

concerned with his own legal vulnerability and that of his supporters than upholding the institutions of justice.

It is also increasingly apparent that this attack on CICIG is only part of a broader attempt that has been gaining steam over the better part of a year to destroy the independence of the constitutional court, weaken civil society, intimidate human rights defenders and journalists, and undermine the rule of law. It is an existential confrontation between the forces of corruption and impunity and Guatemala's fledgling judicial institutions.

Ever since CICIG was established 11 years ago to help combat the pervasive corruption, infiltration by organized crime, and near total impunity in Guatemala, the State Department and the U.S. Embassy have consistently supported CICIG, as have Republicans and Democrats in Congress. We are all familiar with the historical links between organized crime, drug traffickers, Guatemala's security forces, and public officials. It has been widely recognized by the Guatemalan people that, because of CICIG and Guatemala's Public Ministry, working together, the cause of justice—including convictions of corrupt senior government officials—has been significantly enhanced. Without CICIG, these achievements would not have been possible.

On Saturday, September 1, Secretary Pompeo responded to President Morales's announcement with a bizarre tweet that did not even mention CICIG. Instead, the Secretary expressed appreciation for Guatemala's "efforts in counternarcotics and security." That is a bit like being told that the courthouse is on fire and responding that the stock market is up. The State Department should condemn what is occurring in Guatemala, reaffirm its support for CICIG and Commissioner Velasquez, and make clear that corrupt Guatemalan officials will be sanctioned under U.S. law. Otherwise, it will share complicity in the unraveling of years of U.S. investment in CICIG and in judicial and law enforcement reform in Guatemala.

Perhaps the State Department is worried that, if President Morales is prosecuted and convicted of campaign financing violations and removed from office the way his predecessor was, U.S. security cooperation with Guatemala might suffer. What it really should be worried about is what will happen to the fight against corruption and organized crime if President Morales succeeds in dismantling CICIG. If the country loses its most effective anticorruption institution, the progress that has been made in recent years in strengthening the rule of law is likely to be reversed, allowing drug cartels and other criminal organizations to grow unchecked. This is particularly alarming with national elections in Guatemala scheduled for next year. The integrity of Guatemala's democratic process—not simply the

survival of CICIG—is threatened by the corrupt influences of organized crime.

Like any institution, CICIG is not without imperfections. Several constructive reforms have been proposed, and I have encouraged CICIG, the United Nations, and the Guatemalan Government to find a way forward that strengthens oversight and transparency while preserving CICIG's mandate and protecting the Commissioner from political interference. While that process has been eclipsed by recent events, there is still time to resurrect it. The United Nations, the United States, other governments that have supported CICIG, and the Guatemalan Government should urgently resume discussions to achieve such a solution.

Ultimately, if other attempts fail, the future of CICIG, of its Commissioner and employees, and of the rule of law in Guatemala—not just under President Morales who has just over a year left to serve but also in the years ahead—will be in the hands of the Guatemalan people, the judiciary, and the Congress. As a former prosecutor and the senior member of our Judiciary Committee, I have long recognized that an independent judiciary is a cornerstone of democratic government. It is what gives practical meaning to the phrase "rule of law," which is fundamental to strengthening democracy. To its credit, Guatemala's constitutional court has displayed that independence in the past. That independence is needed today.

As a result of President Morales's actions, security cooperation with Guatemala and loans from international financial institutions are now in jeopardy. That is not in the interests of Guatemala or the United States. Recognizing what is at stake and in support of the courageous Guatemalans who are defending the Constitution and the rule of law, I will not support the expenditure of U.S. funds for assistance to the Guatemalan Government under the Alliance for Prosperity, including for the military and police forces, until the fate of CICIG and Commissioner Velasquez is satisfactorily resolved.

#### TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE JOHNSON

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, Today I wish to honor a White Sulphur Springs native who not only completed groundbreaking work at NASA during the space race, but who also broke the barriers of race and gender during a critical time in our Nation.

Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson was blessed with a natural talent for mathematics which far exceeded that of her peers. By the age of 13, Katherine was already attending high school on West Virginia State College's campus where, in 1937, she received a B.S. in both mathematics and French.

In 1939, when West Virginia began to integrate its graduate schools, West Virginia State's president, Dr. John Davis, personally selected Katherine and two male students as the first Afri-

can-American students to attend West Virginia University.

After starting a family, Katherine found work at the West Area Computing section of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics' Langley laboratory, headed by fellow West Virginian Dorothy Vaughan. The 1957 launch of the Soviet satellite, Sputnik, changed history—and Katherine's life. Her work on the equations to describe an orbital spaceflight in which the landing position of the spacecraft is specified led to Katherine being the first woman recognized as an author of a report from the flight research division.

As NASA prepared for the orbital mission with John Glenn in 1962, Katherine was famously asked to run the orbital equations controlling the Friendship 7 trajectory by hand in case of a mechanical computing error. Katherine has recalled John Glenn saying that, if she said the numbers were good, then he was good to go. The mission was a success and marked a tremendous turning point in the competition between the United States and the Soviet Union in space.

Katherine's story inspired the book, "Hidden Figures," by Margot Lee Shetterly and also the Oscar-nominated film of the same name.

Recently, 46 of my colleagues and I introduced the Hidden Figures Congressional Gold Medal Act, which would award Congressional Gold Medals to Katherine, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, and Dr. Christine Darden in recognition for their contributions to NASA's success during the space race. In 2015, President Obama awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor.

A bronze statue in Katherine's honor now stands on the campus of West Virginia State University. It is my hope that the students who pass it every day will be reminded of Katherine's legacy and will be inspired to keep their passion for knowledge alive.

Every one of our female leaders in West Virginia are the epitome of strength, leadership, and advancement in their fields. They serve as inspiring role models for the next generation, and that is due in great part to the women who broke ground in generations past. Because of the accomplishments of intellectual leaders such as Katherine, more young women have and will blaze their own trails in the fields of science, math, engineering, and technology and will continue to make our State and entire Nation proud.

It is an honor to recognize Katherine's legacy and to wish her the very best as we celebrate her 100th birthday.

#### TRIBUTE TO ANNE HOUSER

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, as ranking member on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,

Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, I would like to recognize a public servant deeply committed to protecting and improving the health of the American people, Ms. Anne Houser. Anne will retire in January, after a distinguished 48-year career at the National Institutes of Health, where she has for many years been the principal liaison with the Appropriations Committees.

Over the course of her career, Anne has worked for eight NIH Directors, performing the essential but often overlooked role of helping the committees understand the agency's research and funding needs. It is the kind of low-key work that takes place behind the scenes, but has been essential to building the case in Congress for sustained increased investment in medical research. No matter the issue, or the time of the day or night that it might arise, Anne has always been there, supporting the case for research that will help lead to cures. Her honest, thoughtful, and helpful advice has been valuable to me and to everyone with whom she worked. In short, Anne has set the gold standard for how agencies can most effectively work with the committees that oversee them.

Both within NIH and in Congress, Anne is recognized as a consummate professional and an independent thinker who understands the issues, gets to the bottom of problems, and communicates those issues clearly to Members of Congress, our staff, and to the researchers she works with. Thanks to the dedication of Anne, not only is the NIH working better, but Americans are better off as well. Her absence will be a loss for everyone who depends upon her, but I am glad that she will have more time to spend with her friends and family, and especially her grandson, Alex, of whom she is so proud.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO VETERANS OF THE 116TH COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, my colleague Senator JIM RISCH joins me today in paying tribute to the veterans of the 116th Combat Engineer Battalion in recognition of the battalion's 50-year grand reunion.

In 1968, the 116th Combat Engineer Battalion deployed to Vietnam. The battalion was made up of approximately 800 Idaho National Guard soldiers from National Guard companies based in Idaho. The soldiers' tasks included clearing and repairing roads.

The soldiers who served in the 116th Battalion were an integral part of the war effort. They have been credited with swiftly and effectively reconstructing airfields, building bases, clearing thousands of acres of minefields and jungle, constructing thousands of square feet of buildings and bridges, moving critical supplies and

equipment, providing access to water, and more. Their legacy of outstanding, dedicated service remains a hallmark of the battalion.

Veterans who served in the battalion are gathering in Idaho Falls on September 14–15, 2018. As they join with their fellow veterans and family and share memories and life experiences, we thank them for their service to our Nation. We wish veterans of the 116th Combat Engineer Battalion, your families, and loved ones all the best for an enjoyable reunion and honor you for your remarkable service to our country.●

##### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES GARLAND SCHWAB

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I have the honor of recognizing Charles Garland Schwab, a World War II Veteran, and a man who is ever grateful to celebrate his 100th birthday on October 6, 2018. Charles Garland Schwab was born to homesteaders in the Big Snowy Mountains, southeast of Lewistown, MT. He grew up on that homestead, and in 1940, he married his wife Thelma.

Charles was drafted into the U.S. Army in January of 1944. After basic training and a bout with pneumonia, he joined his fellow soldiers in France on the front lines during World War II. He was awarded the Bronze Medal, the American Theater Service Medal, the European, Africa, Middle East Theater Medal, a Good Conduct Medal, as well as several ribbons, including the Army Occupation Ribbon.

Upon returning to the United States, Charles was honorably discharged from the Army on May 2, 1946. Following his discharge from the Army, Charles and his wife purchased and operated the Lake View Cabins near St. Mary. During the off season, Schwab practiced his trade as an oil field pipefitter throughout Montana. He and his wife moved to Missoula in 1950, where they raised two daughters. He continued his pipefitter career and was instrumental in the process of bringing natural gas to the homes of the citizens of Missoula.

Charles' wife Thelma passed away after 55 years of marriage in 1995. Although Charles sold the Lake View Cabins after 20 years and is now a retired pipefitter, he continues to enjoy the company of his daughters, children, grandchildren, and friends and remains active in the community.

One of Charles' most treasured memories is that of the honor flight he took to Washington, DC, during the government shutdown in 2013. He will forever treasure the memories of that trip, his time as a private first class in the U.S. Army, and the opportunity to defend our great Nation during World War II.●

##### RECOGNIZING THE WINNETT LION'S CLUB

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing the Winnett Lion's Club for their impact on Petroleum County and surrounding communities.

Over the past 3 years, the Winnett Lion's Club has serviced rural communities through free visionary health screenings. This preventative care aids in catching Amblyopia, an easily treatable disease during childhood.

I just 3 years, the Winnett Lion's Club has served over 3,000 children and has traveled over 2,500 miles to help rural communities. The Winnett Lion's Club has served children from Headstart, Child Find programs, local public schools, colony-based schools, and business fairs. They have gone above and beyond to support the children in their surrounding communities.

I congratulate the Winnett Lion's Club for their dedication in serving their community and for leaving a positive impact on Petroleum County.●

##### REMEMBERING SHELDON S. COHEN

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to my constituent and dear friend, Sheldon S. Cohen, who passed away earlier this week. Sheldon Cohen left an extraordinary legacy of accomplishment and service to our country.

A proud native Washingtonian and graduate of DC public schools, Sheldon was a World War II Navy veteran. One of the world's leading tax attorneys, he served as chief counsel and then Commissioner of the IRS under President Lyndon B. Johnson, becoming the youngest person to hold that position. Among his countless other accomplishments was his creation of the first Presidential blind trust. Significantly, the 1978 Ethics in Government Act made blind trusts the preferred vehicle for public officials who do not want to dispose of holdings that raise potential conflicts. In addition, he was instrumental in helping to computerize the IRS and in drafting an overhaul of the Federal income Tax Code. Following his government service, he had an extensive career in private practice, including founding the law firm of Cohen & Uretz. He served as general counsel to the Democratic National Committee and helped settle a civil case stemming from the break-in of DNC offices at the Watergate office complex by Nixon campaign operatives.

Sheldon Cohen's work was influential internationally as well. He advised many countries on their tax systems, was a founder of the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations, and was a senior fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. He participated on UN Special Missions to advise developing countries on tax systems, including meeting with Nelson Mandela. He vetted the tax returns of numerous Democratic Presidential and