

The final years of the war saw heightened intensity of fighting and soaring human rights abuses, including hundreds of enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings of aid workers, arbitrary arrests, torture, and the use of child soldiers. The government labeled any reporters critical of the government's war against the LTTE as "traitors" and "terrorists," and the LTTE tolerated no dissent in areas it controlled. The last few months of fighting resulted in the deaths of as many as 40,000 civilians in the final assault against the LTTE. Victims' groups say the fates of more than 100,000 people remain unknown. UN satellite images showed that the government repeatedly and indiscriminately shelled no fire zones, where it had encouraged civilians to concentrate, and where estimates show that as many as 330,000 civilians were trapped. UN investigations determined that "gross violations" of international rights law occurred on all sides of the conflict, including the thousands of civilian deaths in the military assault that ended the rebellion. Many deaths and tens of thousands of disappearances remain unaddressed.

For many Sri Lankans, the terrorist attacks last Easter Sunday, evoked emotions reminiscent of war times. I express my deepest condolences to the families who lost loved ones and denounce in the strongest terms this vile attack on the Sri Lankan people. As families recovered bodies of loved ones and buried and cremated them, they felt a pain that is sadly too familiar to so many Sri Lankans. While the perpetrators of the Easter Sunday attacks sought to sow hatred between communities and bring chaos to Sri Lanka, the government bears the responsibility to respond swiftly to retaliatory attacks against Muslim communities and ensure communal harmony and national unity. To be Sri Lankan is to be Buddhist, to be Hindu, to be Muslim, and to be Christian. All these communities have the right to exercise their religious identity and to live in peace and security in Sri Lanka.

On January 9, 2015, the Sri Lankan people voted to unseat President Mahinda Rajapaksa. A few months later, the government of Maithripala Sirisena cosponsored United Nations Human Rights Council, UNHRC, resolution 30/1 on "Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka," ushering in what appeared to be a new era dedicated to justice and reconciliation. This enthusiasm and hope has unfortunately faded over the years. In 2017, Sri Lanka received a 2-year extension to implement the commitments in the resolution. This past March, the UNHRC adopted a new resolution again cosponsored by the government of Sri Lanka, extending the timeline to implement outstanding promises another 2 years.

Resolution 30/1 contains 36 actionable commitments. The Sri Lankan Government has fulfilled only six over a pe-

riod of 4 years. These include recent decisions to criminalize enforced disappearances, create an office on missing persons, and appointing commissioners to the office for reparations. Why did these few steps require 4 years of time?

Despite the long list of promises, there has been little to no progress in establishing a commission for truth, justice, reconciliation, and nonrecurrence. Despite commitments made by the government, Sri Lanka has not adopted constitutional reforms that would address the long held grievances of communities across the country. The government has failed to strengthen the victim and witness protection law. Security sector reforms, including repealing and replacing the Prevention of Terrorism Act, have not taken place. The lack of accountability with respect to war crimes suspects remains a serious concern. Limited legal action has been taken to prosecute and hold alleged perpetrators to account. There is a lack of trust and confidence in domestic structures, so I echo the UN Human Rights Commissioner's calls that the international community use the principle of universal jurisdiction to hold accountable those who face allegations of serious human rights violations.

Sri Lankan people deserve justice, peace, and protections. The country cannot move forward, rebuild, and prosper without a timebound plan for the government to fully implement its HRC commitments. Accountability, transitional justice, and reconciliation are hard, but left unresolved, these issues fester over time and could lead to renewed instability. Clearly, such an outcome should be avoided as it benefits no one in or outside of Sri Lanka.

The war in Sri Lanka was a terrible episode in a country with a proud past. How Sri Lanka finally decides to deal with the legacy of the conflict is critically important for its future. My hope is that the government of Sri Lanka delivers on all its stated commitments, and that the international community maintains its focus on these postwar promises. As the country contends with the impact of reprehensible violence last month, it must renew its focus on the fundamentals of an inclusive multireligious and multi-ethnic society. I call on the friends of Sri Lanka around the world to support true reconciliation and healing as those constructive elements of society work hard to chart a positive future for all of the country's people.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING BILL WILLIAMS

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Bill Williams of Saxman, AK, a businessman, community leader, an Alaska statesman, and my friend, who died on Sunday, May 12, just short of his 76th birthday.

Bill's story exemplifies how far one can go in Alaska if one works hard and exhibits a devotion for community service. Bill was lifelong Alaskan and a graduate of Ketchikan High School. He was a longshoreman, a proud member of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union. He was a business leader, serving as president of the Cape Fox Corporation, his ANCSA village corporation. He was a fisherman. He served on the Saxman City Council and was mayor of Saxman. Bill was a leader in the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Tlingit and Haida.

In 1993, Bill was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives, serving until 2004. A strong advocate for development of Alaska's natural resources and preservation of the traditional subsistence way of life, Bill distinguished himself in the Alaska Legislature. He rose to cochair the finance committee of the Alaska House of Representatives, one of the most powerful positions in the State of Alaska. Bill knew how to make deals, and because his word was his bond, he knew how to keep a deal. I proudly served alongside Bill throughout my tenure in the Alaska Legislature. He was both a friend and a mentor to me.

Tributes are pouring in from those who knew and loved Bill Williams. State Senator Bert Stedman, who is cochair of the senate finance committee in the current legislative session, had this to say about Bill: "He understood that political differences don't need to divide Alaskans. In the Capitol, he was known for keeping his words and putting Alaska's interests above politics. He took the lead on both subsistence and development issues. He was known for working with our federal delegation and governors to keep jobs in the Tongass. He was a strong voice on Alaska Native issues."

The Ketchikan Daily News, in an editorial, remembered Bill as an honorable man who represented the community and the region with quiet, steadfast dignity: "Those who met Williams would not likely forget him. He was quiet and humble, possessing eyes of both twinkling good humor and the glint of iron resolve. Others in public life learned quickly not to underestimate the good representative from Saxman."

Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy has also reflected on the loss of Bill Williams this week. Governor Dunleavy said, "Real leaders do not come along very often, so it is especially tough when we lose one with the ability and character of Bill Williams. He worked both hard and smart for the constituents and communities he represented." Governor Dunleavy has ordered flags to be lowered to half-staff this week in Bill's memory.

From the central council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes, "Gunalcheesh, Haw'aa to Bill for his lifelong dedication to Southeast Alaska and its people."

On behalf of my colleagues here in the U.S. Senate, I extend my condolences to Bill's wife Caryl, his family, the Saxman community, and all who hold this very special Alaskan dear in their hearts. It is a privilege to honor the late Bill Williams, an outstanding Alaskan, in the U.S. Senate today.●

TRIBUTE TO PETER PETRASKO

● Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Peter Petrasko, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work he has done on behalf of myself, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Peter is a graduate of O'Gorman High School in Sioux Falls, SD, and Brown University in Providence, RI. He is currently pursuing his master of data science degree through Harvard Extension School. Peter is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience and has been a true asset to the office.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Peter for all of the fine work he has done, and I wish for his continued success in the years to come.●

REMEMBERING STAN FURMAN

● Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of the Honorable Stan Furman, a former Arizona State senator and community leader who passed away in Phoenix, AZ, on April 1, 2019, at the age of 87. Having spent his formative years in the Vista Del Mar Orphanage in Los Angeles, Stan developed a strong sense of family. While in the orphanage, Stan worked any job he could, and caddying at the Hillcrest Country Club gave him some great stories about George Burns, Milton Berle, Jack Benny and others.

Stan served his country honorably in the U.S. Air Force from 1952 until 1956 and was stationed in Japan during the Korean war. After his service, he moved to Mexico City, where he earned a degree in business and foreign trade from Mexico City College. There, he met his soulmate and wife of 58 years, Gloria. They married in Mexico City in 1960. The couple moved to California, where Stan worked for a fabric wholesaler, and they raised three children: Diane, Philip, and Susan.

The family moved to Phoenix in 1969, where Stan opened and managed a new branch of the business. After their children left the nest, Stan and Gloria started a successful translation business, allowing them to travel to Mexico, China, Italy, Spain, and many other international destinations. Stan loved Arizona and wanted to serve his community, so he ran for the State senate in 1990. He served in the Arizona State Senate from 1991 to 1995. After he retired from elected office, he continued to serve on many boards and commissions and worked for the Arizona Corporation Commission.

In 1998, Stan was named Mediator of the Year by the Phoenix Community Mediation Program. Long active in the Arizona Civil Liberties Union, Stan served as Arizona ACLU president from 2002 to 2006 and was honored to be named Arizona Civil Libertarian of the Year in 1995. He also served for several years on the National ACLU board of directors. Stan was an avid tennis player and golfer, quick-witted, and a natural joke teller. He loved crossword puzzles, Boggle, and all word games. He immensely enjoyed playing board games and online games with his children and grandchildren. He loved going to the beach while enjoying time at the family's vacation home in Rocky Point, Mexico.

Stan is survived by his loving wife, Gloria, daughters Diane (Randy) and Susan, son Phil (Deb), grandsons Spencer, Dylan, Nate, Harrison, Alex (Jessi), Hugo and Oscar, and great-granddaughter Cheyanne. He will be dearly missed by other family members, friends, and the hundreds of people whose lives she touched. Please join me in honoring his memory.●

REMEMBERING GERALDINE "JERRY" EMMETT

● Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of Geraldine "Jerry" Emmett, a community leader who passed away in Prescott, AZ, on April 30, 2019, at the age of 104. Jerry was a lifelong Democrat and campaigned for Arizona's first Governor, George W.P. Hunt, before she was old enough to vote. She will be fondly remembered as the oldest delegate at the 2016 Democratic National Convention, where she did several national media interviews.

While waiting tables in her family's restaurant, she met and impressed an Arizona State Teachers College—now Northern Arizona University—recruiter from Flagstaff, and received a tuition scholarship of \$14.00 per semester, allowing her to attend and graduate from ASTC in 1937 with a degree in elementary education. She began her 40-year teaching career at Kayenta on the Navajo Reservation. She also taught in Seligman, Tombstone, and Scottsdale, before finally settling in Phoenix at the Creighton School District. She taught in Phoenix for the next 30 years until her retirement, primarily at Lafayette Elementary School, Larry C. Kennedy. Evidently, her teaching career made an impression on her students, as over 60 former students attended her 100th birthday party to pay homage.

Jerry cofounded the Prescott Area Democratic Women's Club and was a regular sight at Democratic Party events with her friends Carolyn and Dawn. Her smile and stories of growing up in Depression-era Arizona will be missed.

Jerry is survived by her youngest son, Jim Emmett, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. She will

be dearly missed by other family members, friends, and the hundreds of people whose lives she touched. Please join me in honoring her memory.●

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN MIKLOS

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Jonathan Miklos, an intern in my Rapid City, SD, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Jonathan is a graduate of Stevens High School in Rapid City, SD. Currently, he is attending South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD, where he is double majoring in political science and history. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jonathan for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO F. ANTHONY CLIFFORD

● Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize one of my constituents, F. Anthony "Tony" Clifford, who is retiring on June 22, 2019, after 50 years of Federal service as an engineer at the National Institutes of Health.

Tony has dedicated his career to helping advance NIH's mission: seeking fundamental knowledge about the nature of living systems and applying that knowledge to advance the health of all people. He has done this by working to ensure that NIH's buildings and facilities create a world-class environment for conducting biomedical research.

Throughout his service as an engineer with NIH, Tony has been committed to creating state-of-the-art research facilities. In 1969, he started his work as an NIH staff engineer. Beginning in 1992, he led the NIH facility program as director of engineering services until becoming chief engineer in the Office of the Director in 2003.

Tony holds a bachelors of mechanical engineering degree from the University of Maryland at College Park, which presented him in 2016 with the Golden Terp Award from the University's Clark School of Engineering for his 50 years of engineering practice. His numerous other awards include multiple NIH Directors and Merit Awards, the Federal Energy Award, Vice President Gore's Hammer Award, and Special Recognition by the Society of American Military Engineers.

In addition to his work in the field, Tony was instrumental in recruiting engineering interns by representing NIH at career fairs and STEM events. In this way, his impact on scientific discovery will last for years to come, as he has inspired young scientists to