

Affairs Branch. Currently, there are more than 2,200 soldiers who are members of the Corps.

The Corps Committee operates under a charter to provide advice and assistance to the Honorary Chief of Civil Affairs and the Corps Home Base Commander with respect to Corps matters. The Corps Committee presently includes the Chairman, Adjutant, Honorary Colonel, Honorary Warrant Officer, Honorary Sergeant Major, Commanding Generals and Command Sergeant Majors of the five major Civil Affairs commands and other members designated by the Honorary Chief of Civil Affairs. The Home Base Commander and the Honorary Chief of Civil Affairs are ex-officio members. The Committee meets biannually at the times and sites of the meeting of the Civil Affairs Association Board of Directors.

Support to the Corps is provided by the Civil Affairs Association. The Association has existed since its formation in 1947 with a principal purpose to maintain and enhance the Civil Affairs capabilities required by the Armed Forces of our Nation. Support of the Corps is included in the broad objectives of the Association. The Corps and the Association have worked together to implement their common objectives.

The efforts of the Corps and Association to enhance Civil Affairs soldiers' esprit de corps have included:

1. Civil Affairs Symposium. Co-sponsorship in 1991 of a symposium at U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg on "Civil Affairs in the Persian Gulf War" and publication of the proceedings of that symposium.

2. Commemorative Stone. The 1994 dedication of a Civil Affairs commemorative stone and its emplacement in the Memorial Plaza of the Headquarters, U.S. Army Special Operations Command which recognizes the service of soldiers in Civil Affairs/Military Government assignments—past, present, and future.

3. Shrivvenham Plaque. The presentation and dedication in 1994 at the British Army Base at Shrivvenham, England, of a commemorative plaque to memorialize the organization and marshaling of Civil Affairs and Military Government units in 1944 for World War II operations in Europe.

4. Civil Affairs Exhibits. The preparation and presentation at Civil Affairs conferences of exhibits of historic applications of Civil Affairs doctrine and operations in military operations conducted by the Armed Forces of our Nation.

5. Recognition of Civil Affairs in Military Museums. Currently, planning is underway to support and ensure that military museums have appropriate displays and information about the roles and contributions of Civil Affairs in military operations in our history.

6. Awards Programs—Individuals. Recognition of deserving soldiers and individuals as Distinguished and Hon-

orary Members of the Corps. Award of the Corps Esprit de Corps Medallion has been presented to Corps members and notables. The first medallion was presented to Senator Strom THURMOND who served in combat in World War II as a G-5 staff officer and later, in the Army Reserve, commanded major Civil Affairs units and retired as a Major General.

7. Awards Programs—Units. Distinguished Unit Citations have been awarded to Civil Affairs units in recognition of their accomplishments and contributions in military operations in Grenada, Panama, Somalia, the Persian Gulf War and Haiti. Units currently participating in military operations in Bosnia and those relating to Kosovo will be recognized.

Mr. President, the U.S. Army Reserve Civil Affairs Corps, with support of the Civil Affairs Association, is fulfilling the objectives and purposes of the Army Regimental System. I congratulate both the officers and soldiers of the Civil Affairs Corps for their service to our Nation and the Association for its support of the men and women who proudly wear the insignia of the Civil Affairs Corps.

RETIREMENT OF DONALD E. MEINERS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, on July 1, my friend, Donald Meiners, will retire from Entergy-Mississippi after 39 years of service. Mr. Meiners began his career in 1960 as a residential salesman in Jackson for what was then Mississippi Power & Light Company. He was quickly promoted in the marketing and operations divisions which involved numerous moves across the state of Mississippi. He became an officer in 1978. After several promotions with Middle South Utilities, the parent company of MP&L, which now is Entergy Corporation, Don returned to his home state of Mississippi as president and chief operating officer of Entergy-MS. Then, he became president and chief executive officer.

While Mr. Meiners is well respected in the corporate world, many Mississippians know him for his dedication and service to charities and civic organizations within his community and state. He has served as Chairman of the Metro-Jackson Chamber of Commerce, Jackson United Way and the Multiple Sclerosis Chapter of Mississippi.

While Chairman of the Metro-Jackson Chamber of Commerce, Don was instrumental in forming the Metro Economic Development Alliance which unites economic development professionals in the Jackson area and encourages a team effort in recruiting new industry to the area. He served as the first chairman of the Metro Jackson Housing Partnership. Don has also been a leader of national organizations as well. He serves as a National Trustee of Boys and Girls Clubs of America and just last year served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Busi-

ness and Industry Political Action Committee in Washington, DC.

Duane O'Neill, who is President of the Metro-Jackson Chamber of Commerce, said, "Don Meiners personifies a visionary leader, and he possesses the technical skills to translate that vision into action. His unquestioned integrity has always brought people together in an atmosphere of cooperation."

I am personally grateful for Don's work and involvement to help improve the state's economy. As an example of his outstanding community service, in 1996, Don Meiners was recognized as the outstanding volunteer of the year in economic development for the state of Mississippi.

Don has been married for 42 years to his high school sweetheart, Pat, who has been a tremendous asset to him and to the communities where they have lived. They have two sons, Chris and Chuck, and a daughter-in-law Pam. When I asked Don what he would do in retirement he quickly mentioned spending time with the "light of his life", his granddaughters Hannah and Mallory.

Mr. President, it is a pleasure for me to bring to the attention of the Senate the career and influence of my friend Don Meiners, and to thank him for his many years of service to Entergy and the people of Mississippi. Mississippi is a better place because of him. While Don is retiring from the utility business, I know he will go on working to help make life better in his community and in our state.

I wish Don and Pat much continued success and happiness in the years ahead.

55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE D-DAY LANDINGS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, June 6, 1999, was the 55th Anniversary of the historic Allied invasion of Europe on the beaches of Normandy, France, that spelled the beginning of the end for Nazi Germany.

In America today, with unprecedented prosperity and material comfort, it is hard to appreciate the American experience leading up to World War II and the war itself.

When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, the United States was not only caught off guard, we were also caught unprepared for the war that loomed in Europe and in the Pacific that would involve the United States for 5 long years.

Still plagued by the Great Depression, unemployment sky high and poverty all around, Americans accepted the challenge and responded like no people ever had.

With scrap metal drives, rubber drives, gasoline and food rationing, and other efforts American men and women pulled together and contributed to the massive war effort.

Americans of all races, creeds, colors, and backgrounds joined the military, worked in industrial plants, and assisted in too many ways to mention as