

Equally striking, an Italian consortium, administered by the University of Bologna, plans to spend \$100 million on a program to retrofit one gas-fired and one coal-fired electric powerplant with MHD technology, eventually using that experience to market MHD equipment internationally. The UTSI was selected to provide technical support to the Italian consortium.

Once again, we are in danger of letting our technological lead slip. We hear that so often it has almost become a cliché. But in a world where environmental concerns are becoming more urgent and market competition for more efficient energy systems has gotten tougher, MHD technology could be a big seller. If we do not continue to invest in and develop MHD, I am concerned that the United States might depend on foreign sources of MHD technology just as we now depend heavily on foreign sources of energy.

In addition, that the University of Bologna has taken such a prominent role in the Italian project underscores the need for the United States to develop better technology transfer programs here at home. The Italians plan to market their MHD equipment worldwide in the 1990's and could become a major competitor with United States industry in the powerplant market.

Elsewhere, Israel and France are at work on liquid metal MHD. Japan, the Netherlands, Italy, and Austria are pursuing closed cycle noble gas MHD. With the third largest coal reserves in the world, China has begun serious work on MHD. Japan, focusing on education and the future, is training specialists in the technology at universities.

We have been slow to take advantage of our technological lead and have been slow to join international cooperative programs. There is serious concern in the MHD community about the gradual erosion of the United States' technological leadership and our international competitiveness.

In the current national effort, Tennessee has been a leader in the MHD Program, but important projects are also under way in Montana. Diagnostic testing efforts center on Mississippi, the construction of superconducting magnets leads us to California. Other testing programs are in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Florida. We have the lead in MHD technology.

At the least, the United States must maintain the present DOE/industry proof-of-concept program which will provide the engineering data required to retrofit an MHD unit to an existing powerplant in the early 1990's. The Senate this year provided adequate funds—\$40.9 million for the MHD Program under the Fossil Energy Research and Development Program in the DOE. Although the final allocation was reduced in conference, there should be enough for the program to remain strong. I urge my colleagues to

continue to support this promising, vital program. ●

CROSSROADS OF CONTINENTS SMITHSONIAN EXHIBIT

● Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I want to call attention to last week's opening of the Smithsonian Institution's "Crossroads of Continents" exhibition—a major project with far-reaching cultural, educational, and international implications.

Crossroads of Continents is a display of artifacts, early paintings and photographs, and film footage, which presents the unique traditional cultures of the native peoples of Siberia and Alaska. These cultures are united by 15,000 years of exchanges across the Bering Strait. This is the first project to bring together collections from museums of the United States, Canada, and the Soviet Union in a way that will fully document the complex interrelationships involved.

The exhibition will remain at the National Museum of American History through April 2, at which time it will begin a tour of North American and Soviet museums. I am pleased to say that from April 7 to August 11, 1991, the exhibition will be on display in Alaska at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art.

Alaskans congratulate and thank the many people at the Smithsonian, the Soviet Institute of Ethnography, the American Council of Learned Societies, and other institutions, who have worked for nearly 10 years toward making this exhibition a reality.

Americans and Soviets alike will have the opportunity to view artifacts which are native to their own lands, but which have been removed to another continent for generations. This will be an interesting and educational experience, providing insights into the culture, society, arts, and technologies of Native Alaskans and Siberians. Scholars and scientists will be able to examine the artifacts and the cultural relationships they reflect.

My special thanks go to Secretary Robert McCormick Adams of the Smithsonian for his dedication to representing these cultures with the utmost attention to tradition. The Smithsonian has approved my request that the sale of ivory products made by Native Alaskans be allowed in their gift shops. These crafts, made from marine mammal products obtained legally by Alaska Natives, are truly representative of an important aspect of the art and culture of our peoples. The Smithsonian's decision to allow the display and sale of these crafts sends a positive message regarding respect for a preservation of a great tradition.

Crossroads of Continents demonstrates our increasingly open relations with the Soviet Union. The exhibition would not be possible without the complete cooperation and mutual efforts of our two nations. Soviet policies

which have made this possible give great hope to future exchanges in the arts and sciences. ●

HATE MOTIVATED VIOLENCE AND THE NEED FOR S. 702

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, over the past few weeks hate motivated violence has once again reared its ugly head. First was the destruction of a New York synagogue on the eve of Yom Kippur, the highest holy day in the Jewish religion. Next the home of Mike Espy, the first black Congressman from Mississippi since Reconstruction, was maliciously vandalized.

Congress has the opportunity before it adjourns to take a stand against this hate related crime by passing the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, S. 702. I introduced this measure to require the Attorney General to collect data on crimes motivated by prejudice. Such data will not only send the signal that the Government cares about the victims of these heinous acts, but will allow police officers throughout the country to identify problem areas and develop strategies to combat it.

I urge my colleagues to read carefully the articles from the New York Times and the Washington Post describing these incidents which I wish to have included in the Record and to lend their support to S. 702 so that we can make a difference now in the fight against prejudice.

The articles follow:

(From the New York Times, Sept. 19, 1988)
FIVE TORAH SCROLLS BURNED BY VANDALS AT
BROOKLYN TEMPLE
(By Don Terry)

Vandals broke into a synagogue in the Midwood section of Brooklyn early yesterday and destroyed at least five Torah scrolls, the most sacred objects in Judaism.

The arson attack came three days before the start of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the holiest day of the Jewish calendar.

It was one of the most serious desecrations of a synagogue in the United States in recent memory. In a neighborhood where many Holocaust survivors live, it evoked memories of Nazi attacks on synagogues in Germany.

"It was like you were walking in on a murder scene with six victims," a member of the synagogue, Volvie Herman, said. "It is an undecipherable feeling of horror."

In Judaism, the destruction of a Torah, the Five Books of Moses, is tantamount to a death in the family.

The fire began shortly after midnight in the sanctuary of Orthodox Congregation Rabbinical Institute Shalom Torah, an Orthodox synagogue at 1162 East 12th Street. Shalom Torah means "The Gates of the Torah."

Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward, who met with the synagogue's rabbi and toured the burned building a few hours after the fire, said: "This crime was perpetrated against this building only because it's populated by Jews and for no other reason. In America this should not happen, and we will not tolerate it."

He announced the formation of a Police and Fire Department task force to investigate.

Neighbors said two teen-age boys were seen running from the building shortly before the fire began, but the police refuse to confirm those reports.

The blaze caused little damage to the building. But as word of the desecrated scrolls swept through the neighborhood and nearby synagogues, hundreds of Jews, many wearing their prayer shawls, gathered behind red police tape stretched down the tree-lined street. They stood in silent anger, shock and bewilderment.

VANDALS BROKE INTO BASEMENT

"Why do they break the Torah?" a little girl asked her mother as they stood across the street from the synagogue.

The mother did not answer and pulled her daughter away.

The vandals broke into the two-story building through the basement. There, they spray-painted more than a dozen swastikas on the walls.

Then they climbed a narrow staircase and spray-painted several more swastikas on the sanctuary walls and on a Talmud, the collection of writings constituting Jewish civil and religious law.

At some point, they turned their attention to the ark, a cedar wood cabinet where the Torah scrolls are kept. The scrolls are covered in velvet, and when they are removed from the ark during religious services, everyone in the congregation rises.

TORAH CENTRAL TO WORSHIP

While it contains only the Five Books of Moses, for Jews the Torah embodies all of the Jewish law, lore, history and customs. Jews see it as a living document, to be studied all one's life and to be understood on many levels.

The reading of the Torah is the central part of most Jewish worship. It is read publicly from beginning to end in a yearly cycle.

Each scroll takes at least a year to write by one person working under strict religious guidelines. Mr. Herman said each scroll in the synagogue cost more than \$25,000.

The vandals ripped the scrolls from the ark, rolled them across the floor and then set them on fire. The synagogue had six scrolls, and it was unclear whether all six had been destroyed or whether one was missing.

"It's hard to tell," Mr. Herman said, displaying a charred piece of a scroll.

"NOT THE FIRST INCIDENT"

On a wall a few feet from the ark, the vandals had painted the words "The god" in silver spray paint.

According to Jewish tradition, the desecrated scrolls must be placed in a coffin and buried.

Justin J. Finger, the associate national director of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, said, "I have never heard of any desecration in the United States in recent years where that number of Torahs was destroyed. That is an extraordinary number of sacred items to be desecrated."

"This is not the first incident to happen here," said David Seidemann, 29 years old, a member of a nearby synagogue who stood outside the building in his prayer shawl. "People have been pelting the building with eggs all summer long."

Nothing is posted outside the synagogue building to indicate that it is a house of worship, so Mr. Seidemann said he thought the vandals were people from the neighborhood who knew the area.

BIAS INCIDENTS UP SLIGHTLY

Inspector Michael Markman of the Police Department Bias Incident Investigation Unit said the number of bias reports in the city was up slightly compared with 1987 but the increase was not significant.

"Until we catch whoever did this, we won't really know why," he said. "It's obvious, though, that some hate was involved?"

Many people who watched from across the street as detectives and fire officials gathered evidence were reluctant to answer questions from reporters because it was the Sabbath.

"We are not mad at you," one man told a reporter. "It is the Sabbath, and we are shocked at what happened."

The number of anti-Jewish acts of vandalism has decreased over the last four years, said the National Director of the Anti-Defamation League, Abraham Foxman. But during the first six months of 1988, there was a 20 percent increase over the same period in 1987, he said.

In 1987, about 1,000 acts of anti-Jewish vandalism were reported.

"If the trend continues this year," Mr. Foxman said, "we'll reach 1,250 by the end of the year, which will be the highest in the last 10 years. Why? I wish I knew."

As for the arson attack yesterday, Mr. Foxman said, "It brings back painful images of a not-so-distant past."

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 21, 1988]

REP. ESPY'S HOME DEPACED WITH RACIAL SLURS

MADISON, MS, September 20.—Vandals carved racial slurs on doors and splashed paint on an entryway floor at the home of Rep. Mike Espy (D-Miss.) the state's first black congressman since Reconstruction.

Espy, who is seeking a second term, interrupted his 2nd District campaign against Republican Jack Coleman today to repair the damage to his home in this town a few miles north of Jackson.

"We've come a long way in Mississippi, but cases like this remind you how far we've got to go," Espy said, adding that his major concern is his family. "I'm the congressman. I have the record and I have my performance to defend and I can defend it. I'm the congressman, not my wife, my brother or my children."

"Something like this should not be a part of the American political process," said Coleman, contacted by telephone. "We should talk about the issues and beat each other on top of the head with those."

Espy said his wife discovered the vandalism when she returned home with her children late Monday.

"My son is 5 and my daughter is 8 and I had to explain to them the history of race relations in Mississippi," he said. "They had carved the word 'Nigger' on two doors and I had to tell my children what that meant and why somebody would do that. It was not an easy thing to do."

"If someone wants to come after me, let them come, but I want them to leave my family alone."

Espy said the racial slurs and "U.S. Con"—an apparent reference to the congressman—were carved into the tops of doors in the covered entryway leading into the house and garage. Plants in the entryway had been uprooted and paint dashed on the floor and on some of the plants.

Police are investigating.

Espy said he had received threatening calls in the past, "but you always expect those." ©

MARY T. MEAGHER

© Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, for over a week now, the entire Nation has been fascinated by the spectacle of international athletic competition

going on in Seoul. Indeed, all of the Members of this body have constituents who are in the Olympics serving proudly their State and Nation. I, too, am very proud of the contribution these young athletes make to our national character. But there is one young lady that I would like to single out because her Olympic achievements can only be overshadowed by her embodiment of the essence of sportmanship.

Mary T. Meagher, a product of the great Commonwealth of Kentucky, is one of only four American women to compete in three Olympiads. She has won numerous NCAA swimming titles and has world record times in the 100 and 200 meter butterfly events. In fact, every time in the 200 meter butterfly's all-time top 10 belongs to Mary. She began accumulating world records 9 years ago at the age of 14.

Her quest to add a fourth gold medal to the three she won in the 1984 Olympics ended this week when she was awarded the bronze medal for her performance in the 200 meter butterfly. What distinguishes Mary from most athletes, Mr. President, is her attitude and spirit.

I would like to insert into the RECORD an article that appeared in yesterday's Courier-Journal that describes how the last competitive swim of her career won the hearts of journalists, competitors, and fans in Seoul.

I hope my colleagues will take the time to read this account. It proves that while her swimming earned her a bronze medal, her class earns her a gold.

The article follows:

[From the Courier-Journal, Sept. 26, 1988]

MEAGHER ENDS IT WITH BRONZE—AND RESPECT

(By Rick Bosich)

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA.—A knot of Olympic journalists awaited the arrival of East Germans Kathleen Nord and Birte Weigang, the one-two finishers in the Olympic women's 200-meter butterfly yesterday.

But one interviewer, representing an East German publication, had other interests. The gentleman walked to the end of the interview table, where bronze medalist Mary T. Meagher sat, and quietly made his simple, but sincere, request.

"I want you to sign, 'To all my friends in East Germany, from Mary T. Meagher, best butterfly swimmer in the world.'"

Smiling through some tears, the best butterfly swimmer the world has ever seen graciously accepted the compliment and scribbled an autograph across the official results of the race.

Signed it, in fact, right below the news that showed the muscular Nord (2:09.51) and the solemn Weigang (2:09.91) had stopped Meagher (2:10.80) from adding to the three gold medals she collected in Los Angeles four years ago.

Yes, Mary T. Meagher wanted to leave Seoul with two or three more pieces of gold, but she'll depart instead with a seventh in the 100 fly, a third in the 200 and the admiration of Olympic observers from around the world.

The East German journalist was followed by a swimming official from Italy, who was