

Now, Marine Lieutenant Colonels, even those of us no longer on active service, aren't in the habit of referring to Generals as friends—particularly when the General in question is the top Marine. And we sure don't offer a public critique of his performance as Commandant of all Marines. It just isn't done.

But in this case, somebody needs to do it. Because when Chuck Krulak takes off his Dress Blues with those four stars on the shoulders for the last time as he will at the end of this month, the conscience of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will have retired. And in this town, that kind of moral authority is going to be missed more than most people realize.

For four years, Chuck Krulak has been "the General who tells it like it is"—in public and in private. Whether in testimony on Capitol Hill, in the Pentagon's "tank" where the Joint Chiefs of Staff meet, or at the White House, Chuck Krulak could be counted upon to tell the truth—whether they wanted to hear it or not. His reputation for integrity in a city that too little values this virtue is unparalleled—and a credit to the Corps of Marines he has led through some of the most tumultuous events in our history. His steadfast devotion to his 174,000 Marines is evident in all that he has said and done as Commandant. And very little of it endeared him to an administration hell bent on downsizing, feminizing, and de-"moralizing" America's Armed Forces.

When General Krulak was appointed Commandant in 1995, the Clinton White House was busy taking an axe to America's defense establishment. By the time these draconian cuts were done, the Army would lose eight active combat divisions. The Air Force and Navy would lose 20 air wings—and 2,000 combat aircraft. Another 232 strategic bombers, 13 ballistic missile submarines, four aircraft carriers, all of our battleships, and more than 100 other combat vessels would be sent to the boneyard. Only the Marine Corps was able to withstand Commander-in-Chief Clinton's quest for a mothballed military.

And it didn't stop there. The Marines were badgered to make their boot camps co-ed. General Krulak said no. The Corps was told that it should put women in ground combat assignments in their expeditionary forces. Again, the top Marine said no. When the Pentagon started talking about relaxing the standard on sexual misconduct, Chuck Krulak just said, no. And when a Clinton political appointee responsible for "feminizing" the military decried the Marines as "extremists," the Commandant fired back a blistering response that yes, they were, "extremely fit, extremely faithful and extremely patriotic." In every case he was right.

And he didn't give an inch when the vaunted Clinton "National Security Team" acted as though the Marines had done so much for so long with so little that they could continue to do everything with nothing forever. Faced with unprecedented global commitments and the prospect of declining readiness, Krulak pulled no punches. He told the House and Senate Armed Services Committees that the Marines were ready to perform Mission Impossible—but that they needed to be better armed and equipped. He got what he wanted.

While the other branches of our Armed Forces struggle to meet recruiting and retention goals, lower their entrance standards, ease training requirements and try to make military service less "military"—the Corps has done exactly the opposite. Krulak extended boot camp—adding his "Crucible Training" to the already rigorous initiation into the Corps. His Marines loved him for it, and the Corps has thrived.

The power brokers in Washington, who favor "yes men" over honest men, probably won't miss Chuck Krulak very much. But his Marines will. And I will—mostly because I remember him as a young Captain of Infantry, thirty years ago, when we served together in a corner of hell called Vietnam. He was then, as he is today, a warrior and a man of principle, integrity and character. He embodied then, as he does today, the guiding ethos of the Marines—Semper Fidelis—Always Faithful.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I believe you can see how fitting it is that this article be included in the RECORD.●

MEREDITH GARDNER

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President. I rise today to pay tribute to Meredith Gardner, long unsung contributor to the identification of spies. Described by the FBI's Robert Joseph Lamphere as "the greatest counter-intelligence tool this country has ever known," Gardner was the National Security Agency's leading enabler of the reading of thousands of enciphered cables intercepted from Soviet foreign intelligence in the 1940's. The NSA, under its various names, spent four decades deciphering what Moscow intended to be an unbreakable Soviet cipher. Gardner and his team painstakingly worked on these messages in a project which came to be known eventually as "VENONA." The resulting VENONA decrypts, which were finally revealed publicly in 1995, detail the Soviet's espionage efforts in the United States during and after World War II.

Gardner has a genius for learning languages, and is fluent in German, Spanish, French and Russian and has had courses in Old High and Middle High German, Old Norse, Gothic, Lithuanian, and Sanskrit. He taught languages at the Universities of Texas and Wisconsin before being recruited by the U.S. Army's Signals Intelligence Service (the precursor to the National Security Agency) shortly after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. The Army wanted people fluent in many languages to work on breaking German and Japanese codes. Until 1955 Gardner worked at Arlington Hall, a former girl's school located 10 miles outside Washington, which served as the Army's headquarters for code-breaking operations. Gardner soon added Japanese to his repertoire of languages. By chance, he became the first American to read in an intercepted message the Japanese word for atom bomb, "genshibakudan."

When the war with Japan ended, the NSA phased out its Japanese section. Gardner learned that there was a section working on Soviet Union messages (its existence was kept secret) and he transferred into it. Gardner insists that the most arduous efforts to make the messages readable had already been done before he came along. First, the messages had to be sorted into at least four varieties, each used by representatives of separate Soviet government departments. It had also been discov-

ered that some messages could be paired as having been "randomized" by the same pad and page carrying random additive digits (and hence were solvable).

Such mixed pairs were worked on by a small group of women led by Katurah "Katie" McDonald. This group had already produced a remarkable amount of code text, and the code-groups that had appeared so far had even been indexed in context by a card machine. The material was just awaiting the appointment of a linguist, and Gardner "appointed himself" to be it. It was the easy stage, but without it all the preparatory work would have been for nothing.

Gardner's reconstruction of the foreign intelligence (VENONA) code book was slow at first, but gained momentum. Because some recruits were named in the messages and given cover names, it became obvious that the FBI ought to receive translations of the cables. Special agent Robert Joseph Lamphere was assigned to be the (very efficient) link between the NSA and FBI. The next is history.

Gardner spent 27 years working on the "Russian problem" before retiring in 1972. He and his wife of 56 years, Blanche, who also worked for the Army Security Agency, now spend part of their time teaching Latin to a small group of students. I commend Mr. Gardner for the invaluable assistance he has given to our country, which we are only now beginning to realize and understand. I salute Mr. Gardner for his dedicated and important service.●

TRIBUTE TO MR. LARRY STOLTE, ON HIS RETIREMENT

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge and commend Mr. Larry Stolte as he retires from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Larry's career in New England began as a fisheries biologist in 1969 with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, working on the introduction of Coho salmon in the Great Bay area. In 1975, he joined the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and became the Atlantic Salmon Planner for New England. Larry took the lead in developing an Atlantic salmon strategic plan for southern New England, and chaired the state committee that developed the Atlantic salmon plan for Maine's rivers.

While working to restore Atlantic salmon to New England's waterways, Larry began researching the "king of gamefish" in the Merrimack River. He documented his research in a book titled "The Forgotten Salmon of the Merrimack," which was published in 1981 and is recognized by many as the most accurate record of the history of the Atlantic salmon in the Merrimack River.

For the past 15 years, Larry has been the Fish and Wildlife Service's coordinator for anadromous fish restoration in the Merrimack River. He has also

chaired the U.S. Atlantic Salmon Assessment Committee and has been a working member of the International Commission on the Exploration of the Seas' North Atlantic Salmon Working Group.

Larry has devoted his entire career to restoring anadromous fish to New England rivers. His dedication and perseverance has been an inspiration to those who have worked toward this effort. Upon his retirement from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Larry and his wife Tracy will reside in Montana. I would like to thank Larry for his hard work and dedication to the restoration efforts of New England Rivers. It is an honor to represent Larry in the United States Senate.●

OUR OUTSTANDING AMBASSADOR IN BEIJING—JIM SASSER

●Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President. I join many other Senators in welcoming our former colleague, Ambassador James Sasser, back to the United States after his outstanding service as our Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

America has vital foreign policy interests in China, and Ambassador Sasser has represented those interests skillfully and effectively for more than three years.

During his service as Ambassador, he has worked diligently to restore high level summitry between China and the United States. His able leadership has made the American Embassy in Beijing more responsive to the concerns and interests of American business. He has also worked tirelessly to promote dialogue with the Dalai Lama.

In the aftermath of the tragic, mistaken bombing of China's embassy in Belgrade in May, America's embassy in Beijing was under siege, and Ambassador Sasser was virtually held hostage in the embassy. During this extraordinarily difficult time, he ensured that American personnel were safe and accounted for. He displayed remarkable courage during this ordeal, and made America proud of him.

All of us who worked with Ambassador Sasser in the Senate knew he would excel when President Clinton nominated him for this position. I congratulate him on a job well done. We are proud of his remarkable accomplishments and the efforts he has made to strengthen the U.S.-China relationship.●

HONORING KBHP RADIO FOR THE CRYSTAL RADIO AWARD

●Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President. I rise today to pay tribute to a Minnesota radio station from Bemidji, KBHP-FM, for going honored with the 1999 Crystal Radio Award given by the National Association of Broadcasters. The Crystal Radio Award recognizes stations for their year-round commitment to community service. KBHP-FM was one of ten stations chosen to receive Crystals,

making this their third award since 1987. Since the Award's inception in 1987, eight other stations in Minnesota have joined the ranks receiving the Crystal. These stations are WJON-AM in St. Cloud, KSJN-FM in St. Paul, WWTC-AM, WCCO-AM, KQRS-FM/AM in Minneapolis (twice), KCUE-AM in Red Wing, KWOA-AM in Worthington, and WLTE-FM in Minneapolis.

I congratulate KBHP-FM for this great achievement and enter into the RECORD a brief description of the Station's work from the Crystal Radio Award program.●

ROBERT B. CONROY

●Mr. LIBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert B. Conroy of Westport Connecticut. Captain Conroy is a dedicated Veteran of World War II, a proud family man, and a fine example of the powerful American Spirit that weaves it way through the nation's history.

A member of the 359th Fighter Squadron and the 356th Fighter Group, Captain Conroy's plane was shot down by German forces over France in January of 1944. Despite his injuries, Captain Conroy survived as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft I for sixteen months until the camp was liberated by Russian troops.

Captain Conroy's list of medals, including the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross, only begin to tell the story about what makes him a true American hero. After his military career, Captain Conroy raised and supported a family while building a successful career in advertising. The principles of honor, integrity, and devotion to duty that he displayed during World War II have remained a critical part of his life and are the same principles he has instilled in his children. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Captain Robert Conroy for his service, both military and civilian, to this great nation.●

TRIBUTE TO SY MAHFUZ

●Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Sy Mahfuz, of Nashua, New Hampshire, for being selected a 1999 Business Leader of the Year by *Business NH Magazine*.

Sy, the owner of Persian Rug Galleries, has lived in Nashua for 46 years. His business is a fixture on Main Street and draws customers from all over the Northeast and New York. Persian Rug Galleries is known for both the quality of its products and the expertise of its employees.

Sy dedicates his time both to his business and to the community. In 1994, he fought to pass a bill which protects consumers from "going out of business" sales. He also is a major organizer of many downtown events. His leadership role in planning Twist the Night Away brought an estimated 100,000 people to Nashua's Main Street in 1998.

Sy's sense of responsibility for both his colleagues and neighbors has brought him success in the past. With his determination to succeed rooted in this responsibility he will surely continue to be a positive role model for his community.

Mr. President, I would like to wish Sy my sincere congratulations and best wishes. While running a successful family business, Sy had dedicated much of his time to having a positive impact on his community. His accomplishments are truly remarkable. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Senate.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AIR FORCE MEDICAL SERVICE

●Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, this month marks the 50th anniversary of the Air Force Medical Service. On July 1, 1949, the Air Force Medical Service was created, beginning a strong and rich tradition of providing health care to military personnel and their families.

Since the Korean War, the Air Force Medical Service has provided aerospace medicine support to our aviators. From ensuring pilots are physically fit to stand the rigors of flight to bringing physiological expertise to the design of fighter jet aircraft, aerospace medical personnel have maximized the performance and safety of our pilots.

Aeromedical evacuation of casualties proved valuable during World War II, and became the preferred mode of casualty evacuation during the Korean War. The Air Force Medical Service is responsible for fixed wing aircraft evacuation and manages a world-wide system for peacetime and wartime aeromedical evacuation.

Today, the Air Force Medical Service operates 37 medical center and hospitals and 41 clinics around the world, providing health care to a wide range of beneficiaries. When the Air Force Medical Services was created, only 4 percent of military troops had dependents. However, seventy percent of military personnel serving today have families. These dynamic changes have broadened the needs and expectations for medical services. In recent years, constrained resources and the initiation of TRICARE have added to the challenges. The Air Force Medical Service has always found innovative ways to ensure the mission was accomplished.

I congratulate the 52,000 men and women of the Air Force Medical Service on this milestone. I am confident that the proud traditions of the Air Force Medical Service will continue as its men and women provide the best combat medical support, aeromedical evaluation of the sick and injured, and health care to Air Force communities.●

RECOGNITION OF GENE CLAWSON, JR.

●Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a great Montanan