

SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 94, the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1997, and H.R. 449, the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act of 1997.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Amie Brown or Mike Menge at (202) 224-6170.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, AND REGULATION

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Energy Research, Development, Production, and Regulation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Thursday, May 21, 1998 at 2:00 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1141, the Biodiesel Energy Development Act of 1997; and S. 1418, the Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 1997.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send their testimony to the Subcommittee on Energy Research, Development, Production, and Regulation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Shawn Taylor at (202) 224-1219 or Howard Useem of the Committee staff at (202) 224-6567.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 2, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. in SR-328A. The purpose of this meeting will be to examine recently proposed animal waste legislation.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 2, 1998, to conduct a hearing on the implications of the recent Supreme Court decision concerning credit union membership.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to hold an executive business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 2, 1998, at 10:00 a.m., in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on Metered Dose Inhalers during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 2, 1998, at 10:00 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT AND THE COURTS

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts of the Committee on the Judiciary, be authorized to hold an executive business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 2, 1998, at 2:00 p.m., in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TUBERCULOSIS

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, as some of my colleagues may know, each year tuberculosis claims nearly 3 million lives—more than all other infectious diseases combined—making it the number one infectious cause of death worldwide. Unlike many other infectious diseases, tuberculosis is an airborne disease transmitted like the common cold. Nearly one-third of the world's population is already infected, and cases of multi-drug resistant strains, which are far more difficult and expensive to treat, are on the rise. Overall, tuberculosis is responsible for 25% of all preventable deaths.

The Los Angeles Times recently published an article about USAID's work to expand and strengthen programs to control tuberculosis, along with other global threats to public health. I think this is a very important initiative and would urge them to continue their efforts. The renewed focus on tuberculosis is due in part to the activities of Princeton Project 55, established by Princeton University's Class of 1955, which has pressed for aggressive United States leadership in the prevention and treatment of this terrible disease. I commend them on their involvement and would ask that the full text of the article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Los Angeles Times, March 6, 1998]
U.S. LAUNCHES GLOBAL EFFORT TO CONTROL DISEASE

(By Marlene Cemons)

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Agency for International Development announced Thursday a

new initiative aimed at controlling the global emergence of lethal infectious diseases, saying it will develop programs in targeted countries to fight the escalating health threats posed by bacterial resistance, tuberculosis and malaria.

The agency also said it will work with other health agencies worldwide to better monitor and respond to new outbreaks of diseases before they get out of hand.

"This is as important for American citizens" as it is for citizens abroad because "we are dealing with these problems at their origin, rather than waiting for them to get here," said Dr. Nils Daulaire, a senior health advisor to USAID.

Congress, recognizing the potential danger from infectious diseases overseas, awarded the agency an additional \$50 million for fiscal 1998 specifically for control of infectious diseases—the first time in four years that, "instead of cutting our budget, Congress has added to it," Daulaire said.

In response, the agency is pursuing a 10-year effort that it hopes will reduce by at least 10% the deaths caused by infectious diseases, excluding those caused by acquired immune deficiency syndrome, by 2007.

The \$50 million is in addition to the agency's public health budget of \$850 million, which is spent on maternal and child health, family planning and the control of AIDS and the human immunodeficiency virus that causes it.

USAID has estimated that more than 17 million people worldwide will die from infectious diseases in 1998. This health problem has gotten worse in recent years due to numerous factors, including rapid population growth, overcrowding, poor sanitation, poverty, loss of trained health personnel and decreasing resources available to public health services in the poorest of countries, according to USAID.

The new strategy will focus on:

Developing programs that will discourage the indiscriminate use of antibiotics, which only strengthens the ability of resistant strains of bacteria to survive.

Developing a global tuberculosis control plan, which will include establishing up to five major sites to serve as models for TB surveillance and control and enhancing programs to identify TB strains that are resistant to multiple drugs before the strains become widespread.

Developing programs in Africa—where the most troublesome malaria problems exist—to prevent and control spread of the disease. Rather than control the mosquitoes that transmit the parasite, efforts will focus on preventing infection and quickly treating those who become infected, an approach health officials say will help reduce further transmission. •

TRIBUTE TO GOODRICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Goodrich Memorial Library in Newport, Vermont as it recalls 100 years of community service. On May 2, 1998 the Goodrich Memorial Library will kick off a year-long celebration with a wide array of activities for people young and old.

Converse and Alvira Goodrich donated their entire estate so that Newport Village could construct and maintain a new town library. Architect

George Story's vision became reality when the doors were opened and a ceremony held to dedicate the new library on September 1, 1898. An extremely ornate Victorian building, the Goodrich Memorial Library houses a wealth of information for those interested in Vermont history. In one of its rooms, the library maintains an archive of local newspapers dating back to the 1800s and early 1900s.

The Goodrich Memorial Library not only serves as a resource for information, but also as a critical bond in the community. It brings people together for cultural events and as a shared experience it provides a link between generations. It is a reminder of the town's long and proud history, one that I hope will continue for years to come.

Once again, I would like to congratulate the Goodrich Memorial Library on its centennial anniversary and wish them the best of luck in the next century of service.●

A TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JAMES

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, President Clinton's visit to Africa is a historic visit, the first time a sitting American President has visited that continent. For a distinguished South Carolinian who is accompanying the President, the trip also marks the return to a land with which he is very familiar.

Bishop Fred James, a retired Bishop of the AME Church, is one of South Carolina's most respected men of the cloth. For four years in the 1970s, he served in Capetown, South Africa, as the presiding bishop of the AME Church for five countries: South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland, and Mozambique. During Bishop James's tenure, the Church conducted not only traditional religious activities, but also unorthodox outreach programs to improve the lives of its congregants. Among other things, it built schools, operated a publishing house, and ran a cattle ranch. None of these was strictly religious in nature, but all helped to relieve the oppressive atmosphere of these countries and restore a sense of community among the AME Church's congregants.

After returning from Africa, Bishop James continued to lead outreach programs and fight for civil rights at home. Before settling in South Carolina, he was active in the NAACP and lived in Arkansas and Oklahoma. He also lived in Baltimore, where his responsibilities as Bishop overseeing thousands of congregants and many churches were even greater than those he shouldered in Africa. As the people of South Carolina know so well, Bishop James has been a force for good in every community in which he has lived.

Mr. President, I can think of no better ambassador of our nation's good will toward Africa than Bishop Fred James. He has spent the better part of his life serving God and his fellow men,

without expecting recognition or reward. With his selection by President Clinton to be an informal, good will ambassador to Africa, he has at last received some of both. Let us all hope the United States can achieve the same, strong relationship with Africa as that of Bishop James.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOMB GUARDS AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

● Mr. HAGER. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to recognize a very special group of Americans, the Arlington National Cemetery Tomb Guards of the Third United States Infantry. The Tomb Guards this year mark their 50th anniversary—half a century of dedicated service to the American heroes who rest at Arlington.

The dedicated and devoted men and women of the Tomb Guards stand watch over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier 24 hours a day, seven days a week, regardless of weather. Arlington's sacred ground holds many of America's heroes, but the unknown soldiers deserve special honor. They made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve America's freedom, and they died in anonymity—soldiers, as inscribed on their headstones, "Known but to God."

Since 1948, soldiers from the "Old Guard," the Third United States Infantry, have kept watch at this most special place in Arlington National Cemetery. Only soldiers of the highest character and standards, with the greatest integrity and professional skill, are selected to serve with the Tomb Guards. These men and women are the best of the best. The competition is keen.

As young people across America search for role models, they need look no further than this group of dedicated professionals who honor the sacrifice of all who have fallen for freedom. I salute the Tomb Guards on their fifty years of dedicated service to America's heroes and wish them well as they continue their devotion to duty. America is grateful for their service.●

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND THE AFRICAN RENAISSANCE

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the historic visit that is just ending today.

I speak of the visit of President Clinton to Africa which began on March 22. As the Ranking Member of the Africa Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I know Africa's vital importance to the United States, and I applaud the President's effort to highlight Africa with this timely trip.

President Clinton is the first sitting U.S. president since President Jimmy Carter to take such an extensive voyage in Africa, and he will be the first sitting U.S. president ever to visit each of the individual countries on his itinerary.

We can not underestimate the significance of this.

Mr. President, millions of Americans trace their roots to Africa. Thousands of Americans have served in Africa in non-governmental organizations, church groups, or the Peace Corps, including many graduates of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Our African heritage is prominent and pervasive in the art, music, and literature of American culture. More and more American tourists are journeying to see the natural wonders of the Serengeti, the Ghanaian Cape Coast or Victoria Falls.

Although these ties bind every American to Africa, many of them in a very passionate and personal way, I am concerned that there is so little knowledge about Africa in this country, and so little interest. That is why the President's trip is so important.

Many of the 48 distinct nations of Africa are now experiencing what some have called an "African Renaissance." By whatever name, there can be no doubt that Africa is a continent much changed since the years immediately following the independence period.

In some nations on that great continent, we see conflicts, coups and corruption. In others, we see the triumph of democracy and of the creative human spirit. In the past few years, too many of Africa's peoples have faced atrocities that rank among the worst of this century. At the same time, healthy changes have swept across much of the continent, and there is more reason for optimism about Africa's future than at any time in recent memory.

First, there has been substantial political progress. In 1989, only five African nations could be described as "democratic." Today, there are at least twenty. Where there used to be one-party states or military regimes, we now have governments that have developed new constitutions, held multiparty elections, and taken great strides toward reforming key institutions. Parliaments in countries like Ghana and Namibia are beginning to exercise a meaningful check on executive power. Local and national elections are being conducted freely and fairly in many countries. Journalists are more boldly exercising new press freedoms.

The institutions that nourish true democracy are beginning to take root in the African soil.

Second, many of the long-standing, violent conflicts that have ravaged the land and the peoples of Africa are coming to a close. Uganda, which suffered terribly throughout the 1980s, is now one of the most stable countries on the continent. The protracted war in the Horn of Africa ended with the peaceful secession of Eritrea, an important new actor on the African stage. The seeds of lasting peace have been planted in Liberia and Angola. And the promise of peace dangles before the peoples of Northern Mali and the Western Sahara.