

One of his many accomplishments is the development of a program that targets at-risk kids by providing them with after-school activities. These include recreation, assistance with school work, and instruction on ways to become involved as volunteers in the community.

This program is not limited simply to the children in these families, however. He has used money from a state grant to assist parents of his students obtain the skills needed to succeed in the workforce.

Joseph's contributions to the community are not limited simply to his work in the Tucumcari schools. He has also encouraged his students to aid the local homeless shelter, collect food, and visit senior citizens.

I commend Joseph for his hard work and dedication to help students, their parents and the community of Tucumcari. Joseph has set the bar for excellence through his exemplary efforts. He has used creative and innovative means to improve the lives of his students and beyond, through reaching out to the community.

I am proud to honor Principal Joseph Torrez, our 2002 New Mexico National Distinguished Principal. On behalf of the Senate and New Mexico, I thank this fellow New Mexican for making a difference in our children's lives.●

NORTH DAKOTA'S 164TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, it was 60 years ago that 2,000 men from North Dakota's 164th Infantry Regiment performed heroically in a savage battle in the South Pacific. It marked the first time the U.S. Army launched an offensive operation in that war and stands today as a critical juncture in World War II.

Coming from almost every city and village in North Dakota, the members of the 164th Infantry were North Dakota's National Guard and traced their unit's heritage to the Indian wars on the American frontier. Its history was one of distinction, most notably marked by a spectacular ten Medals of Honor its men won in the Philippines in 1899.

Called to active duty early in 1941, the North Dakotans were ordered to the West Coast the day after Pearl Harbor, and landed in the South Pacific in the spring of 1942.

Meanwhile, on the island of Guadalcanal, U.S. Marines had begun America's first offensive action against Japan. By autumn, it was a precarious deadlock and the 164th Infantry was sent in October 13. By noon it had its first casualty. Corporal Kenneth Foubert of Company M of Grand Forks, North Dakota, was killed in a bombing run by Japanese planes. As Japanese ground patrols tested U.S. positions, the 164th Infantry advanced, the first unit of the Army to go on the offensive in WWII.

An intense Japanese attack, the largest battle fought on Guadalcanal, oc-

curred October 24–25. In "Citizens as Soldiers," a history of the North Dakota National Guard, authors Jerry Cooper and Glenn Smith tell how a battalion of the 164th Infantry was sent to reinforce the Marines. Despite the blackness of night, made darker by a heavy tropical rain, the 164th Infantry, over narrow trails slippery with mud, followed its Marine escorts to the front line, holding on to the backpacks of the man in front of them to avoid being lost.

Fighting side by side with the Marines, the 164th Infantry poured relentless fire through the night into continuous waves of oncoming Japanese. At dusk of the next day, the Japanese attacked again. The situation was precarious and cooks, messengers, and clerks manned positions and waited for the worst. Even the musicians of the North Dakota band were pressed into service as litter bearers. Every member of the 164th had a role in that battle, the fiercest of the campaign.

At one outpost, 18 Marines, many seriously wounded, were surrounded. The 164th Infantry's Sgt. Kevin McCarthy of Jamestown, ND, used a small, lightly armored, open topped vehicle to make repeated trips to the desperate men and, under heavy fire, rescued them all. For his bravery, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

By dawn, it was clear the enemy had suffered a disastrous defeat. In front of the 164th Infantry were 1,700 dead Japanese. The North Dakota unit, meanwhile, suffered only 26 killed and 52 wounded.

Impressed, the Marines' commanding general sent the North Dakotans a message that said the Marines "salute you for a most wonderful piece of work. We are honored to serve with such a unit. Our hat is off to you."

Lt. Col. Robert Hall of Jamestown, ND, received the Navy Cross for his leadership of the battalion during this crucial action.

The fight for Guadalcanal continued into November when the 164th was assigned to drive Japanese defenders off a series of ridges. From November 20–27, the battle raged. It was the bloodiest week of the entire war for the unit. More than 100 men were killed and some 200 wounded. Not until February did the Japanese finally flee the island.

It was none too soon. Guadalcanal had taken its toll. The 164th was no longer combat effective. It was down to less than two-thirds its authorized number. Most men had lost 20 pounds or more. They suffered from malaria, heat exhaustion, exotic tropical diseases. All told, the unit buried 147 men on the island, had 309 wounded, and another 133 casualties from shock, trauma, and neurosis.

It was little wonder that the Americans called the island "green hell" and Japanese referred to it as the "island of death."

The regiment received a Presidential Unit Citation for its outstanding con-

tributions and personal plaudits from General George Marshall, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Admiral William Halsey, commander of the South Pacific forces. For Guadalcanal, men of the regiment won a Navy Cross, five Distinguished Service Crosses, 40 Silver Stars, more than 300 Purple Hearts, and many Soldier's Medals and Legions of Merit. One of its proud boasts was that it would leave no one behind and, indeed, it had no men missing in action.

The survivors are now old men. They have had America's hat tipped to them before, but they deserve it again, one more time before they leave us to rejoin their comrades, brave young men who left North Dakota on troop trains in the bitter February cold so long ago to answer their Nation's call.●

COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF GEORGE ROGERS CLARK

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about an important event in Indiana, the 250th birthday of George Rogers Clark. Vincennes University, located in Vincennes, IN, is hosting a celebration that will be held on November 19, 2002. I am pleased to add my voice to those honoring a man who is one of the greatest figures in American frontier history.

George Rogers Clark was born on November 19, 1752, to John and Ann Rogers Clark. Although Clark was literate, he was not known as a scholar. Instead, like George Washington, he took an interest in surveying, a high risk profession that presented the possibility of great reward. Surveying required intelligence, determination, physical strength, resilience, and a thorough knowledge of wilderness survival skills.

When the Revolution began, the Virginia legislature appointed Clark to the position of Commander of the Frontier Militia. He set out, in May 1778, with a small force to battle the British and their Native American allies. During the summer, Clark and his troops ousted the British from Kaskaskia, Cohokia, and Vincennes.

On December 17, 1778, British Lt. Governor Henry Hamilton and his troops retook Fort Sackville, the important stronghold in the City of Vincennes. Clark led about 170 men on a grueling 18-day winter trek from Kaskaskia, through present day Illinois, up to Fort Sackville. Clark and his men moved relentlessly, braving cold weather and crossing freezing rivers, in an effort to stop further British incursions. Then, in a brilliant maneuver, he duped the British into believing that he had gathered a considerably larger militia than he actually had. This tactic worked, and Lt. Governor Henry Hamilton surrendered Fort Sackville to Clark on February 25, 1779. For the next several years, Clark conducted successful campaigns against