

States which contribute \$25 million toward home repairs for disadvantaged Americans across the country.

So at this time, Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to the compassion and commitment of Christmas In April volunteers all across this Nation. Each time a grab bar is installed for a disabled child, every time sturdy stairs are built for an aged widow, and a fresh coat of paint is applied for a needy family—hope and dignity are restored.

Mr. President, this kind of unflinching generosity and kindness are the lifeblood of our country, and once again I commend this group and its volunteers.●

RECOGNIZING SRI LANKA'S 48TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the country of Sri Lanka which will celebrate its 48th anniversary of independence on February 4, 1996. I would like to congratulate a country which during the last four decades has made tremendous strides in socio-economic development in a democratic system.

Democracy in Sri Lanka has deep roots. Its people have maintained a functioning democracy since independence against great odds. There have been regular national elections in Sri Lanka where voter turnout has been remarkably high. At a free and fair Parliamentary election held in August 1994 and observed by an international team including United States nationals, the people of Sri Lanka elected a new Government defeating a political party that was in power for 17 years. This was followed by a Presidential election in November 1994 at which Ms. Chandrika B. Kumaratunga was elected President with a 62-percent mandate. The voter turnout at both these elections was above 70 percent. I would like to congratulate the people of Sri Lanka for their commitment to democracy and improving human rights.

Over the years the United States and Sri Lanka have developed close bilateral relations. Sri Lanka has long hosted a Voice of America station on its territory and a project is well underway to upgrade the station. The United States is Sri Lanka's largest trading partner. The bilateral trade exceeds \$1.4 billion. We have signed a bilateral investment protection treaty and an agreement to protect intellectual property rights.

Sri Lanka has been a pioneer in the South Asian region by liberalizing its economy and following market oriented economic policies. Free Trade Zones have been set up and incentives have been provided for foreign investment. I am pleased to note that there are many United States companies and banks currently operating in Sri Lanka and that the American Chamber of Commerce in Sri Lanka organized a successful United States Trade Fair in 1995.

Sri Lanka's drive for economic development which showed much promise in

the early eighties has been restricted by the ongoing ethnic conflict which escalated in 1983. However, growth rates have averaged 5 percent per year. I am encouraged by the newly elected President's stated priority in finding a lasting political solution to the conflict. I can only share the aspirations of all Sri Lankans that peace will return soon to this beautiful country.●

UNITED NATIONS INSIGNIA

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, we have all been watching the reports as U.S. Army Specialist Michael New has become a casualty of the debate over American troops participating in U.N. operations.

In violating a lawful order issued through the U.S. chain of command, he will be held accountable under the standards set by the U.S. Code of Military Justice for refusing to wear a U.N. cap and shoulder patch.

Specialist New was to have been deployed to participate in Operation "Able Sentry" in Macedonia, the stated purpose of which is to observe the border and discourage, by its presence, the spread of hostilities into Macedonia.

Mr. President, on October 10, Army Specialist Michael New reported for duty without wearing the U.N. shoulder patch and beret he and his unit were issued to wear as part of their uniform while deployed in Macedonia. On October 17, Specialist New was charged for failure to obey a lawful order in violation of Article 92: Uniform Code of Military Justice.

On January 23, 1996, the trial on the facts in the special court-martial of Specialist Michael G. New began. On January 24, the court, composed of officers and enlisted personnel, found Specialist New guilty of the charged offense of failure to obey a lawful order to "wear the prescribed uniform for the deployment to Macedonia." He was found in violation of Article 92: Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Specialist New was sentenced by the court-martial members to be discharged from the U.S. Army with a bad-conduct discharge.

Mr. President, the situation that has resulted from Specialist New's actions has caused me great concern. As one who feels very strongly about this Nation's sovereignty and responsibilities placed on our Armed Forces to protect and defend this Nation, I find myself very frustrated with what has happened.

Mr. President, my sympathy with his decision to refuse to wear the U.N. patch and hat does not change the fact that we must abide by the standards set by the military code of conduct if we are to assure order and fairness in the military. Our military must rely on strict chain of command and order. That is without a doubt.

However, the men and women who have chosen to serve this Nation and the American people should not be put

in a position which forces them to bear allegiance to any nation or organization other than the United States of America. Michael New made the decision to serve in the Armed Forces in order to defend the United States, not the United Nations.

In order to address this situation, I introduced legislation that prevents any member of the U.S. Armed Forces from being required to wear, as part of their military uniform, any insignia of the United Nations.

Mr. President, I hope that we can deal with this issue by proceeding in the legislative process with hearings on S. 1370, which now has 25 cosponsors. In addition, there is still another, broader issue that must be addressed, and that is the use of U.S. Forces under U.N. command.

Mr. President, I would just urge my colleagues to review S. 1370. We must not lose sight of the fact that the men and women who volunteered to serve in our Armed Forces, volunteered to defend the United States of America, not the United Nations.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, be added as a cosponsor of S. 1370.●

CARL S. WHILLOCK

● Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, on February 29, Carl S. Whillock, one of Arkansas' all-time great citizens, will retire as president and chief executive officer of Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. and Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., a post he has held since 1980.

A native of Scotland, AR (Van Buren County), Carl has spent most of his life in public service. Prior to his career with AECEI, he was president of Arkansas State University.

He began a career of public service in our State legislature, serving two terms in the early 1950's. From June of 1955 until January of 1963, Carl served as executive assistant to U.S. Representative J.W. Trimble. He next served as prosecuting attorney of Arkansas' 14th Judicial District from January of 1965 until 1966, when he became assistant to the president of the University of Arkansas. He left that post in July of 1971 to become director of university relations, where he served until April of 1974.

Carl managed the successful gubernatorial campaign of David Pryor in 1974 and served as his executive assistant in 1975. He returned to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville late that year to become vice president of governmental relations and public affairs. In July of 1978, he became president of Arkansas State University.

Carl attended the University of Central Arkansas at Conway and Emory University in Atlanta, GA, before earning a degree in social welfare from the University of Arkansas at