

unacceptable, legally, environmentally, and in terms of public safety.

The facts about Lorton clearly demonstrate that it should be removed. I say that, Mr. President, having worked on it for some 18 years that I have been here in the Senate. These facts clearly demonstrate that it must be removed in a reasonable period of time, recognizing that such removal requires careful planning, not only taking into consideration the needs of the people in the communities of Virginia, but many other considerations, among them humanitarian needs.

The current facility is inadequate and unsafe. The facilities now lack any institutional control, certainly not that measure of control that should be accorded an institution of this importance.

Also, on the question of rehabilitation, I do not think this facility today is serving to rehabilitative purpose, which is a very vital and important part of the ability to take people who have finished their sentences and equip them to return to society.

The antiquated management and physical structures mean the taxpayers in the District of Columbia get a very poor return on their investment, and a considerable part of the cost is directed to the citizens of the District of Columbia. With its far too many escapes and disastrous pollution record, this facility has continually degraded the quality of life for those living in the immediate area. This is the combination of facts that compels Congress, in my judgment, to end this unfairness to Virginia.

Now, part of the plan that the President of the United States is considering to revitalize the District includes Federal assumption of the District's correctional facilities, including those at the Lorton Prison Complex in Northern Virginia. The present proposal anticipates massive renovation of the existing prison and new construction, as well as a cost of nearly \$1 billion to the Federal taxpayer.

Now, Mr. President, that is just not going to happen. I have consistently advocated the closing of Lorton prison in its entirety throughout my 18 years of Senate service. Several years ago, Mr. President, I participated with others on both sides of the aisle, and with the House of Representatives, and we secured legislation and included initial appropriations to start the relocation of the Lorton facility. The mayor at that time and other District of Columbia officials refused even to make the first steps toward a site selection. We were stonewalled even though Congress had spoken, even though Congress had anted up the necessary funds to conduct that site selection and to begin the relocation.

I know of one community in a nearby State that was more than anxious to participate in the construction of a major modern facility. District officials looked the other way. I do not intend, and I say this respectfully to the

Senate and the President and his efforts, and I am not known around here as one to make threats, but I do not intend to abandon my goal to relocate Lorton. I say that again. I do not intend to abandon my effort to relocate the Lorton facility.

I wish to be fair and constructive. Consequently, I wish to make it clear that I will be a constructive working partner on the President's proposals as they relate to other aspects of the District of Columbia, because I believe the Nation's Capital needs the help on a wide range of issues. It is my hope to vote in support of a broad relief plan, provided, however, that the proposal contains a clear provision which is binding on D.C. officials, a provision that has a binding obligation on the part of those in the executive branch, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and others, to work with the District, to work with other jurisdictions on the relocation, if that is necessary. There could be a site right in the District: I know of one site that lends itself more than adequately to relocation. But unless those clear and binding provisions are in there for a relocation within a stipulated and reasonable time—and that timetable should be laid out—then I will fight this. I will fight this.

I wish to advise my colleagues that absent such clear plans to remove this facility, then I, the senior Senator from Virginia, would be forced to utilize to the fullest extent all rules of the U.S. Senate to block any proposal relating to the District of Columbia. It is as simple as that. I fervently hope I shall not do it, and I will work industriously to include that provision.

I look forward, as I say, to working with my colleagues in the Virginia delegation to have Congress finally put Lorton on the road for removal and relocation. I will work very closely with my good friend, the distinguished Representative from Virginia, Congressman TOM DAVIS, chairman of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, who has shown incredible leadership on this issue. I cannot recall any Member of Congress on either side of the aisle who has worked more diligently and more conscientiously with very little return, if any, to him politically or otherwise, but nevertheless has plowed ahead to show leadership on resolving the tough issues relating to the Nation's Capital. TOM DAVIS is to be saluted and commended. I know Senator ROBB and Representatives FRANK WOLF and JIM MORAN from Virginia, as well, and the Governor and attorney general of Virginia, will do their best. The present Governor and attorney general, and hopefully their successors, will do their best to make the removal of Lorton a reality in the near future.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 25

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Connecticut

[Mr. LIEBERMAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 25, a bill to reform the financing of Federal elections.

S. 28

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. INHOFE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 28, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, with respect to certain exemptions from copyright, and for other purposes.

S. 146

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. FAIRCLOTH] was added as a cosponsor of S. 146, a bill to permit Medicare beneficiaries to enroll with qualified provider-sponsored organizations under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

S. 184

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the name of the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 184, a bill to provide for adherence with the MacBride Principles of Economic Justice by United States persons doing business in Northern Ireland, and for other purposes.

S. 221

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 221, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to require the Commissioner of Social Security to submit specific legislative recommendations to ensure the solvency of the Social Security trust funds.

S. 286

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 286, a bill to provide for a reduction in regulatory costs by maintaining Federal average fuel economy standards applicable to automobiles in effect at current levels until changed by law, and for other purposes.

S. 317

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the names of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. KERREY] and the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] were added as cosponsors of S. 317, a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

S. 370

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 370, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for increased Medicare reimbursement for nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists to increase the delivery of health services in health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes.

S. 371

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 371, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for increased Medicare reimbursement for physician assistants, to

increase the delivery of health services in health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes.

S. 375

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Ohio [Mr. GLENN], the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. LIEBERMAN], and the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SHELBY] were added as cosponsors of S. 375, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test.

S. 405

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] and the Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY] were added as cosponsors of S. 405, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit and to allow greater opportunity to elect the alternative incremental credit.

S. 411

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 411, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for investment necessary to revitalize communities within the United States, and for other purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 19

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 19, a joint resolution to disapprove the certification of the President under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 regarding foreign assistance for Mexico during fiscal year 1997.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 20, a joint resolution to disapprove the certification of the President under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 regarding foreign assistance for Mexico during fiscal year 1997.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 21

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 21, a joint resolution to disapprove the certification of the President under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 regarding assistance for Mexico during fiscal year 1997, and to provide for the termination of the withholding of and opposition to assistance that results from the disapproval.

SENATE RESOLUTION 19

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN], the Senator from Delaware [Mr. BIDEN], the Senator from Nevada [Mr. BRYAN], the Senator

from Utah [Mr. HATCH], and the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 19, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States opposition to the prison sentence of Tibetan ethnomusicologist Ngawang Choephel by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

SENATE EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION 62—RELATIVE TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

Mr. FORD submitted the following executive resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. EX. RES. 62

Resolved, That the Senate hereby expresses its intention to give its advice and consent to the ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention at the appropriate time after the Senate has proceeded to the consideration of the Convention, subject to the following declaration, which would be binding upon the President:

(1) CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION.—Prior to the deposit of the United States instrument of ratification of the Convention, the President shall certify to the Congress that all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(A) EXPLORATION OF ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.—The President has agreed to explore alternative technologies for the destruction of the United States stockpile of chemical weapons in order to ensure that the United States has the safest, most effective and environmentally sound plans and programs for meeting its obligations under the Convention for the destruction of chemical weapons.

(B) CONVENTION EXTENDS DESTRUCTION DEADLINE.—The requirement in section 1412 of Public Law 99-145 (50 U.S.C. 1521) for completion of the destruction of the United States stockpile of chemical weapons by December 31, 2004 will be superseded upon the date the Convention enters into force with respect to the United States by the deadline required by the Convention of April 29, 2007.

(C) AUTHORITY TO EMPLOY A DIFFERENT DESTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY.—The requirement in Article III(1)(a)(v) of the Convention for a declaration by each State party to the Convention, not later than 30 days after the date the Convention enters into force with respect to that party, on general plans of the state party for destruction of its chemical weapons does not preclude the United States from deciding in the future to employ a technology for the destruction of chemical weapons different than that declared under that Article.

(D) PROCEDURES FOR EXTENSION OF DEADLINE.—The President will consult with Congress on whether to submit a request to the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons for an extension of the deadline for the destruction of chemical weapons under the Convention, as provided under part IV(A) of the Annex on Implementation and Verification to the Convention, if, as a result of the program of alternative technologies for the destruction of chemical munitions carried out under section 8065 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1997 (as contained in Public Law 104-208), the President determines that alternatives to the incineration of chemical weapons are available that are safer and more environmentally sound but whose use would preclude the United States from meeting the deadlines of the Convention.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I rise today to submit an executive resolu-

tion placing conditions on the Chemical Weapons Convention with respect to this Nation's Chemical Demilitarization Program.

Muhammad Ali used to say that not only could he knock 'em out, but he could pick the round. There is no doubt in my mind that when the fight's over, we will knock 'em out on the issue of alternative technologies. Unfortunately, we do not have the luxury of picking which round incineration goes down for good. That means every time we have an opportunity—or see an instance where the Army might try to bob and weave—we've got to be ready to get our punches in.

I believe the passage of the Chemical Weapons Convention could present the Army with just such an opportunity to bob and weave on searching for alternatives to incineration. Fortunately, the White House has agreed to placing additional conditions on the treaty which should stop any of the Army's attempts to duck out on their responsibility.

The head of the National Security Council, Sandy Berger, has sent me a letter agreeing to my language placing conditions on the Chemical Weapons Convention. The letter not only makes it clear to the world and to the Army the President's commitment to exploring alternatives to incineration, it further clarifies the relationship between the Chemical Weapons Convention and our Chemical Weapons Demilitarization Program. I also have a copy of a letter from the President to Secretary of Defense William Cohen reiterating his strong support for finding alternatives to incineration that are safe and environmentally sound.

Why is this language so important?

First, back in 1989, as part of the Defense authorization bill, Congress set an arbitrary deadline of 2004 for the destruction of all chemical weapons. That date conflicts with the Chemical Weapons Convention which calls for destruction 10 years from the date the treaty is signed, which would be 2007. While it should be clear to everyone involved that the treaty date supersedes the congressional mandate, we don't want to give the Army a reason to bob and weave.

Second, 30 days from signing the treaty, signatories are required to submit their plan for destruction. Because the Army is already incinerating chemical weapons in the United States and has already invested billions in this method, this is the plan they will submit 30 days after the treaty has been signed.

Under my language, this treaty requirement will not preclude the United States from going through with a different method than what is originally submitted. Without my language, we have no protection against the Army holding up the official plan as a defense against looking for alternatives.

Third, many in the Nation were very concerned the Army would see the 10-year deadline as an excuse, claiming