

Dr. Palmer said, but he hoped to solve the problem by teaching fish farmers to divert sewage from their ponds.

He was also testing the use of a veterinary drug to kill worm larvae that can reach human brains and cause seizures.

And, said Daniel Berman, a director of the Doctors Without Borders campaign for cheaper lifesaving drugs, Dr. Urbani was pushing Vietnamese farmers to grow more sweet wormwood, a plant that can produce artemisinin, a new malaria cure.

Still, when a troublesome case turned up in Hanoi, Dr. Palmer said, the W.H.O. staff usually said, "Call Carlo," because he was also known as an expert clinical diagnostician.

Mr. Chen was such a case, suffering with pneumonia and fever, as well as a dry cough. The hospital suspected that he had the Asian "bird flu" that killed six people in 1997 and was stopped by rigid quarantines and the slaughter of millions of chickens and ducks.

Rumors of a mysterious pneumonia had been coming out of the Guangdong region of southern China, but the Chinese authorities had been close lipped, even instructing local reporters to ignore it.

Although no one then realized the significance, Mr. Chen, 48, had also stayed in the Metropole Hotel in Hong Kong. He may have picked up the disease from a 64-year-old Guangdong doctor in town for a wedding, staying in Room 911. Investigators theorize that the doctor infected 12 other guests, several from the same floor, who carried the disease to Singapore, Toronto and elsewhere.

By the time Dr. Urbani arrived at Vietnam-France Hospital, the microbe that Mr. Chen carried was spreading. Before he died, he infected 80 people, including more than half of the health workers who cared for him. The virulence of his case alarmed world health officials, helping lead to the extraordinary health alert that W.H.O. issued on March 15. But Dr. Urbani, who first saw Mr. Chen in late February, quickly recognized that the disease was highly contagious and began instituting anti-infection procedures like high-filter masks and double-gowning, which are not routine in impoverished Vietnam. Then he called public health authorities.

Dr. Palmer recalled Dr. Urbani's conversation: "I have a hospital full of crying nurses. People are running and screaming and totally scared. We don't know what it is, but it's not flu."

On March 9, Dr. Urbani and Dr. Pascale Brudon, the W.H.O. director in Hanoi, met for four hours with officials at the Vietnam Health Ministry, trying to explain the danger and the need to isolate patients and screen travelers, despite the possible damage to its economy and image.

"That took a lot of guts," Dr. Palmer said. "He's a foreigner telling the Vietnamese that it looks bad. But he had a lot of credibility with the government people, and he was a pretty gregarious kind of character." With dozens of workers at the hospital sick, it was quarantined on March 11. Infection-control practices were instituted at other hospitals, including the large Bach Mai state hospital, where Dr. Claus of Doctors Without Borders oversaw them. Dr. Urbani's quick action was later credited with shutting down Vietnam's first outbreak.

In the middle of it, Dr. Savioli said, Dr. Urbani had an argument with his wife, Giuliani Chiorrini. She questioned the wisdom of the father of three children ages 4 to 17 treating such sick patients. Dr. Savioli said Dr. Urbani replied: "If I can't work in such situations, what am I here for? Answering e-mails, going to cocktail parties and pushing paper?" In an interview with an Italian newspaper, Ms. Chiorrini said her

husband knew the risks. "He said he had done it other times," she recalled, "that there was no need to be selfish, that we must think of others."

But on March 11, as he headed to Bangkok for a conference on deworming school-children, he started feeling feverish and called Dr. Brudon. "He was exhausted, and I was sure it was because he had had a lot of stress," Dr. Brudon said later. "I said, 'Just go.' "But she had second thoughts. "I called my colleagues in Bangkok and said, 'Carlo doesn't feel well, and we should be careful.'"

Dr. Scott Dowell, a disease tracker for the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who is based in Thailand, met him at the Bangkok airport near midnight. Dr. Urbani, looking grim, waved him back. They sat in chairs eight feet apart until an ambulance arrived 90 minutes later, its frightened attendants having stopped for protective gear.

For the first week in a Bangkok hospital, Dr. Urbani's fever receded, and he felt a bit better. But he knew the signs. "I talked to him twice," Dr. Palmer said. "He said, 'I'm scared.'"

That was uncharacteristic for a man who was known as big, charming and full of ironic wit. In Italy, he staved off boredom by hang gliding. In Hanoi, he negotiated the insane traffic on a motorcycle and took his children on overnight car jaunts to rural villages. He carried Bach sheet music and stopped at churches, asking if he could play. W.H.O. experts flew in from Australia and Germany to help. One scoured Australian drug companies for ribavirin, a toxic antiviral drug that was said to have helped some cases. It did not help Dr. Urbani, though, and was withdrawn.

Then patches showed up on a lung X-ray, and he told his wife to take the children and return to Castelplano. Instead, she sent them ahead and flew to Bangkok. By the time she arrived, his room had been jury-rigged as an isolation ward. Carpenters had put up double walls of glass, and fans had been placed in the window to force air outside.

The couple could talk only by intercom, and Ms. Chiorrini saw him conscious just once. As his lungs weakened, Dr. Palmer said, he was put on a respirator. In a conscious moment, Dr. Urbani asked for a priest to give him the last rites and, according to the Italian Embassy in Bangkok, said he wanted his lung tissue saved for science.

As fluid filled his lungs, he was put on a powerful ventilator, sedated with morphine. The end came at 11:45 on a Saturday morning. Doctors and nurses heavily shrouded in anti-infection gear pounded on his chest as his heart stopped four times, Dr. Dowell said, but it was useless.

Most of those who had died of SARS were old or had some underlying condition that weakened them, but "he worked with patients for weeks, and we suspect he got such a massive dose that he didn't have a chance," Dr. Palmer said. "It's very sad," Dr. Claus said, "that to raise awareness as he did, you have to pay such a price."

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOREIGN AGRICULTURE SERVICE

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, fifty years ago, President Eisenhower and Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson had the foresight to acknowledge that the future of American agriculture was dependent on the development of creative marketing tools and foreign markets for U.S. food and agri-

cultural products. With that in mind, the Foreign Agricultural Service, FAS, was created to represent American agricultural interests worldwide.

During the past 50 years, the employees of FAS, working in coordination with partners in the agricultural community and other U.S. international agencies, have crafted important tools and programs to develop and expand foreign markets.

Recognizing the ever changing global economy, FAS has effectively developed the necessary resources to negotiate trade agreements, open and maintain foreign markets, and address international food crises and development needs.

Today, exports of American food and agricultural products have grown from less than \$3 billion in 1953 to over \$50 billion, experiencing a trade surplus year after year.

The realities of today's global marketplace, as well as the challenges facing American agricultural producers abroad, make the mission and continued success of the Foreign Agriculture Service more important than ever.

Therefore I rise today to submit resolution to congratulate the Foreign Agriculture Service on the 50th anniversary of its creation, and commend its dedicated employees for helping to create benefits for American farmers and ranchers by expanding global markets and reducing barriers to free trade.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Foreign Agriculture Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture on March 10, Senator COCHRAN and I are today submitting Senate resolution to honor that agency's many achievements over the past half century.

During the 83d Congress, President Eisenhower recognized that the productive capacity of the U.S. agricultural sector was outstripping the food and feed needs of our domestic economy. In order to assist American farmers and exporters in identifying, capturing, and maintaining overseas markets for our food and fiber, and thus boost the sector's earnings, Secretary Ezra Taft Benson established the Foreign Agriculture Service, FAS, by memorandum on March 10, 1953. The next year with the passage of the Agriculture Act of 1954, P.L. 83-690, agricultural attaches were transferred from the State Department to the new agency.

The mission of FAS is to serve U.S. agriculture's international interest by expanding export opportunities for U.S. agricultural, aquaculture, and forest products and promoting world food security. Since its inception, the agency has assisted in expanding U.S. agricultural exports from less than \$3 billion in 1953 to projected exports valued at \$57 billion for 2003, in nominal dollars.

In addition to providing in-country services and market analysis for the key importing countries in the agricultural attaché corps, FAS, through

headquarters staff, conducts trade and food aid programs and works with staff from other USDA agencies to analyze world market trends. While the agency is not solely responsible for our large gains in exports over the past five decades, no one could argue it has not provided a crucial assistance in that effort. I salute the work of past and present FAS employees and look forward to their contributions in the future.

POLITICAL REFORM IN EGYPT

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, last week I offered an amendment to S. 762, the fiscal year 2003 supplemental appropriations bill, expressing the sense of the Senate for the need of political reform in Egypt. While I withdrew my amendment, I do intend to pursue this issue when the fiscal year 2004 foreign operations appropriations bill is considered on the floor.

I know a number of my colleagues are similarly concerned with the lack of political reform in Egypt, and I hope we have productive discussions on the Senate floor on how U.S. assistance can be better used to promote the development of democratic institutions and practices in that country. It is in the interests of the people of Egypt—and the United States—that freedom of association and thought are promoted and protected.

I will have more to say on this matter at a later date, and I hope my colleagues will join me in addressing this important issue.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN BURMA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I am deeply disappointed in the human rights record of Burma. Throughout my time in the Senate, I have consistently been critical of political and human rights abuses in Burma. I have been deeply troubled by reports, confirmed by the U.S. Department of State, that Burmese soldiers have systematically raped Shan women on a massive scale. I am also concerned about repeated charges of forced labor, the suppression of civil liberties, and widespread political repression. Recent events in Burma only serve to heighten my concern.

I am concerned by the recent decision by United Nations human rights envoy Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, to suspend his missions to Burma after finding a hidden listening device in a room where he was interviewing political prisoners. The incident raises very serious concerns about the depth of Burma's commitment to improving conditions within its borders. I am also concerned about the case of Dr. Salai Tun Than, an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, who was arrested and sentenced in November 2001 after conducting a solitary protest of political conditions in front of Rangoon City Hall.

As a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I will continue

to monitor human rights in Burma, as I have on human rights all over the world. Finally, I would like to offer my praise for students at several University of Wisconsin campuses who are working to highlight conditions in Burma. I am impressed by their dedication and heartened by their commitment to justice and freedom for the Burmese people.

GRANTING CITIZENSHIP TO IMMIGRANT SOLDIERS WHO DIE IN COMBAT

Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues the story of one of my Georgia constituents. It begins with a brave young 3rd Infantry soldier named Diego Rincon.

Diego was a native of Colombia and he came to the United States in 1989 with his family when he was 5 years old. He enjoyed a life of freedom and safety that might not have been possible in Colombia.

Diego was extremely loyal to the country that welcomed him. And after the September 11 attacks, he decided it was time to repay his adopted Nation.

Upon graduation from Salem High School in Conyers, GA, Diego enlisted in the Army. He became a member of the "Rock of the Marne," Fort Stewart's 3rd Infantry Division.

Sadly, Private First Class Rincon was killed March 29 in Iraq by a suicide bomber at a military checkpoint. Diego was 19 years old. Three other members of his 1st Brigade were also killed.

In late February, Diego wrote his final letter home to his mother just as his Brigade was getting ready to move out. Let me read just a little of that letter:

So I guess the time has finally come for us to see what we are made of, who will crack when the stress level rises and who will be calm all the way through it. Only time will tell.

I try not to think of what may happen in the future, but I can't stand seeing it in my eyes. There's going to be murders, funerals and tears rolling down everybody's eyes. But the only thing I can say is, keep my head up and try to keep the faith and pray for better days. All this will pass. I believe God has a path for me.

Whether I make it or not, it's all part of the plan. It can't be changed, only completed.

This 19-year-old was wise beyond his years.

Diego joined the Army for the noblest of reasons. He fought and died in Iraq while defending our Nation's freedom.

And after his death, his family asked one last request of the Government in return for their son's life—to be able to bury him this Thursday as a U.S. citizen.

I am very pleased and proud to announce today that—with the help of the INS—Private First Class Diego Rincon has been awarded U.S. citizenship. This brave soldier will be buried Thursday as a citizen of our great country.

But there are thousands of noncitizens fighting in our military right now.

So, I, along with my fellow senator from Georgia, Senator CHAMBLISS, have introduced legislation calling for citizenship to be granted immediately to any soldier who fights in our armed services and dies in combat.

For those among our troops who are not citizens and who die on the battlefield, I believe the least we can do is to honor them with posthumous citizenship.

And I believe it should be done automatically by the Government, with no delay and no burden on the families.

Under our bill, the families of these brave soldiers would not have to fill out any forms or make any phone calls.

This citizenship would apply only to the deceased soldier and it would not make the soldier's family eligible for any extra benefits or special treatment.

It is simply a final gesture of thanks and gratitude for the ultimate sacrifice these immigrant soldiers have made for their adopted country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND SARA BURCHARD

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Drs. John and Sara Burchard of Burlington, VT as this year's joint recipients of the Kids on the Block—Vermont "Puppets' Choice Award." This award is conferred annually by Kids on the Block—Vermont, a theatrical troupe, part of a national organization, which performs with puppets to deliver messages of personal safety, diversity, and acceptance of disabilities. As honorees, John and Sara are acknowledged for their outstanding contributions to children and families statewide.

Since their arrival in Vermont in 1970, John and Sara, both long-time professors of psychology at the University of Vermont, have worked tirelessly to improve children's care and families' strength. Describing their contributions as "outstanding" is an understatement. Professionally and personally, John and Sara have passionately dedicated themselves to making Vermont's communities better.

John's academic and professional life has focused on children who suffer from emotional and behavioral problems, for whom he has helped develop new methods of care. One example of John's innovation is the "wrap-around" approach, bringing care and services to the families, rather than relying on the clinics. John also served on the Burlington School Commission and, during the late Richard Snelling's terms as Governor, as Commissioner of the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Sara's specialty lies with children and adults with developmental disabilities. Sara was an important voice of