

NORTH KOREA AND EGYPT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, let me begin my remarks on North Korea and Egypt with an expression of sympathy and solidarity with the people of Israel following the weekend's brutal violence that killed and injured scores of innocent civilians. My thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families.

The fanatical suicide bombings by Palestinian extremists must end today. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat must immediately and unequivocally prove that he embraces peace with Israel, and he can do this by taking concrete action against those responsible for organizing and committing these heinous attacks. Israel has already appropriately responded to the Palestinian terrorism, and I do not doubt that further retaliation is possible.

North Korea today is a failed state. Its centrally planned economy is in shambles, and the people of North Korea are, at best, oppressed and, at worst, starving and dying. Borrowing a page from Mao Zedong and Pol Pot, North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il recently launched a new revolutionary movement to build "a people's paradise on this land at an early date." I would remind my colleagues that in the jargon of dictators, "paradise" is synonymous with "purgatory."

While the North Korean leadership poses a clear and present danger to the welfare of its own people, state sponsorship of international terrorism and news reports of North Korean missile sales to Egypt present wider challenges to democracies around the world, from Japan to Israel.

I have stood on the Senate floor several times this year to express my concern with reports of Egyptian insistence on buying North Korean missiles and weapons technology. Last week, this issue surfaced once again at the State Department's daily press briefing. When asked whether the Department has concluded that a missile deal between Pyongyang and Cairo has not occurred, Spokesman Richard Boucher stated "No, I wouldn't go that far."

This should give pause to all of us who follow events in the Middle East closely. According to a November 16 article in the Washington Post, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak publicly warned of an arms race between Israel and its Arab neighbors. The danger posed by North Korean weapons sales to the region is double-edged: hostile arsenals are bolstered while Pyongyang receives much-needed infusions of cash. Deny both, and stability is strengthened in Asia and the Middle East.

Egypt must immediately and honestly answer whether the purchase of Nodong missiles, that have a range of 1,000 kilometers, is the beginning of that arms race. If this is the case, America has no choice but to review new foreign military sales to Egypt. I know some of my colleagues will dis-

agree with me on this issue, but, to paraphrase that old car repair commercial, we can pay for our inaction now, or we can really pay for it later.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT
OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred January 9, 1993 in Laguna Beach, CA. A gay Vietnamese man was assaulted behind a string of beachside gay bars. Jeff Michael Raines, 18, and Christopher Michael Cribbins, 22, both of San Clemente, and a 16-year-old from San Juan Capistrano were arrested in connection with the incident.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

THE GREATEST GENERATION

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor members of "the greatest generation"—those men and women who were at Pearl Harbor on the infamous day of December 7, 1941. Those who followed coined this nickname we all widely recognize, for the men and women who fought in the Second World War did not think they were committing acts of heroism, they only believed they were doing what was right by serving our Nation.

The generation of men and women, who survived the Second World War, epitomize the characteristics we all, as Americans, hold in such high esteem. As children of the Depression, these men and women grew up knowing the meaning of sacrifice. And during the war, they readily went without luxuries, ready to give up whatever it took to help in the war effort. These men and women are also some of the bravest that our Nation has ever seen. For they gave more than just material goods to the war effort: they offered their husbands, their sons, their brothers, their fathers, and themselves. Without hesitation they enlisted to help our Nation fight the good fight, to rid the world from cruel and aggressive tyrants, and to secure the freedom and liberty on which our Nation was founded.

It was 60 years ago that these men and women unselfishly risked their lives to begin the defense of our coun-

try and to fight for freedom in the world. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 gave Americans a glimpse into the tragedy that the men and women of Pearl Harbor survived. Now, more than ever, our entire country appreciates the heroism and leadership embodied by the men and women who served in the Pacific. The courage they displayed is now a more tangible concept for us all, as we can now more fully realize the rarity of their instinct to charge forward and fight in the face of danger. We can only believe that the actions displayed by these members of "the greatest generation" laid the foundation for the heroism and leadership we are seeing in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks.

An important part of honoring the men and women of Pearl Harbor is preserving the stories of their experiences. We must record the experiences of those who survived the attack as well as preserve the stories of those 2,403 men and women who did not live to tell of their encounters on December 7, 1941. I commend the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, TX, for its continuing devotion to educating current and future generations of Americans on the grim realities of war. It is the only museum in the world dedicated to telling the entire story of the conflict in the Pacific during World War II. Not only does this museum tell the complete story, it also provides a thorough understanding of the causes, sacrifices, and resolutions of World War II in the Pacific. The men and women of this museum continue to keep the story of the attack on Pearl Harbor alive. It is truly a National treasure with an outstanding collection of artifacts from the Pacific War.

While there are many ceremonies and events to commemorate this 60th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, this one, in Fredericksburg, TX, stands out for several reasons. To begin, this commemoration ceremony is one of only two National events being staged by the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association. And of the two, it is the only one open to the public to join in the observance of this milestone anniversary. This ceremony is particularly special because of the guests in attendance. The museum will host more than 300 survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack, and their families, who have traveled from their homes throughout the United States to be here today. The location of this ceremony is also of important note: Fredericksburg, TX, is the birthplace of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, who was Commander-in-Chief Pacific during World War II. The location of the National Museum of the Pacific War, previously known as the Admiral Nimitz Museum, was chosen to pay tribute to this great man.