

march, languishing in substandard POW camps, and in many cases, succumbing to malnourishment, mistreatment, and disease.

It is on behalf of all of these soldiers that I introduce legislation to honor the Defenders of Bataan, a peninsula on the island of Luzon where the battle ended, but the hellish journey began, with a Congressional Gold Medal. They are most deserving and this honor is, I believe, long overdue.

Soon after the air and naval battle for the Philippines began, the Japanese would land a sizable force to take control of Luzon. Ten days later the Japanese began their main offensive into the island.

On Christmas Eve, 1941, General MacArthur put War Plan Orange 3 into effect. This plan called for some troops to delay the Japanese advance as the greater force withdrew into Bataan. According to historical documents, the purpose of the plan was to keep Manila Bay from Japanese control until the U.S. Navy could reopen the supply lines that had been cut off after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

With the supply lines cut off, troops also had no hope of reinforcements. Despite this logistical nightmare, they valiantly fought to defend the Philippines. For months, against all odds, they held back the enemy advance. The Japanese, hoping for a swift victory, were forced to slow the pace of their Pacific strategy. The delay enabled U.S. and allied forces the chance to regroup in the Pacific and prepare for the eventual liberation of occupied Pacific islands and the Philippines.

But by April of 1942, the defenders of Bataan were malnourished and exhausted. With no hope of overcoming the overwhelming conditions, they were ordered to surrender. While many followed the order to lay down their arms, others still fought to disrupt the Japanese by forming guerrilla units to maintain the opposition.

One such guerrilla leader was Oklahoma native and Choctaw Warrior Lt. Colonel Edward McClish, who, according to the U.S. Navy's historical website, "had an organization of more than 300 soldiers, with four machine guns, 150 rifles, and six boxes of ammunition."

Following capture, the defenders of Bataan suffered three years of intense hardship. Many would not survive. They would be forced to endure what became known as the horrendous 65-mile Bataan Death March. They would languish in substandard POW camps, where their malnourishment worsened and disease was rampant. Many others would be shipped to Japan on the dreaded hell ships. One such ship, the Arisan Maru, claimed nearly 1,800 American lives.

For us New Mexicans, the events of Bataan strike home particularly hard. Eighteen hundred men from New Mexico's 200th and 515th regiments left their homes to fight. Approximately half returned. These soldiers, largely of

Hispanic origin, earned the honor of being the first to fire and defend the Philippines on December 8. A special group, they were successors to the New Mexico National Guardsmen who made up part of Teddy Roosevelt's famed "Rough Riders" from the Spanish-American war.

One of these men, Eliseo Lopez, a Bataan defender who was born in Springer, NM, endured all the horrors Bataan had to offer. A member of the 200th Coast Artillery Regiment he trained at Ft. Bliss and was deployed to Manila before war broke out. He fought the Japanese on Bataan. He survived the Death March to Camp O'Donnell and was moved to Cabanatuan prison camp. He was taken on a hell ship to Japan, and was forced to labor in a copper mine until he was rescued in September of 1945. Mr. Lopez died this past November at the age of 92. His obituary alone is a record of the tremendous service to the United States given by the Bataan defenders.

In New Mexico, we continue to honor and respect our Bataan Defenders. We remember their suffering. We take pride in their heroism. Every year we commemorate their sacrifice with a march at White Sands Missile Range. Other States, such as Missouri, have similar marches. In April, Missouri will honor their Bataan veterans with a march on the Katy Trail State Park.

The people of the United States and Philippines are forever indebted to Eliseo Lopez and the other men who served with him and endured the similar horrors. They represented the best of America. They hailed from diverse locales, but were united in their valor and in their devotion to their country. Their courage and tenacity during the first four months of World War II, and their perseverance during 3 years of imprisonment truly deserves the recognition of a Congressional Gold Medal. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 348—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY SHOULD TAKE ACTIONS TO INCREASE THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND PROGRAM

Ms. SNOWE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

S. RES. 348

Whereas the Government Accountability Office published a report in December 2011 entitled "Small Business Lending Fund: Additional Actions Needed to Improve Transparency and Accountability" (GAO-12-183) (referred to in this preamble as the "GAO Report");

Whereas the GAO Report highlighted that "Federal government internal control stand-

ards state that management should ensure that the agency has adequate means of communicating with and obtaining information from external stakeholders when such information could have a significant impact on the agency's achieving its goals.;"

Whereas the GAO Report found that the Secretary of the Treasury's "lack of clarity in explaining program requirements and decisions created confusion among applicants";

Whereas the GAO Report expressed the following: "Internal control standards for the federal government state that internal control activities are a major part of efficiently and effectively managing a program. Control activities, such as (1) proper execution of transactions and events, (2) accurate and timely recording of transactions and events, (3) and establishing and reviewing performance measures, are an integral part of an agency's planning, implementing, reviewing, and accountability for stewardship of government resources and achieving effective results. Establishing performance measures and developing a process for monitoring participating financial institutions will be critical to identifying and addressing any potential problems in these institutions' compliance with program requirements. Until Treasury finalizes its plans for monitoring compliance and assessing impact in a timely manner, it will not be positioned to anticipate and manage payment problems and other program risks.;"

Whereas the GAO Report concluded that the Secretary of the Treasury has not finalized plans for assessing the impact of the Small Business Lending Fund Program on small business lending or procedures for monitoring recipients for compliance with requirements of the Small Business Lending Fund Program; and

Whereas the GAO Report concluded that, until the Secretary of the Treasury finalizes plans for monitoring compliance with and assessing the impact of the Small Business Lending Fund Program in a timely manner, the Secretary will not be positioned to anticipate and manage payment problems and other program risks: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that, as recommended by the Comptroller General of the United States in the December 2011 report entitled "Small Business Lending Fund: Additional Actions Needed to Improve Transparency and Accountability" (GAO-12-183)—

(1) to promote transparency and improve communication with participants in the Small Business Lending Fund Program and other interested stakeholders, such as Congress and the appropriate Federal banking agencies (as defined in section 3(q) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(q)), the Secretary of the Treasury should apply lessons learned from the application review phase of the Small Business Lending Fund Program to help improve the communication strategy of the Secretary; and

(2) to enhance the transparency and accountability of the Small Business Lending Fund Program, the Secretary of the Treasury should finalize—

(A) procedures for monitoring participants in the Small Business Lending Fund Program, including procedures to ensure that the Secretary is receiving accurate information on small business lending by such participants; and

(B) plans for assessing the performance of the Small Business Lending Fund Program, including measures that can isolate the impact of Small Business Lending Fund Program from other factors that affect small business lending.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1464. Mr. DURBIN (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1612, to provide the Department of Justice with additional tools to target extraterritorial drug trafficking activity.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1464. Mr. DURBIN (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1612, to provide the Department of Justice with additional tools to target extraterritorial drug trafficking activity; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Targeting Transnational Drug Trafficking Act of 2011".

SEC. 2. POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE OR DISTRIBUTION FOR PURPOSES OF UNLAWFUL IMPORTATIONS.

Section 1009 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 959) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking "It shall" and all that follows and inserting the following: "It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture or distribute a controlled substance in schedule I or II or flunitrazepam or a listed chemical intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that such substance or chemical will be unlawfully imported into the United States or into waters within a distance of 12 miles of the coast of the United States.

"(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture or distribute a listed chemical—

"(1) intending or knowing that the listed chemical will be used to manufacture a controlled substance; and

"(2) intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that the controlled substance will be unlawfully imported into the United States."

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 15, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. in room 328A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS AND SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 15, 2011, at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a joint hearing entitled, "Review of the NRC's Near-Term Task Force Recommendations

for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21st Century."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 15, 2011 at 9:30 a.m., in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing entitled "Prescription Drug Shortages: Examining a Public Health Concern and Potential Solutions" on December 15, 2011, at 10 a.m. in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on December 15, 2011, at 10 a.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 15, 2011, at 2:15 p.m., to hold an African Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled, "Improving Governance in the Democratic Republic of Congo."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANS, ATMOSPHERE, FISHERIES, AND THE COAST GUARD

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and the Coast Guard of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 15, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, "Environmental Risks of Genetically Engineered Fish."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WESTERN HEMISPHERE, PEACE CORPS, AND GLOBAL NARCOTICS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 15, 2011, at 11 a.m., to hold a Western Hemisphere, Peace

Corps, and Global Narcotics Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled, "The U.S.-Caribbean Shared Security Partnership: Responding to the Growth of Trafficking Narcotics in the Caribbean."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Patrick Norton and Will Frey, interns in Senator PAUL's office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that MAJ James Long, an Air Force fellow in Senator THUNE's office, be granted floor privileges during today's and tomorrow's sessions of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that LTC John Novak, a legislative fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges during the remainder of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FALLEN HEROES OF 9/11 ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to H.R. 3421.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3421) to award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3421) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

CORRECTING THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2845

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of H. Con. Res. 93, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: