

I congratulate Joe and Vivian Lopez upon the completion of their active duty Navy career and thank them for their service to the country. And finally, I want to thank Admiral Lopez for his friendship and honest counsel over the years. Since the closing days of World War II, 1945, I have known and served with many sailors. I rank him at the top, a "4.0 seaman patriot."

#### DEVELOPMENTS IN KOSOVO

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I thank Senator WARNER for speaking about Kosovo. I am disappointed that the Senate has not brought a resolution to the floor and had a debate about what our response should be as a Nation to what is happening in Kosovo. I think it is a profound mistake on our part not to have this discussion given the fact that we are going to adjourn within the next couple of days.

Mr. President, I want to be held accountable. I think we should all be held accountable as to what our viewpoints are and what we think our country should or should not do.

Mr. President, while there have been some indications in recent days that the slaughter of innocent civilians has slowed—at least temporarily—we cannot afford to turn our attention away from the situation there.

President Milosevic claims to have ordered some units of his army back to their barracks, but it is too early to tell exactly what these actions mean and whether Milosevic actually intends to cease his brutal offensive against the Albanian Kosovars. There is considerable evidence that he may not be truly pulling back in accordance with Western demands, but rather taking halfway measures that would allow his troops and tanks to return to the fighting almost immediately. UN Secretary General Annan reported earlier this week that there is still a significant presence of Serb armed forces in Kosovo, and that some special police units are continuing punitive operations against the local population. I remain deeply skeptical about Milosevic's intentions.

We have had too much experience with Milosevic to take his statements at face value and to assume that the killing has really ended. We have seen his defiance of world opinion and international law for years. Recently we were all shocked by the horrific massacres of civilians—the massacre of women, elderly men, even young children and infants. These killings, attributed to Serb security forces, are an affront to the international community.

Now it looks as if Milosevic may have ordered a partial withdrawal of his attack forces, hoping to avoid imminent military action by NATO. He may believe that if the killings stop for a time, the attention of NATO and the U.S. will turn elsewhere. We must not allow that to happen. We must keep our focus on the crisis in Kosovo, and not become distracted by other issues.

Unless immediate action is taken to forestall a humanitarian tragedy, we may soon see even more disturbing and gruesome pictures from Kosovo. With an estimated 150,000 people in Kosovo living out in the open without any shelter and with winter approaching, international relief agencies now fear that tens of thousands of those displaced persons could face severe hardship and some even death from exposure unless they can return to their homes or be provided adequate shelter within the next couple of weeks.

The situation on the ground in Kosovo is heartbreaking. According to a report from a representative of the International Rescue Committee who recently visited the Kosovo countryside, young children are wandering around in the hills barefoot or in ripped sandals. Extended families of several generations are sleeping 15 to 20 to a tent. The tents are clear plastic supported only by bent saplings. Mothers are desperate to return home. Even if their houses are burned they would rather sleep in tents in their own yards than in the inhospitable hills. But they are afraid to return home, because every time they try to return snipers shoot at them.

As the IRC report relates, these displaced Kosovars are trying to survive in areas where there is no food, no shelter, no schools for the children, no latrine system, and no other basic infrastructure. They have only the clothes they were wearing when they fled in the summer. The children have diarrhea from the dirty water and lack of sanitation. Parents watch, worried, as their children vomit all night and become dehydrated. Soon they will also have to face snow and freezing cold.

These appalling conditions cannot continue. We must get aid to this terrorized population swiftly. But we can only get relief to them if Milosevic ceases his repression and allows relief agencies unfettered access.

The Administration and our NATO allies must keep the pressure on Milosevic to put an end to Serb military action in Kosovo and to comply with the demands of the UN Security Council resolution of September 23. That resolution demands that both parties cease hostilities and maintain a cease-fire. The resolution also calls on Belgrade to (1) cease all action by the security forces affecting the civilian population and order the withdrawal of security forces used for civilian repression; (2) allow free access for international diplomatic monitors in Kosovo and unimpeded access for humanitarian organizations and supplies to Kosovo and; (3) make rapid progress on a clear timetable in conducting autonomy talks with the Kosovo Albanian community.

I have also been encouraged that NATO has instructed its military commanders to begin preparations for possible military action and that NATO members have informed NATO Command what forces and equipment they

are prepared to supply for actions in the Kosovo region.

I have always been a Senator who insists that military actions abroad should always be a last resort. I still hope and pray, as a Senator from Minnesota, that in this situation we will not have to resort to force. I view it as a last option if we cannot resolve this situation by diplomatic means. But I also recognize that we cannot rule out the use of force, including the use of air strikes, in this situation. If the killing resumes or if Milosevic prevents relief from getting to the displaced Kosovars and fails to comply with the UN resolution and the demands of the international community, we may have to resort to military action.

I met with Milosevic once. I wanted to see firsthand the genocide of several years ago. He was the first and only person I have met that I would not shake hands with. I don't think he can be believed, and I think that we have to send him a forceful message.

To prepare for possible implementation of more forceful options developed by NATO planners, we should continue to move forward now, under NATO auspices, with pre-deployment in the region of appropriate levels of NATO military equipment and forces. This would include such actions as pre-positioning aircraft and naval vessels, and deployment of necessary materiel to support NATO troops.

These moves would be intended to send another clear message to Milosevic that he must comply with the UN Security Council Resolution immediately. If he does not respond we must be ready to take further steps to force compliance as necessary.

At the same time, we need to take other actions to keep the pressure on Milosevic. The U.S. should press forward on an intensified multilateral effort, at the United Nations and through regional bodies like the European Union, to firmly tighten the existing sanctions regime on Serbia, to re-impose other sanctions lifted after signing of the Dayton Peace Accord, and to otherwise increase pressure on Milosevic to comply.

We must also accelerate U.S. and NATO logistical support for the ongoing international humanitarian aid effort in Kosovo, including pre-deployment of humanitarian supplies in Kosovo in anticipation of winter distribution by non-governmental organizations, while ensuring the safety and security of those who will rely on such aid.

There must be no repeat of the disgraceful Bosnian "safe haven" disaster of Srebrenica.

The U.S. and NATO must also press for immediate and unrestricted access in Kosovo for internationally-recognized human rights monitoring organizations, including the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and increase aid and intelligence support to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

Mr. President, the U.S. and NATO are right to move forward now to send a clear and forceful message to Milosevic that he can no longer brazenly defy world opinion. The brutal slaughter of innocent non-combatants in Kosovo must stop now. If it continues, the West must have the resolve to do what is necessary to bring it to an end. And, if necessary, I want to say as a U.S. Senator, I think there should be air-strikes.

I wanted to speak out before we leave and I want the RECORD to show that I have spoken out. I wish that the U.S. Senate had brought this matter up. Other Senators would have very different points of view, and I understand that. But it really troubles me, saddens me, that the Senate as a body has not had a thorough discussion and debate about what is a life-or-death matter. I wanted to at least have a chance to speak out. I thank my colleague from Oklahoma for giving me some time.

Mr. SPECTER. Parliamentary inquiry: I have been asked to propound a unanimous consent request which relates to another bill. Would it be in order at this time to ask unanimous consent that it may be considered separately?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator may make the request.

#### OPERATION DESERT SHIELD AVIATION CONTINUATION PAY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 2584. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2584) to provide aviator continuation pay for military members killed in Operation Desert Shield.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, this legislation is introduced to correct a legislative inequity that has adversely affected one of my constituents, Mrs. Vicki Reid of Dauphin, Pennsylvania.

At the time of his death in Operation Desert Shield, Captain Frederick Reid was serving as a United States Air Force pilot. The Air Force had authorized an Aviator Continuation Pay contract contingent upon his continuing to serve in the Air Force. Unfortunately, on October 10, 1990, Captain Reid was killed during a flight training operation.

The Defense Department policy at the time was that one's death precluded receiving the continuation pay. Congress responded by enacting the Mack Amendment, under which families of pilots killed in action during Operation Desert Storm are entitled to the deceased pilot's Aviator Continuation Pay. This provision of the fiscal year 1992 Defense Appropriations Act (P.L. 102-172) stipulates that in order to collect the Aviator Continuation Pay, the pilot must have died during Operation Desert Storm (on or after Janu-

ary 17, 1991), but excludes those pilots killed in Operation Desert Shield.

By letter to me dated August 3, 1998 from Under Secretary Rudy De Leon, the Department of Defense has confirmed that Captain Reid was the only U.S. Air Force pilot killed in Operation Desert Shield who was entitled to Aviator Continuation Pay and that approximately \$58,000 of Captain Reid's Aviator Continuation Pay was unpaid at the time of his death. In a September 11, 1998 letter to me, the Air Force has expressed its support for an extension of the Mack Amendment to cover the Reid case.

While private relief legislation is a last resort to be used sparingly by the Congress, Captain Reid's service and dedication to his country are laudatory. Had he died only a few months later, his widow would have been justly compensated. Accordingly, I am introducing this bill today.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a letter from the Department of Defense and a letter from the Air Force be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letters were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,  
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,  
Washington, DC, August 3, 1998.

Hon. ARLEN SPECTER,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR SPECTER: This responds to your letter of July 2, 1998, to Secretary Cohen concerning Aviation Continuation Pay (ACP) due to pilots at the time of their death while serving in Operation Desert Shield.

A review of files pertaining to the members who died while serving in Desert Shield indicate that, of the eight pilots who died during that operation, only Captain Reid was serving under an ACP bonus contract at the time of his death. Approximately \$58,000 of that bonus was left unpaid due to Captain Reid's death and would be payable to his widow should legislation be enacted to extend the Mack Amendment to P.L. 102-172 to cover members killed in Operation Desert Shield.

I appreciate the concern you have shown about this issue. Please contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

RUDY DE LEON.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE,  
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,  
Washington, DC, September 11, 1998.

Hon. ARLEN SPECTER,  
U.S. Senator,  
Philadelphia, PA.

DEAR MR. SPECTER: This responds to your inquiry for Ms. Vicki Reid and the possibility of receiving the remaining portion of her late husband's, Captain Frederick Reid, Aviator Continuation Pay (ACP).

As currently codified in Section 301b, Title 37, United States Code, ACP is paid upon the acceptance of a written agreement to remain on active duty. Members who do not complete the total period of service under the terms of that agreement, even as a result of death while in military service, are not entitled to the unearned portion of the compensation. Current law does not permit the Air Force to pay Ms. Reid the approximately \$58,000 remaining on her husband's agreement.

Air Force officials are aware of the possibility of extending the Mack Amendment to

cover members killed in Operation Desert Shield and strongly support this initiative. The Air Force officials sincerely appreciate the dedication to duty exemplified by Captain Reid.

We trust you will find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

MARCIA ROSSI,  
Lt. Col. USAF, Congressional Inquiry  
Division, Office of  
Legislative Liaison.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill appear at this point in the RECORD.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object—I will not object—I want to inquire, has that been cleared on this side?

Mr. SPECTER. It has been cleared on the other side of the aisle. It provides for aviator continuation pay for Air Force personnel killed in Operation Desert Shield. It is for a Pennsylvania constituent, as I understand it, the only one who has not been so compensated.

Mr. DORGAN. I thank the Senator.

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

The bill (S. 2584) was passed, as follows:

S. 2584

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. OPERATION DESERT SHIELD AVIATOR CONTINUATION PAY.

Section 8135(b) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1992 (Public Law 102-172; 105 Stat. 1212; 37 U.S.C. 301b note) is amended—

(1) by striking out "January 17, 1991" and inserting in lieu thereof "August 2, 1990"; and

(2) by inserting "(regardless of the date of the commencement of combatant activities in such zone as specified in that Executive Order)" after "as a combat zone".

#### INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999— CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3694, the intelligence authorization bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The committee on conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3694), have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses this report, signed by all of the conferees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the conference report.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of October 5, 1998.)