

Lakes Region community, which I and the citizens of Alton are very thankful for their exceptional work in that time of crisis. Helping others is the cornerstone of the 368th Engineer Battalion, making the Granite State a safer place to live and raise a family.

The 368th has seen their share of service on foreign soils in their 50-year history, where they have lived and cooperated with the civilian community including the countries of Italy, Germany, Honduras, Guatemala, Korea, and Kenya. They have continued their community action projects in building clinics, roads, and sanitation facilities which have had long term impact on the quality of civilian life and health for the people of the world.

The decision by the U.S. Government to invest \$17 million to create a new joint service reserve center at Manchester Airport is a testament to the professionalism and commitment to excellence embodied in the 368th. The facility will enable the 368th to continue serving our Nation with distinction well into the next century.

I commend New Hampshire's 368th Engineer Battalion for their dedication to the community which is the embodiment of the American ideal. People like the members of the 368th are the backbone of their communities and our Nation. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Senate. Happy 50th anniversary.●

#### TRIBUTE TO NEW JERSEY WORLD WAR II HEROES

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of 2d Lt. George A. Ward, of Hoboken, and S. Sgt. William Drager, of Hackettstown, NJ. Lieutenant Ward was the bombardier and Sergeant Drager the gunner on a B-24J airplane during World War II flying missions out of a base near Liuzhou, China.

On August 31, 1944, Lieutenant Ward, Sergeant Drager and eight other crewmen off for what would be their second and final mission. The bomber successfully attacked Japanese ships and dropped mines near Taiwan before heading back to base. However, the plane was diverted because their base was under attack, and bad weather at the alternate landing site resulted in orders to circle while awaiting clearance to land.

They never made it. Their B-24 crashed into a cliff 6,000 feet up the side of Maoer Mountain, southern China's highest peak, where dense bamboo and grotto-like slashes in the granite face swallowed the wreckage and the bodies of all 10 crewmen.

The crash site lay undisturbed for 52 years until two Chinese farmers hunting for wild herbs found it last October. The discovery finally solved the mystery of what happened to the crew, and brought both some comfort and renewed heartache to the families of the airmen.

As we approach the 221st anniversary of our Nation's independence, it is appropriate that we remember the bravery and commitment of individuals like Lieutenant Ward and Sergeant Drager. We continue to enjoy the freedoms that we have cherished since the founding of the Republic because of the sacrifice of millions of courageous men and women who heeded the call to duty when our Nation needed them.

America is profoundly thankful for the patriotism of these men, and for this reason I stand today to recognize them for their accomplishments.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. RUTH WRIGHT HAYRE

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dr. Ruth Wright Hayre upon her retirement as president of the Philadelphia School District's Board of Education.

Dr. Hayre is a remarkable woman whose successful career was built on the strong work ethic she developed early in life. At the age of 15, Dr. Hayre graduated with honors from West Philadelphia High School. After winning the mayor's scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania, she earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Once Ruth completed her studies, she began a distinguished career in the field of education. Dr. Hayre's teaching career began at Arkansas State College, but eventually, Ruth returned to Philadelphia to teach English at Sulzberger Junior High School. At William Penn High School, she was promoted from teacher to vice principal and then to principal. Dr. Hayre's achievements are even more impressive considering that she was the very first African-American teacher in the Philadelphia school system, the first African-American high school teacher, and the first African-American principal of a Philadelphia senior high school. Still, this was only the beginning. Ruth rose to the position of superintendent of district four. Once again, her list of firsts grew, since she was the first African-American superintendent of a Philadelphia public school. On December 2, 1985, she received an appointment to the Philadelphia Board of Education. Five years later, Dr. Hayre was unanimously elected president of the board—becoming the first female to hold this position. In 1991, she was re-elected as president of the board. Moreover, she has taught a course in urban education and administration at the University of Pennsylvania. After years of dedication to the children of Philadelphia, she is retiring this year.

In addition to her commitment to education, Ruth has served her community in numerous other ways. She has served on the boards of many prestigious organizations including Blue Cross, the Philadelphia Council of Boy Scouts, the Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum, the Educational Alumni of the University of Pennsyl-

vania, and most currently, the Dr. Ruth W. Hayre Scholarship Fund. Dr. Hayre is also actively involved in religious, civic, and community service organizations such as the Northeasterners, the Coalition of 100 Black Women, and the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

Dr. Hayre has received numerous awards and commendations for her contributions to the field of education. For instance, the Governor of Pennsylvania honored her as a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania for establishing the Wings to Excellence Program at William Penn High School. Likewise, she received the Philadelphia Award for her efforts to provide quality education for all. The University of Pennsylvania and Temple University have each granted her honorary doctoral degrees. Similarly, she received national recognition for establishing a fund at Temple University to provide college tuition for 119 graduates of the sixth grade classes of the Kenderton and Wright Schools who complete high school and are admitted to an accredited college. All of her achievements notwithstanding, Dr. Hayre once remarked that her greatest accomplishment was, "Being a wife, a mother, and a grandmother."

Mr. President, Dr. Hayre is truly a great American. She has dedicated her life to one of the single most important vocations—educating young people. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Ruth W. Hayre for her lifelong accomplishments and in extending the Senate's best wishes for continued happiness as she retires.●

#### REV. ROSCOE C. WILSON

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of one of South Carolina's finest citizens, Rev. Roscoe C. Wilson, pastor of Saint John Baptist Church in Columbia. For the past 50 years, Reverend Wilson has presided over the same church and during this time, the congregation has increased from 150 to over 800 members.

Roscoe Wilson began his career of public service very early. In 1942, after graduation from high school, he joined the U.S. Army where he served for the next 4½ years. Upon his discharge in 1946, young Roscoe moved to Columbia, SC, and entered Benedict College where he earned his bachelor of arts and bachelor of divinity degrees. It was there that he met his future wife, the late Ethel Celeste Williams.

In 1948, at an unusually tender age, Roscoe Wilson was appointed pastor of Saint John Baptist Church. Together Roscoe and Ethel Wilson built a strong parish and became part of the tightly knit Benedict College community. Ethel Wilson worked at the college and was fondly named "Ma" by the students. The Wilsons often provided housing for out-of-town students who were unable to afford a room on campus. Reverend Wilson still refers to them as his foster children. The Wilsons raised two of their own, Roscoe,