

one that also torments many other families.

Through their lives and examples, the Scovilles have become role models for grieving families who have suffered similar losses. They have summoned the courage and compassion to harness their pain for positive outcomes. They have made it their work to help other families escape the anguish they endured, and to help raise the awareness of public officials about the importance of victims' participation throughout all phases of the criminal justice process.

Victims of murder, rape, domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes deserve the understanding and support of the American people and of the Congress. We have a duty to ensure that the criminal justice system is one that respects the rights and dignity of crime victims, rather than one that complicates or even exacerbates the suffering of those already victimized.

Congress has listened to their counsel and to the counsel of other victims of crime. Over the past two decades many of us have worked hard to pass laws that have provided victims with greater rights and assistance, including stronger protection for witnesses of crime; a Victims' Bill of Rights; protection for female victims of violence; mandatory restitution for crime victims; special awareness of the needs of victims with disabilities; special programs for victims of terrorism; and an act for victims of trafficking.

We continue the fight to win more rights and help for victims of crime, largely because the victims' rights agenda in Congress has been advanced, year by year, by advocates like the Scovilles. I, with Senator KENNEDY, have introduced the Crime Victims Assistance Act of 2001, which focuses on protecting victims' rights, including victims' enhanced participatory rights at trial and sentencing.

This legislation requires that a responsible official consult with victims prior to detention hearings, and consider victims' views about any contemplated plea agreement. It calls for the presiding judge to inquire regarding victims' views on detention, and prohibits the court from entering a judgment upon a guilty plea without regarding victims' views. The bill also provides for enhanced victims' rights regarding the right to attend the trial and sentencing. Victims are also given specific rights regarding notice of sentence adjustment, discharge from a psychiatric facility and executive clemency.

In addition to these improvements to the Federal system, this legislation proposes several programs to help States provide better assistance for victims of State crimes. These programs would improve compliance with State victims' rights laws, promote the development of state-of-the-art notification systems to keep victims informed of case developments and important dates on a timely and efficient

basis, and encourage further experimentation with the community-based restorative justice model in the juvenile court setting.

We were able to include much of the Crime Victims Assistance Act in last year's USA PATRIOT Act supported by Republicans and Democrats. One major provision that remains to be achieved, however, is to eliminate the artificial cap on the Crime Victims' Fund, which has prevented millions of dollars from reaching victims and from supporting essential services for them.

While we have greatly improved our crime victims assistance programs and made advances in recognizing crime victims' rights, we still have more to do. I commend David and Ann Scoville for their leadership and look forward to continuing to work with them to advance crime victims' rights legislation, and to make a difference in the lives of crime victims.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT

• Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today, during these Days of Remembrance, to remind my colleagues about those who perished, but also those who persevered, in the unimaginable atrocities of the Holocaust.

Through remembering the Holocaust and teaching generation after generation about the atrocities that occurred over 60 years ago, we can help ensure that such tragedies do not repeat themselves. General Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized this long ago. After visiting the Ohrdruf concentration camp in 1945, General Dwight Eisenhower arranged for mass witnessing of the camps by military, press reporters, and photographers. "Let the world see," ordered Eisenhower. He realized that the world must bear witness to the atrocities of the Holocaust, and that it was necessary to teach our children about what had happened.

To help make sure that future generations continue to learn about and remember the Holocaust, my friend and colleague from Connecticut, Senator DODD, and I introduced a bill last week, called the "Holocaust Education Assistance Act." Our new bill would authorize two million dollars for grants to schools and school districts to develop a curriculum that teaches our students about the Holocaust, the triumph of the Jewish people, and all who helped them persevere.

At the same time, it is also important to teach our children about the thousands of individuals, both Jewish and non-Jewish, who took a stand against the persecution and killing of innocent people. I am reminded today of an obituary I read in the New York Times a couple of years ago, of a man named Jan Karski, who was one of the first to stand up to the injustice of the Holocaust. I am reminded of the role

he, and many others, played in our modern history. He had a unique view of an appalling and shameful era of history. Let me explain.

During World War II, Jan Karski brought Allied leaders in the West—at no small risk to his own life—what is believed to be the first eyewitness reports of Hitler's indescribable acts of hate and cruelty against the Jews. In 1942, Jewish resistance leaders asked Jan, then a 28-year-old courier for the Polish underground, to be their voice to the West—to convey to the Allies an actual eyewitness account of the genocide in Europe.

He readily accepted this dreadful task, because he knew that someone had to tell the world exactly what was happening in Europe. Though he succeeded in relaying the nightmarish stories to Western leaders, his reports were met initially by indifference. While many others would eventually confirm Jan's horrifying accounts of the Jewish concentration camps and the Warsaw Ghetto in Poland, he was one of the first, and one of very few, to take action against these atrocities.

We are discovering that Jan was not the only witness to the slaughter of innocent civilians by Nazi Germany. We are learning more about the atrocities of the Holocaust through thousands and thousands of pages of previously classified material about Nazi war criminals, persecution, and looting. This information is being made available by a dedicated group of individuals, both in government and in the private sector, who are working hard to declassify these important pieces of history. This effort is the result of the "Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act" legislation passed and signed into law with the help of my friends and colleagues from New York, Senator PATRICK MOYNIHAN and Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY.

The documents that are now public can serve as tools for education, to teach our children the horrors of the Holocaust, so that it will never be repeated.

Jan Karski persevered, but for the rest of his life, he carried the sights, the sounds, the smells, and the sadness of the Holocaust with him. Karski, himself, once said: "This sin will haunt humanity to the end of time. It does haunt me. And, I want it to be so."

Jan Karski wanted us all to be haunted by the Holocaust. He wanted us never to forget. He devoted his life to ensuring that such inhumane horror would be present forever in our collective conscience, so that we, above all else, would never let this dark chapter in our history ever, ever repeat, itself.

To understand the Holocaust is to remember the lives of those who perished and those who resisted, to remember, "always remember," as Jan would say, what their sacrifices meant, and still mean, for our world. Stories such as Jan Karski's should never be forgotten and the way to ensure that is through education.●

STRENGTHENING THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH AND FIGHTING BIOTERRORISM

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about strengthening our medical care community against the threat of bioterrorism. As chairman of the Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services, I held a hearing in July 2001 where representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Health and Human Services discussed the activities underway by dedicated Federal employees across the Government to prepare our communities for a biological crisis. On October 17, 2001, I co-chaired a joint Subcommittee/Governmental Affairs Committee hearing to discuss further the public health implications of bioterrorism. Coincidentally the hearing was held on the same day the Hart Senate Office Building was shut down because of the anthrax attack.

Through these hearings, and several others held in both the House and Senate, we have learned that the Federal Government is not unprepared to deal with bioterrorism. However, preparedness levels are not uniform or consistent across the United States, and there are considerable and serious problems. As I said during our hearing in October, while not unprepared, America is clearly under prepared.

Now, almost 6 months to the day after the first anthrax letter arrived in Hart, I urge my colleagues to join me in sponsoring two initiatives that are modest in nature but which have profound impact on our fight against bioterrorism.

The first initiative, S. 1560 the Biological Agent-Environmental Detection Act, will increase our efforts to develop the necessary tools to minimize the impact of bioterrorism by reducing the number of people exposed and alerting authorities and medical personnel to a threat before symptoms occur. Current methods are not adequate to monitor the air, water, and food supply continuously in order to detect rapidly the presence of biological agents.

The Biological Agent-Environmental Detection Act establishes an inter-agency task force to coordinate public-private research in environmental monitoring and detection tools of bioterrorist agents. The act authorized appropriations totaling \$40 million to the Department of Health and Human Services to encourage cooperative agreements between Federal Government and industry or academic laboratory centers, and pursue new technologies, approaches and programs to identify clandestine laboratory locations. The act also establishes a means of testing, verifying and calibrating new detection and surveillance tools and techniques developed by the private sector. Secretary of Health and Human Services Thompson supported this legislation and the authorization amount during the Subcommittee/Gov-

ernmental Affairs Committee Hearing in October.

Senator ROCKEFELLER and I introduced S. 1561 Strengthening bioterrorism preparedness through expanded National Disaster Medical System training programs. This measure provides training for health care workers for bioterrorism or any biological crisis. Strengthening the public health system is very important and is being addressed by several congressional and administrative initiatives. But public health does not translate necessarily to the medical community. Creating a critical line of defense against bioterrorism must involve health care professionals. Training of emergency medical technicians, physicians, and nurses has been hindered by a lack of economic incentives for hospitals and clinics to make available formal training opportunities.

In fiscal year 2001, the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, was appropriated \$800,000 to establish a training program for VA staff for the National Disaster Medical System, which is made up of VA and the Departments of Defense and Health and Human Services, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

One such training program, open to VA and Department of Defense staff as well as their community counterparts, took place earlier this year. The Akaka-Rockefeller bill expands this program by drawing on established partnerships between the 173 VA hospitals and community hospitals and using existing VA resources to implement a telemedicine and training program for local health care providers in bioterrorism preparedness and response.

In formulating a congressional response to bioterrorism, we must not forget the role our local and community hospitals would play in such a crisis. We must provide our professionals, public health officials, and emergency managers the earliest possible warning of pending outbreaks. I know our scientists and engineers can develop robust, effective, and accurate detection methods. Likewise, I believe we have the best and most dedicated health care staff in the world. They deserve to have the training and information needed to protect and treat Americans in instances of biological terrorism.●

THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS

• Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it is with a great deal of pride that I share with my colleagues the names of several Wyoming students who are being honored for their outstanding community service with a Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

These awards, in their seventh year, are presented by Prudential Financial, together with the National Association of Secondary School Principals. They honor the young people of our State who were nominated for their remark-

able acts of volunteerism. This year a record 28,000 young men and women were considered for this special award.

The two top youth volunteers from my State are Chelsie Gorzalka, 17, of Clearmont and Tabettha Waits, 12, of Rawlins. We can be proud of each of them for the difference they have made in their communities. Their efforts help to make their home towns better places to live.

Chelsie Gorzalka is a member of the Sheridan County Extension 4-H and a senior at Arvada/Clearmont High School. Chelsie received her nomination for the puppet plays she puts on around the State in an effort to educate our young children about the dangers of tobacco and drugs.

Tabettha Waits of Rawlins Middle School was nominated for her organization of "You Can't Break Our Stride" an all-school walkathon that raised nearly \$10,000 to assist the families of those who were affected by the September 11 terrorist attacks.

These two award winners, along with the two honorees who have received this award from each of the other States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, will receive a \$1,000 award, an engraved silver medallion, and a trip to the Nation's capital. During their stay here, ten from among that group of finalists will be named America's top youth volunteers for 2002.

In addition to Chelsie and Tabettha, I would like to congratulate our State's two distinguished finalists.

Cory Poulos, 18, was nominated by Natrona County High School. He organized and participated in a Roof-Sit fundraiser that collected more than \$5,000 to benefit "Families of Freedom," a post secondary education fund for children whose parents were injured or killed in the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Mark Sabec, 17, was nominated by Natrona County High School as well. He created "No Casualties," a peer and adult mentoring project aimed at reducing the number of school dropouts in his community.

Our congratulations goes out to these fine young people and to all those who participated in the awards program. Thanks to them, it is clear that our future is in good hands.●

IN SUPPORT OF ONCOLOGY NURSES AND ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the important role that oncology nurses play in the care of patients diagnosed with cancer.

This year alone 1,284,900 Americans will hear the words "You have cancer". Everyday, oncology nurses see the pain and suffering caused by cancer and understand the physical, emotional, and financial challenges that people with cancer face throughout their diagnosis and treatment.