive. Many of these facilities need assistance to upgrade security at the facility and to switch to these safer alternative forms of treatment.

The Wastewater Treatment Works Security Act of 2005 puts in place requirements to assess facilities' vulnerability and provides much needed financial assistance to upgrade security and to switch to safer forms of chemical treatment. My only regret is that the bill does not pick up more of the cost of the assessments and upgrades. I believe the Federal Government needs to take on a larger share of funding these types of homeland security improvements.

This is a much needed bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

**LEAKGATE AND THE INDICTMENT
OF LEWIS LIBBY**

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, 2 years ago, after the Washington Post first reported that "two senior White House officials" had exposed Valerie Plame Wilson's identity as a covert operative of the Central Intelligence Agency, I repeatedly came to the Senate floor to call on President Bush to act quickly to identify the leakers.

After all, this was a potentially illegal act committed by "senior White House officials." This should have outraged everyone at the White House. President Bush should have taken steps to identify the perpetrators forthwith.

Bear in mind that the number of "senior White House officials" with the appropriate security clearances and access to knowledge about Ms. Wilson's identity could be counted on one hand—two hands at a maximum. If Mr. Bush had been serious about identifying the perpetrators, those 5 to 10 "senior White House officials" could have been immediately summoned to the Oval Office and questioned by the President. This matter would have been resolved literally within 24 hours.

But that did not happen. There was no outrage. There was no internal investigation. There was no angry President Bush demanding answers from his senior aides. Instead, we have had more than 2 years of concealment, coverup, and contempt.

Well, Special Counsel Patrick Fitzgerald has now broken that coverup wide open. Vice President DICK CHEENEY's top aide, Scooter Libby, has been indicted for lying and obstructing justice in order to conceal his role as one of the two leakers. "Official A," the second leaker, is President Bush's top aide, Karl Rove, according to multiple reports in the media, quoting senior White House sources.