

disarm and liberate Iraq, Minnesota's Office of Homeland Security has taken a number of security measures to assess any potential risks and to ensure the safety of Minnesotans throughout the state.

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEPC) was partially activated at the onset of military action and was fully activated at 8:00 a.m. on March 20, 2003. The SEOC remained fully activated until 11:30 p.m. on Friday, March 21, 2003 and partially activated until 8:00 a.m. on March 24, 2003. In addition, the Minnesota State Patrol was deployed on March 17, 2003 for security purposes to the Flint Hills Oil Refinery, Ashland Oil Refinery, Prairie Island and Monticello Nuclear Plants, and the Minneapolis and St. Paul Water Treatment Facilities. On March 19, 2003, the Minnesota National Guard relieved State Patrol troopers and continued to provide facility security until 7:00 a.m. on March 26, 2003.

State cost estimates to activate the SEOC and to provide facility security total approximately \$463,000. The major costs incurred by the state were the facility security costs: Department of Military Affairs, Minnesota National Guard (\$368,000) and Department of Public Safety, Minnesota State Patrol (\$65,000). There were also just over \$30,000 in costs to activate the SEOC which include some operating and overtime costs for other state agencies. These costs do not include any costs at the local level to provide security or to prepare and respond to potential threats.

The cooperation and coordination at the state level has gone very well, and I am pleased that Minnesota has no incidents to report. In a conference call with the Department of Homeland Security, Secretary Ridge assured states that every attempt would be made to seek reimbursement for costs to provide heightened security at critical infrastructure sites. As Congress prepares to act on a supplemental appropriations bill, any funds you can secure for Minnesota's extraordinary costs, particularly in light of the state's budget crisis, will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of Minnesota. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

RICH STANEK,
Commissioner.

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION FREEDOM ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker I rise to introduce the Agriculture Education Freedom Act. This bill addresses a great injustice being perpetrated by the Federal Government on those youngsters who participate in programs such as 4-H or the Future Farmers of America. Under current tax law, children are forced to pay Federal income tax when they sell livestock they have raised as part of an agricultural education program.

Think about this for a moment. These kids are trying to better themselves, earn some money, save some money and what does Congress do? We pick on these kids by taxing them. It is truly amazing that with all the hand-wringing in Congress over the alleged need to further restrict liberty and grow the size of gov-

ernment "for the children" we would continue to tax young people who are trying to lead responsible lives and prepare for the future. Even if the serious social problems today's youth face could be solved by new federal bureaucracies and programs, it is still unfair to pick on those kids who are trying to do the right thing.

These children are not even old enough to vote, yet we are forcing them to pay taxes. What ever happened to no taxation without representation? No wonder young people are so cynical about government.

It is time we stopped taxing youngsters who are trying to earn money to go to college by selling livestock they have raised through their participation in programs such as 4-H or Future Farmers of America. Therefore, I call on my colleagues to join me in supporting the Agriculture Education Freedom Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 123, on the motion to recommit H.R. 1036 with instructions. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THEIR FOURTH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the outstanding accomplishments of the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball Team, who defeated the University of Tennessee Volunteers 73-68 to win the NCAA tournament on April 8, 2003.

I would like to offer special congratulations to Head Coach Geno Auriemma who won his second consecutive national title. After losing four senior starters last year, junior Diana Taurasi took control of the team and led them to victory, scoring 28 points.

Mr. Speaker, these extraordinary young women do not need me to tell them that they are champions, or that their accomplishments are appreciated. This year was supposed to be a year of rebuilding, but the Huskies were not going to rest on their laurels. Over the past 2 years they have only lost one game.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to point out that although they are young adults themselves the outstanding achievements of the this team offers a fine example to our nation's young people. I applaud them for all of their achievements both on and off the court.

IN MEMORY OF CDR WILLIAM W. COBB

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of CDR William W. Cobb of Atlantic Beach, FL.

CDR Cobb was born in Lexington, MO, on November 7, 1920. He was raised in Lexington and Long Beach, CA, and attended Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington. CDR Cobb was a 1943 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and was immediately ordered to sea duty in the Pacific. He saw combat action during several battle campaigns on the USS *Indianapolis* and the USS *Wasp*.

After World War II, CDR Cobb completed flight training in 1947 and went on to his first squadron tour in VP-26 from 1947-1949. He subsequently was assigned as Executive Officer and Instructor, NROTC at the University of Missouri in Columbia, before returning to flight duty as the Deputy Director of Plans and Operations, 1503rd Air Transport Wing in Tokyo, Japan. CDR Cobb assumed duties as the Assistant Operations Officer, NAS Moffett Field, California, and from 1958 through 1960, he was assigned duties as Senior Pilot and Patrol Plane Commander in Airborne Early Warning Squadron Three, based in Aguna, Guam.

CDR Cobb reported to the Pentagon for duty in the office of the Chief of Naval Information after a tour as a student at the Army Language School in Monterey, CA. He served under Admiral J.S. McCain, the father of Senator JOHN MCCAIN.

CDR Cobb retired from the Navy in July of 1964 after 24 years of honorable and dedicated service. He had a second career in sales and as a realtor in McLean, VA. He resided in Alexandria, VA, from 1961 to 1990. After a second retirement, CDR Cobb and his wife, Jean, also a former Lexington native, moved to Fleet Landing in Atlantic Beach, FL. His wife, a former Miss Lexington and runner up in the Miss Missouri pageant, passed away in 1999. They were married for 56 wonderful and productive years.

Mr. Speaker, CDR Cobb was a valuable leader in the U.S. Navy. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his son Rear Admiral William W. Cobb, Jr.; a daughter, Susan E. Cobb; a sister, Mrs. C.C. Shannon; a grandson, granddaughter, and a great-granddaughter.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY D. LYNCH IN HONOR OF HIS SERVICE ON BEHALF OF MICHIGAN VETERANS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor Jerry D. Lynch, State Commander of the Michigan American Legion, for his tireless service on behalf of all veterans and active duty military personnel through the nation's largest wartime veterans' organization, the American Legion.