Statement from Senator Lugar on Nelson Mandela's death

The Lugar Center
December 6, 2013

One of the brightest moments of my public service came on the day of a luncheon in the U.S. Capitol building when Nelson Mandela personally thanked me and those who had supported my anti-apartheid legislative framework for U.S. foreign policy over a presidential veto. He was a man of tremendous courage and fortitude who made incredible personal sacrifices on behalf of his country and fundamental human freedoms.

Nelson Mandela will be remembered as one of the most heroic and enlightened leaders of our time. His long fight to end apartheid and his subsequent promotion of reconciliation in South Africa will be studied for centuries as a model for statesmanship.