

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 13, 1997, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing on chemical weapons implementing legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Aviation of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on May 13, 1995, at 2:30 p.m. on barriers to entry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF WORLD WAR II
EXERCISE TIGER OPERATION

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, during the Memorial Day weekend, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 280 in Columbia, MO will recognize a group of heroic men. Until recently, few people knew of the secret operation code named "Exercise Tiger," because the details of the tragedy were not disclosed until after the Battle of Normandy and even then proper recognition was not given.

In December 1943, several training operations began in order to prepare for the Battle of Normandy. These operations, organized by the United States Army, were undertaken off a beach in Devon, England. It was known by all participating parties the dangers they could encounter. At the time, several German ships patrolled this stretch of water looking for American and English ships. One such evening during practice operations, with only one English ship to guard, there was a surprise attack on the American ships.

On April 28, 1944, the German Navy "E," patrolling the English Channel, attacked the eight American tank landing ships who became aware of the attack only after the U.S.S. *LST-507* was struck by an incoming torpedo. Next, the U.S.S. *LST-531* was attacked and sunk in a matter of minutes. The convoy returned fire and the last ship to be torpedoed, the U.S.S. *LST-289*, made it safely to shore.

Even after this frightening turn of events, to its credit, Exercise Tiger continued operations and remained on schedule. Normandy was attacked as planned and the D-day invasion was a success.

Information of the fatalities was not released until after the D-day invasion due to the secrecy of the mission and in order to keep the Germans from becoming aware of the impending strike. It took many years, and the passage of the Freedom of Information Act, to learn of the significance of these missions. I feel now is the time for these courageous men to get the long awaited recognition they deserve.

Four thousand men partook in this operation and of those, nearly a quarter was reported missing or dead. Records from the Department of Defense estimate 749 men died in addition to 441 Army and 198 Navy casualties. Approximately 200 of these men were from my home State of Missouri.

This Memorial Day weekend commemorates the heroic actions of the men who participated in Exercise Tiger and particularly the ones who lost their lives in this crucial preparation for the D-day invasion. VFW Post 280 has the great privilege of being the first in the State of Missouri to recognize these brave individuals.

In the words of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away * * * ." I hope that through this long delayed acknowledgment of these fine soldiers, their memory will not fade away, but will remain in our minds and hearts for years to come. These men were an example for all American soldiers to live by and a credit to the United States as it remains the free and great country that it is today. •

PAUL CHARRON ON CHILD LABOR

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, on April 17, 1997, a momentous occasion took place at the White House when a group of apparel manufacturers, importers, labor officials, and President Clinton announced their actions to reduce the incidence of abusive child labor in the manufacturing of imported articles into the United States. As one who has been working on this issue for many years, I am pleased with the progress that is being made, although I recognize we have a long way to go. Most importantly, we need leaders in the apparel industry who are willing to take that step forward and work to include all manufacturers and importers in this effort to ban abusive and exploitative child labor. In the recent past, many apparel manufacturers have resisted this effort, supposedly in the name of "free trade," but I suspect there was probably another reason. On the other hand, there have been manufacturers and importers, who have stepped forward to courageously take the different course and that is to do everything they can to ensure that their products are not made with exploitative child labor.

One such person is Mr. Paul Charron, the chief executive officer of the Liz Claiborne Corp. He has been in the forefront of the fight to ban the use of exploitative child labor in the manufacturing of wearing apparel. Mr. Charron gave remarks at the White House that day, which I found to be most encouraging. His comments, indeed, echo my feelings, and I know the feelings of President Clinton when he said that ensuring human rights is the right thing to do, and it is the smart thing to do. Good working conditions are productive working conditions. He is absolutely right, and I want to ap-

plaud Mr. Charron and thank him for his courageous stance and leadership on this issue. I would also like to encourage the participants of the White House Apparel Industry Partnership to take the next step and adopt a labeling system giving consumers the information they need and companies the recognition they deserve.

At this point, I submit Mr. Charron's remarks into the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues and their staffs to review his remarks.

The remarks follow:

REMARKS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE APPAREL INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP: PAUL R. CHARRON, APRIL 14, 1997

Thank you, Linda.

And thank you, Mr. President, for having the foresight to recognize that companies could work together with labor, human rights and consumer organizations towards the common goal of improving labor conditions around the world.

But let's not forget the contributions of this administration, particularly the Department of Labor and former Labor Secretary Robert Reich. I also want to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Maria Echaveste and Gene Sperling.

Furthermore, I would like to express my deep appreciation to all those from the industry, labor, human rights, consumer groups who contributed to this effort. And, of course, I would like to thank Roberta Karp, Liz Claiborne's general counsel, who co-chaired the task force.

The standards and processes developed by the Apparel Industry Partnership are groundbreaking. Together we have built a framework to more credibly address a serious and complex problem.

But the success of the Partnership's framework for improving working conditions depends upon the industry's ability to recruit its peers.

We must be realists. We must be problem solvers. And our first challenge is this: persuading our colleagues in the apparel and footwear industries—colleagues who are not represented here today—to join the fight.

In short, we have come here not to announce victory, but to proclaim a new challenge. And that is to make this a truly industry-wide effort. There is no other way.

The skeptics may ask—why do this? The answer is simple: it's good business. Some in the industry may think the companies standing here are taking an unnecessary risk; they may wonder how we can afford to make this commitment.

I would ask them in return—how can we afford not to?

Ensuring human rights is the right thing to do, and it is the smart thing to do. Good working conditions are productive working conditions.

Let me emphasize that we are faced with a unique opportunity to make further progress, and, again, our goal is to make this into an unprecedented industry-wide effort. This is only the start—the truly great accomplishments are yet to come.

Please join us to help this Partnership fulfill its potential.

And now, it is my great honor to introduce the President of the United States. Mr. President. . . . •

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TRANSISTOR

• Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to mark one of those rare discoveries which not only make history, but actually change history. On