

Navy career, including the Department of Defense Distinguished Service, Superior Service, and Meritorious Service Medals, the Department of Navy Legion of Merit, the Naval Reserve Association Distinguished Service Award, and the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States Founder's Medal.

Dr. Zimble was selected by the Secretary of Defense to serve as the President of USUHS in 1991. He was first to initiate strategic planning and assessment processes, which focused on mission accomplishment and the annual achievements of the 1,824 members of the USUHS community. Today, the University provides a comprehensive, performance-based annual report to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).

In 1996, under Dr. Zimble's leadership, the Graduate School of Nursing was established and officially recognized by OSD, thereby, providing uniquely qualified advanced practice nurses for the military. In December of 2000, the OSD Joint Meritorious Unit Award was presented to Dr. Zimble and the University, which officially recognized the multiple products and services of USUHS and their generation of cost avoidance for the Department. In addition, research conducted at USUHS was recognized in Science as one of the top ten scientific breakthroughs of 2002. In 2003, the University received the maximum term of ten years of accreditation with commendation from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Today, the USUHS School of Medicine Graduate Education Programs in Public Health rank sixth in the Nation according to U.S. News & World Report's 2004 Rankings of America's Best Graduate Schools on the list of the top 10 community health master or doctoral programs. The American Medical Association has recognized that USUHS not only educates its own graduates, but also provides a significant national service through its continuing medical education courses for military physicians in combat casualty care, tropical medicine, combat stress, disaster medicine, and medical responses to terrorism, courses not available through civilian medical schools. Significantly, the Emerging Infectious Diseases Graduate Education Program provides courses on the agents and effects of bioterrorism and is the only graduate program in the Nation to offer formal training in these critical areas. Over the past 13 years, USUHS has gained recognition and evolved into the Academic Center for Military Medicine.

During his tenure, Dr. Zimble remained focused on the medical readiness and force health protection requirements of the Uniformed Services. Today, USUHS prepares its career-oriented physicians, advanced practice nurses, and scientists for the practice of health care in contingency environments. USUHS alumni possess the essential knowledge, skills, and attitudes

required during Joint Service deployments. Relevant knowledge in the psychological stresses of combat and trauma and the medical effects of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and extreme environments have been integrated throughout the USUHS educational programs. USUHS' internationally recognized operational exercises, Operations Kerkesner and Bushmaster, ensure flexibility in meeting the ever-evolving requirements of medical readiness. Dr. Zimble's meticulous focus has secured recognition for USUHS throughout the uniformed and civilian health care communities for providing uniformed physicians, advanced practice nurses and scientists with a better understanding of, commitment to, and preparation for the practice of health care in the military. Such accomplishments were recognized in 2000, when the Surgeon General of the United States awarded Dr. Zimble the Public Health Service Surgeon General's Medallion. In December of 1998 and 2001, the Association of American Medical Colleges confirmed the critical role of USUHS in national security by recognizing the USUHS is the one place where physicians of tomorrow, obtain today, thorough preparation to deal with many contingencies, including the medical aspects of chemical and biological terrorism. As of April 2004, the USUHS SOM alumni averaged approximately 20 years of active duty service and represent 22.2 percent of the 11,901 physicians on active duty. The Center for Navy Analysis has reported that where the median length of non-obligated service for physician specialists is 2.9 years, the median length of non-obligated service for USUHS SOM alumni is 9 years, making USUHS the most cost-effective and recommended accession source for leadership positions and ensuring continuity in the military health system. Today, USUHS alumni are globally deployed and providing essential care for our Armed Forces in every theater of operation.

Dr. Zimble provided visionary leadership in the establishment of the National Capital Area Medical Simulation Center and the immersive Computer-Aided Virtual Environment. Both projects serve as a template for civilian entities to model and participate in similar training scenarios.

Dr. Zimble's extraordinary contributions are respected and admired throughout the Joint Services and within the Federal and civilian health care communities. Our Nation is proud of Dr. Zimble's long and distinguished career and his devotion to the health of the Armed Forces and that of all citizens. I take this opportunity to thank him for his tremendous dedication and love for our country. I wish him fair winds and following seas. •

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE F. MUNDIE

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute today to Bruce

Mundie, Director of the Office of Regional Aviation Assistance for the Maryland Aviation Administration. Bruce is retiring after a distinguished career serving the public and the aviation community and I would like to extend my personal congratulations and thanks for his tremendous public service.

When the next chapter in Maryland's aviation history is written, Bruce Mundie's name is likely to figure prominently as one of the key leaders who helped make the sky more accessible and greatly improved Maryland's air transportation infrastructure. Over the past 17 years, Bruce has worked tirelessly to enhance aviation at Maryland's 34 regional general aviation airports and more than 100 private airports. Among his many other accomplishments, Bruce was instrumental in the development of the Maryland Aid to Private Airports program, the Maryland Airport Equipment Loan Program, and the Maryland Airport Managers Association. He also introduced the innovative system of using automated weather stations, allowing for the institution of all-weather commercial service at eight new airports. In addition, he oversaw the replacement of 27 visual approach slope indicators that violated FAA standards and introduced new units that will save Maryland 95 percent of the cost of new equipment.

I have had the privilege of working closely with Bruce since he was first appointed to the Maryland Aviation Administration. Over the years we worked to bring a new control tower to Salisbury-Ocean City-Wicomico Regional Airport, expand the runways at Hagerstown, Garrett County, and Carroll County Airports, and create a bi-state compact for the Greater Cumberland Regional Airport, to name just a few projects. In every instance, Bruce exhibited an extraordinary commitment to elevating airport efficiency and safety standards in Maryland.

But Bruce's passion for flying and aviation was not just exemplified in his work. As a founding member of Opportunity Skyway, Bruce introduced programs that target students at risk of dropping out of school, benefiting citizens across the State and allowing students to pursue their interests in aviation. He has worked to integrate aviation into school curriculums through an aerospace workshop for teachers entitled "Take It to the Top." Bruce also contributed to area institutions of higher education, teaching Aviation Management at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Bruce's contributions and accomplishments to aviation and public service have been recognized numerous times with prestigious honors, including his National Association of Aviation Officials Distinguished Service Award in 2000. He also received the Distinguished Flying Cross in Vietnam and left the service a Lieutenant Colonel after a 26-year career in the United States Air Force.

It is my firm conviction that public service is the highest calling, one that demands the most dedicated efforts of those who have the opportunity to serve their fellow citizens and country. Throughout his career Bruce has exemplified a firm commitment to meeting this demand, constantly and tirelessly devoting his energy to improving Maryland airports and the community through his education initiatives that have fostered local interest in aviation and encouraged adolescents to remain in school.

It has been a pleasure working with a man who has followed his passion to make aviation safer, more efficient, and accessible to young people. I want to extend my personal congratulations and thanks for his years of hard work and dedication and wish him the best in his future endeavors.●

HONORING DR. DONALD DAHLIN

● Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. President, I rise today to publicly congratulate Dr. Donald Dahlin who is retiring from his position as Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of South Dakota. He will be returning to the Department of Political Science where he will be teaching American Government and Constitutional Law on a part-time basis.

As the Vice President for Academic Affairs over the past 7 years, Don has further enhanced the ideals and principles upon which the University of South Dakota stands. Much has been accomplished during his tenure. Of particular note is the progress made on a strategic plan and implementation of the First Year Experience and IdEA programs.

University of South Dakota President James W. Abbott said that the University of South Dakota has benefited greatly from Dr. Dahlin's service.

As a new president without academic experience, I was extremely fortunate to have been the beneficiary of Don Dahlin's wisdom and expertise.

Don has provided leadership in many different roles. He served as the acting President at USD, Chair of the Department of Political Science, and Director of the Criminal Justice Studies Program. He also served the State as Secretary of the Department of Public Safety as well as the Nation as an active consultant in the field of law enforcement, public safety, the judiciary and court management.

Don's leadership and character is exactly what the USD community and education field in South Dakota needs to evolve and survive in the future. I wish nothing but the best for him and his family. It is with great honor that I share his impressive accomplishments with my colleagues.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED STATES-AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (FTA)—PM 90

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents prepared by my Administration to implement the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement (FTA). This Agreement adds an important dimension to our bilateral relationship with a steadfast ally in the global economic and strategic arena. This FTA will enhance the prosperity of the people of the United States and Australia, serve the interest of expanding U.S. commerce, and advance our overall national interest.

My Administration is committed to securing a level playing field and creating opportunities for America's workers, farmers, and businesses. The United States and Australia already enjoy a strong trade relationship. The U.S.-Australia FTA will further open Australia's market for U.S. manufactured goods, agricultural products, and services, and will promote new growth in our bilateral trade. As soon as this FTA enters into force, tariffs will be eliminated on almost all manufactured goods traded between our countries, providing significant export opportunities for American manufacturers. American farmers will also benefit due to the elimination of tariffs on all exports of U.S. agricultural products.

The U.S.-Australia FTA will also benefit small- and medium-sized businesses and their employees. Such firms already account for a significant amount of bilateral trade. The market opening resulting from this Agreement presents opportunities for those firms looking to start or enhance participation in global trade.

In negotiating this FTA, my Administration was guided by the negotiating objectives set out in the Trade Act of 2002. The Agreement's provisions on agriculture represent a balanced response to those seeking improved access to Australia's markets, through immediate elimination of tariffs on U.S. exports and mechanisms to resolve sanitary and phytosanitary issues and facilitate trade between our countries, while recognizing the sensitive nature

of some U.S. agricultural sectors and their possible vulnerability to increased imports.

The U.S.-Australia FTA also reinforces the importance of creativity and technology to both of our economies. The Agreement includes rules providing for strong protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights, promotes the use of electronic commerce, and provides for increased cooperation between our agencies on addressing anticompetitive practices, financial services, telecommunications, and other matters.

The Agreement memorializes our shared commitment to labor and environmental issues. The United States and Australia have worked in close cooperation on these issues in the past and will pursue this strategy and commitment to cooperation in bilateral and global fora in the future.

With the approval of this Agreement and passage of the implementing legislation by the Congress, we will advance U.S. economic, security, and political interests, and set an example of the benefits of free trade and democracy for the world.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 6, 2004.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, on June 28, 2004, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 2507. An act to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to provide children with increased access to food and nutrition assistance, to simplify program operations and improve program management, to reauthorize child nutrition programs, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, the enrolled bill was signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. WARNER) during the adjournment of the Senate, on June 28, 2004.

Under authority of the order of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, on July 1, 2004, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1731. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish penalties for aggravated identity theft, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3846. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement or contract with Indian tribes meeting certain criteria to carry out projects to protect Indian forest land.

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, the enrolled bills were signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS) during the adjournment of the Senate, on July 6, 2004.