

mine assessing mission. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, GA. He was from Wildomar, CA.

SPC Ray M. Fuhrmann, II, age 28, died on August 18 in Samarra, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Humvee following a mine assessing mission. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, GA. He was from Novato, CA.

SGT Joseph C. Nurre, age 22, died on August 21 near Samarra, Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated near his M916 tractor during convoy operations. He was assigned to the Reserve's 463rd Engineer Battalion, Weirton, WV. He was from Wilton, CA.

PFC Ramon Romero, age 19, died August 22 when the vehicle he was in was struck by an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations near Fallujah. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Twentynine Palms, CA. As part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, his unit was attached to the 2nd Marine Division. He was from Huntington Park, CA.

Cpl Timothy M. Shea, age 22, died August 25 in Husaybah, Iraq of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his position. He was assigned to the Army's 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, GA. He was from Sonoma, CA.

Seaman Apprentice Robert D. Macrum, age 22, was reported missing on September 13 after failing to report to muster formation. It was concluded that he fell overboard and search and rescue attempts were unsuccessful. He was assigned to the USS Princeton, currently deployed to the Arabian Gulf conducting maritime security operations as part of the Nimitz Carrier Strike Group. The USS Princeton is homeported in San Diego, CA.

LCpl Shane C. Swanberg, age 24, died September 15 from an explosion resulting from indirect fire at Forward Operation Base, Camp Ramadi, Iraq. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Twentynine Palms, CA. As Part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, his unit was attached to the 2nd Marine Division.

SGT Alfredo B. Silva, age 35, died on September 15 in Baghdad when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Humvee during patrol operations. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment, 40th Infantry Division, Modesto, CA. He was from Calexico, CA.

SPC Mike T. Sonoda, Jr., age 34, died on September 22 in Baghdad of injuries sustained on September 21 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. He was assigned to D Company, 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Brigade, Army National Guard,

Oakdale CA. He was from Fallbrook, CA.

SGT Paul C. Neubauer, age 40, died on September 23 of injuries sustained in Baghdad when an improvised explosive device detonated and his patrol came under small-arms fire. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, Oakdale, CA. He was from Oceanside, CA.

SSG Daniel R. Scheile, age 37, died on September 24 of injuries sustained in Baghdad on September 23 when an improvised explosive device detonated and his patrol came under small-arms fire. He was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, Oakdale, CA. He was from Antioch, CA.

SGT Brian E. Dunlap, age 34, died September 24 from an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Taqaddum, Iraq. He was assigned to the Marine Forces Reserve's 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Los Alamitos, CA. As part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, his unit was attached to the 2nd Marine Division. He was from Vista, CA.

PVT Elijah M. Ortega, age 19, died September 26 as the result of a non-hostile gunshot wound at Camp Baharia, Iraq. He was assigned to the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, NC. He was from Oxnard, CA.

SPC Joshua J. Kynoch, age 23, died on October 1 in Baiji, Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Bradley Fighting Vehicle during convoy operations. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, GA. He was from Santa Rosa, CA.

PFC Andrew D. Bedard, age 19, died October 4 from an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Ar Ramadi. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Twentynine Palms, CA. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, his unit was attached to the 2nd Marine Division.

Mr. President, 457 soldiers who were either from California or based in California have been killed while serving our country in Iraq. I pray for these young Americans and their families.

I would also like to pay tribute to the two soldiers from or based in California who have died while serving our country in Operation Enduring Freedom since July 29.

GySgt Theodore Clark, Jr., age 31, died August 4 when the vehicle he was in was struck by an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations near Gardez, Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA.

PVT Christopher L. Palmer, age 22, died on August 21 near Baylough, Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Humvee

during patrol operations. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade, Vicenza, Italy. He was from Sacramento, CA.

Mr. President, 32 soldiers who were either from California or based in California have been killed while serving our country in Operation Enduring Freedom. I pray for these Americans and their families.

MONTANA'S PATRIOTS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, this week, I learned of another young person from Montana who had been killed in Iraq. PFC Andrew Bedard was only 19 and died Monday when the Humvee he was driving hit a roadside bomb.

Andrew Bedard was from Missoula and a 2004 graduate of Hellgate High School. He joined the Marine Corps shortly after graduation and had only finished basic training earlier this year in San Diego. He had been in Iraq for close to only one month, when his life ended because of another improvised explosive device, or "IED" while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in the Al Anbar province. The military had recently launched a new offensive against insurgents in western Iraq.

Those who knew him best describe Andrew as a personable, positive guy who was friends with most people he ran into and cared a great deal about his family and friends. I actually met Andrew a few years ago when he and I were involved in a fender bender in Missoula. He was courteous and respectful, and I can say that he was a fine young man.

Like me, Andrew was in the U.S. Marine Corps. If they can find solace in anything, his loved ones must know that his country is proud of his honorable service in upholding the freedoms and ideals which make this country great.

My heart and prayers go out to the Bedard family, as well as the loved ones of all others lost in this War on Terror. Private First Class Bedard, unfortunately, was the 13th man with Montana ties to die in Iraq or Afghanistan since 2001. Other Montanans who have been killed in combat in Operation Enduring Freedom/Iraqi Freedom are:

SPC Travis Arndt of Great Falls was the 12th man with Montana ties to lose his life in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Marine LCpl Nicholas Bloem of Bozeman was killed in Iraq on Aug. 3, the day after his 20th birthday, when a roadside bomb was exploded under his amphibious assault vehicle. He was one of 14 Marines killed from the Ohio-based 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Division.

Marine Cpl Raleigh Smith, 21, of Troy was killed two days before Christmas 2004 by enemy fire in Fallujah, Iraq.

Marine LCpl Nathan R. Wood, 19, a Great Falls native who has moved to

Kirkland, WA. He was killed Nov. 19, 2004, as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Army SSG Aaron N. Holleyman, 26, of Glasgow was killed Aug. 30, 2004, in Khutayiah, Iraq, when his military vehicle hit an improvised explosive device.

Marine LCpl Kane M. Funke, 20, who attended high school in Kalispell before moving to Vancouver, WA. He was killed Aug. 13, 2004, as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Marine Cpl Dean P. Pratt, 22, of Stevensville, who died Aug. 2, 2004, also as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province.

Army PFC Owen D. Witt, 20, of Sand Springs was killed May 24, 2004, in Ad Dawr, Iraq, when his armored high-mobility-multipurpose-wheeled vehicle rolled over.

Army Reserve 1 LT Edward M. Saltz, 27, of Bigfork was killed Dec. 22, 2003, in Baghdad when the convoy in which he was riding was hit by an improvised explosive device.

Army Ranger PFC Kristofer T. Stonesifer, 28, of Missoula was killed Oct. 21, 2001, in a Blackhawk helicopter crash in Pakistan as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Army 1 LT Josh Hyland, a Missoula soldier who enlisted in ROTC at the University of Montana on Sept. 12, 2001, was one of four Americans killed in Afghanistan when a bomb detonated underneath a wooden bridge they were passing over.

This old Marine was lucky to come home from service in Korea. These brave souls for whatever reason were not. I thank them for what they did to protect my family and others across this country and around the world. They did not die in vain and will not be forgotten. We, as a nation, mourn the loss of every soldier, sailor, airman, and marine.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

TRIBUTE TO WARRANT OFFICER ADRIAN B. STUMP AND SERGEANT TANE TRAVIS BAUM

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, the Bible tells us that "Greater love than this has no man than to lay down his life for his friends." I rise this morning to pay tribute to two American heroes from my home town of Pendleton, OR, who made the ultimate sacrifice by laying down their lives for their friends, their country, and the cause of freedom.

WO Adrian B. Stump and SGT Tane Travis Baum were two of five soldiers who were lost in the crash of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter as it was returning from an ongoing operation in southern Afghanistan.

Warrant Officer Stump was 22 years of age. He was the son of Jerry and Anne Stump, who instilled in Adrian the values of hard work, honesty, and integrity. He was a graduate of Pendleton High School, and he was well known in my community for being an

outstanding young man, who always had a smile on his face. Like many east Oregonians, he loved the outdoors and could often be found hiking, fishing, and camping.

Adrian always dreamed of flying helicopters. And after he graduated from high school, there was no question of what he wanted to do. He wanted to serve his country. Indeed, he recently expressed to a friend of mine how great it was to be able to wake up in the morning and do what one loves to do.

SGT Tane Travis Baum was 30 years old. He was married to his high school sweetheart, Tina, and they were the parents of two beautiful children, Caelan and Dyllon. Sergeant Baum also loved the outdoors and flying helicopters. While it was difficult for Sergeant Baum to leave his family behind to serve his country, he carried out his duty like the true hero he was.

The author Herman Wouk once wrote:

Heroes are not supermen. They are good men, and embodied by the cast of destiny, the virtue of a whole people in a great hour . . . If America is still the great beacon in dense gloom, the promise to hundreds of millions of the oppressed that liberty exists, that it is the shining future, that they can throw off their tyrants, and learn freedom and cease learning war, then we still need heroes to stand guard in the night.

As of today, Warrant Officer Stump, Sergeant Baum and more than 50 Oregonians have lost their lives keeping the promise of liberty to millions, the promise our forefathers first made and the charge that is ours to keep. They stood guard in the night and have earned the gratitude of our Nation.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER THOMAS E. BLAKE

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Navy Pilot LCDR Thomas E. Blake of Spencer, NE.

Lieutenant Commander Blake was a selfless and honorable man whose commitment and service to his country were exemplary. As a 1990 graduate of Spencer-Naper High School, Blake went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1994. Blake was an 11-year veteran of the Navy, and had been stationed at Sea Control Squadron 32, based at Jacksonville, Florida for the past 6 months.

On September 21, 2005, LCDR Thomas Blake died at the age of 33 when an S-3B Viking jet crashed near Jacksonville Naval Air Station, killing Blake and LCDR Scoot Bracher of Malverne, NY. Blake was the naval flight officer and mission commander on the flight.

Lieutenant Commander Blake is survived by his wife Jessica, a native of Gretna, NE. Thomas and Jessica are the parents of a 2-year-old son, and Jessica is expecting their second child soon. I would like to offer my sincere condolences and prayers to the family and friends of Lieutenant Commander Blake. His noble service to the United States of America is to be respected and remembered by all. Every Amer-

ican and all Nebraskans should be proud of the service of brave military personnel such as LCDR Thomas E. Blake.

STATEMENT ON BURMA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, many of us who closely follow the struggle for freedom in Burma have, over the years, repeatedly called upon the U.N. Security Council to discuss and debate the dire situation in that country that poses an immediate danger to the Burmese people and the entire region.

Our collective efforts may finally be gaining steam thanks to a report commissioned by former Czech President Vaclav Havel and retired South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu that in painstaking detail makes the case that the situation in Burma has the same factors that triggered Security Council consideration of tragedies in Rwanda, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Liberia, and Yemen.

I encourage my colleagues to read last Friday's Washington Post editorial entitled "A Plan to Free Burma," which highlights the Havel-Tutu report and the need for U.N. action on Burma. While I agree that the administration can and should do more to support a Burma initiative at the United Nations, I am confident that as a stalwart friend of freedom, Ambassador Bolton will make this a priority for himself and his staff. I encourage Secretary Rice to continue to make this effort a priority, as well.

Let me close with a brief word urging the United Kingdom to find its voice on Burma at the United Nations. Given Britain's history with that Southeast Asian country, Prime Minister Blair and senior officials at the Foreign Office should keep in mind that Burma's myriad problems—including humanitarian crises—are political in nature and require a political solution that involves the active participation of the National League for Democracy and ethnic minorities. Let us not forget that this is a country where the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria had to terminate its grants because of the obstructionist policies of the SDPC.

I am reminded that this year marks the 60th anniversary of the Burma Campaign of World War II, the longest British battle of that war. I hope our allies across the Atlantic will continue to show the same grit and determination in supporting freedom in Burma today as they did last century.

RESPECTING GUN LAWS IN DC

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, we owe it not only to the people who live and work in Washington, DC and the millions who visit, but to all Americans to do what we can to prevent gun violence in our nation's capital. It is important that we also respect the wishes of DC residents as they work to address the