

it happened again on this estate tax repeal that the Republicans support.

Time and time again, the vast majority of relief goes to the wealthiest people in America. When will this Congress and this Senate listen to the 98 percent of the families in America who are hoping that we share their concerns about their future and their kids' future? Whether it is college education expenses, prescription drugs for their parents, prescription drugs for the disabled and their families, an effort to pay for child care, an effort to make certain they have health insurance on the job, when will this Congress put that as a high priority?

The Republican leadership said: Those people can go to the back of the line. We will wait for some other day, if ever, to discuss their needs. First we have to take care of the wealthiest. First we have to make sure that those making over \$900,000 a year get about \$2,000 more a month so they can be a little more comfortable in their lifestyle.

I think that is wrong. The President's veto is right. Let us provide tax relief and target it for the people who really need it. If there is a surplus in America, let working families, 98 percent of whom were ignored by the Republican tax cut plan, be first in line.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I enjoyed the speech of my good friend from Illinois. But I also want to footnote it by saying it is pretty tough to give tax cuts to folks who don't pay taxes. So it is a little on the rough side to do that.

REMEMBERING SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise this evening, along with my colleagues, as we talk about and remember and celebrate the life of PAUL COVERDELL. He was born in Des Moines, IA. He was a graduate of the University of Missouri. That is where I went to school. PAUL COVERDELL was a person who came to the Senate with a history of being a doer. He was a workhorse in this Senate.

Early on, he demonstrated that he could be relied upon to take on the essential but unspectacular tasks for the good of the Senate and this Nation. He was rewarded for that when he was elected by his fellow Senators to be the Secretary of the Senate Republican Conference. I know something about that because he beat me. I could not have lost to a better man.

He had his little mannerisms. He could put you in a box, put a cap on you, do a lot of things. But his quiet demeanor and lack of fuss in tackling whatever tasks were assigned to him belied his effectiveness.

He served President Bush as Director of the Peace Corps. He was a man of peace. He served as leader of the Republican Party in the Georgia Senate

for 15 years, from 1974 to 1989, skillfully guiding that body through some difficult but rewarding years.

His leadership really surfaced when he came to the Senate. We have talked about him being a stalwart on national defense and on taxes, but I think he had his best vision and his best grasp of this business in reforming public education because he always referred back to his vision for the next generation. The next generation was always on his mind. As a proponent of equal educational opportunities, he introduced sweeping education and tax reform bills. The list of his achievements in the Senate is substantial, indeed.

PAUL COVERDELL holds a special place in our hearts as we say goodbye to a brother, a Member of this body, who has shown us the way in the tradition of the Senate. We are all better just for having known him.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business.

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

FY 2001 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I rise in strong support of the FY 2001 Defense Appropriations Act Conference Report. This bill provides the much needed funding for our deserving men and women in the military. After years of declining military budgets, this Defense Appropriations bill does the right thing by putting more of our resources toward our Armed Forces.

While I strongly support the overall bill, I would like to make note of one serious omission—the cut in funding for the Discoverer II or DII program. I know that Senator STEVENS and the Defense Appropriations staff fought hard for the DII program, but that they ran up against an entrenched opposition from the other side.

Discoverer II is a key element in assessing the utility, feasibility, and affordability of Space Based Radar (SBR). SBR will provide all weather, 24 hour, 7-day a week global surveillance coverage. The Department of Defense has stated that SBR will satisfy many unfilled requirements, such as Long Range Endurance Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition, Improved Ground Moving Target Indicator Tasking, Processing, Exploitation and Dissemination Interoperability, and provide simultaneous access to multiple theaters worldwide.

The program not only had the wide support of many Members of Congress, but also from the Secretary of the Air Force, the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, the CINC of US Space Command, the CINC of US

Central Command, and the Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

While I cannot understand the reasoning for such opposition, I do want to thank Senator STEVENS and his staff for fighting for this program and only hope that we can revive this important program in the future. The capabilities it will provide are too important to let it go quietly in the night. As the Chairman of the Strategic Subcommittee on the Armed Service Committee, as a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and as a member of the Commission on the National Reconnaissance Office, I have heard from our military and intelligence leaders that this capability is needed and that we must demonstrate the space based radar. That is why I will continue to fight for this defense capability.

Again, Mr. President, I want to thank Senator STEVENS for all his hard work and for producing such a strong bill for our military men and women.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, it has been more than a year since the Columbine tragedy, but still this Republican Congress refuses to act on sensible gun legislation.

Since Columbine, thousands of Americans have been killed by gunfire. Until we act, Democrats in the Senate will read some of the names of those who lost their lives to gun violence in the past year, and we will continue to do so every day that the Senate is session.

In the name of those who died, we will continue this fight. Following are the names of some of the people who were killed by gunfire one year ago today.

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Steven Anderson, 38, Tulsa, OK; Eric Cummings, 24, Minneapolis, MN; Linda Dunn, 42, Detroit, MI; Betty Dreyfuss, 79, Daly City, CA; Tomas Hernandez, 27, Houston, TX; William Minis, 28, Dallas, TX; Ivan Powell, 32, Tulsa, OK; Percy Wright, 25, Baltimore, MD.

SENATOR JOHN O. PASTORE

Mr. L. CHAFEE. Mr. President. I rise today to speak of a man who, during 42 years of public service, left an indelible mark on generations of Rhode Islanders. Like thousands across the Ocean State, I am saddened by the passing of that great American statesman, John Orlando Pastore. Senator Pastore's life and career was one of diligence, accomplishment, integrity and distinction. Senator Pastore set a high standard for all who have followed him in the United States Senate, and while he will be missed, his contributions to our state and country will not be forgotten. My heartfelt condolences are extended to his family and friends in this difficult time.

The Nation's first Italian-American governor, and then U.S. Senator, John O. Pastore was rightfully proud of his

heritage and humble roots—and all of Rhode Island was proud of him. Not only did he embody the contributions made by Italian-Americans to our state and nation, his life and career were a source of pride and hope for immigrants from all nations.

A child when his father died, leaving his mother and siblings impoverished, the future Senator and Governor struggled to overcome the many daunting obstacles that life had laid in his path. Indeed, the true meaning of Senator Pastore's later personal and political achievements can only be understood when highlighted against the background of his own poignant memories of his childhood, which I would like to quote.

We lived in the ghetto of Federal Hill. We had no running water, no hot water. I used to get up in the mornings and have to crank the stove, to go out in the back yard and sift out the ashes and come back with the coal that I could recoup. I had to chisel with the ice pick the ice in the sink so that I could wash up in the mornings. And that was everybody in the family. That wasn't me alone. That was my wife's family, that was everybody's family.

A man who never forgot these humble beginnings, Senator Pastore captured the hearts and minds of Rhode Islanders in his conviction that if one worked hard enough and long enough, one's dreams would come true. As one who lived the American Dream, had risen from poverty to political prominence, Senator Pastore strived to extend those same opportunities to all in this country.

While Senator Pastore was a gentleman in everything he did, his convictions were equally strong. Whether he was standing up for the rights of the underprivileged, or warning of the dangers of nuclear proliferation, Senator Pastore was not afraid of a political fight. This was a man who, if asked an honest question, always provided an honest answer.

Perhaps for his family there is some comfort in knowing that Senator Pastore's career in public service has made the world a better place. He helped guide our state and nation through some of our most tumultuous times—from his pivotal role in the struggle for civil rights legislation to his efforts to protect mankind from the threat of nuclear weapons. Indeed, many in our nation may have marvelled at how a state so small could produce a man so great.

As the floor manager for the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Senator Pastore demonstrated his deep devotion for maintaining and promoting the rights of all people, regardless of their race, color or background. As a key player in the negotiation and ratification of the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty and the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Senator Pastore helped significantly reduce the dangers of thermonuclear war. On issues as diverse as civil rights and nuclear proliferation, Senator Pastore worked successfully to tighten the sinews of peace against a background of conflict.

On a personal note, my father, John Chafee, who followed John Pastore to the Senate in 1976, held his predecessor in the highest esteem. Their relationship consisted of mutual respect, admiration, and a never-ending series of personal kindnesses, great and small.

Upon his retirement in 1976, Senator Pastore addressed the Senate one final time. He expressed his love for this great institution and laid out the philosophy that had guided his career.

Whatever you do, keep that torch of opportunity lighted. Protect that flag. Maintain our institutions. Debate your differences if you have them. But always realize what that insignia says, "E pluribus unum"—from the many there are one.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 18, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,680,376,489,658.94 (Five trillion, six hundred eighty billion, three hundred seventy-six million, four hundred eighty-nine thousand, six hundred fifty-eight dollars and ninety-four cents).

Five years ago, July 18, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,929,786,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred twenty-nine billion, seven hundred eighty-six million).

Ten years ago, July 18, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,160,432,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred sixty billion, four hundred thirty-two million).

Fifteen years ago, July 18, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,796,027,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred ninety-six billion, twenty-seven million).

Twenty-five years ago, July 18, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$533,511,000,000 (Five hundred thirty-three billion, five hundred eleven million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,146,865,489,658.94 (Five trillion, one hundred forty-six billion, eight hundred sixty-five million, four hundred eighty-nine thousand, six hundred fifty-eight dollars and ninety-four cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE JAPAN-AMERICA STUDENT CONFERENCE

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, today I would like to offer a special tribute to the oldest university student exchange forum between Japan and the United States, the Japan-America Student Conference (JASC). Founded sixty-six years ago at the initiative of a group of Japanese students who were concerned about deteriorating U.S.-Japan relations, the month-long Conference has since convened on fifty-two annual occasions, alternating between the two countries.

This year, the Conference will open on July 21st at Tokai University's Honolulu campus, then move on to the Uni-

versity of North Carolina, Washington, DC, and New York City, and will conclude at the Reischauer Institute for Japanese Studies at Harvard University on August 21st. The sixty-two delegates, half from each country and, representing some thirty-four university campuses, will address such topics as: business practices, environmental issues, philosophy and religion, historical perspectives, and third world policies, against the thematic backdrop of "Developing New Approaches to Promote Social Change."

JASC is completely designed and implemented by students. Delegates elect Japanese and American Executive Committees at the conclusion of each Conference who manage, plan, and select delegates for the next year's event. Many alumni of the conference have gone on to distinguish themselves in the business, academic, and governmental arenas of their respective societies. Most notable among them is Kiichi Miyazawa, former Prime Minister and current Finance Minister of Japan, who participated in the 1939 and 1940 Conferences, and Henry Kissinger, former U.S. Secretary of State, who participated in the 1951 Conference. A common denominator among the highly diverse delegate community is a deep interest in knowing more about the U.S. and Japan, which can lead to careers relevant to the bilateral relationship.

Thirty intense days of travel and dialogue with each other foster better understanding and trust between the cultures, and, more importantly, friendships that endure for decades. As one delegate observed, "JASC is not a destination; it is a journey that does not conclude."•

ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CROMWELL CHILDREN'S HOME

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, for 100 years the Cromwell Children's Home in Cromwell, Connecticut has provided a nurturing and supportive environment for children. Although the Home has evolved from its initial origins as an orphanage, its dedication and devotion to helping children in need has not wavered. I am proud to rise today to recognize this praiseworthy institution and, on behalf of the people of Connecticut, extend a heartfelt thank you on its centennial anniversary.

On any one day in Connecticut, there can be over 5,000 children in need of the services so selflessly provided by institutions like the Children's Home. Those children staying at the Children's Home benefit from a positive environment created by the dedicated and skilled staff. From my experience of working on children's issues in the United States Senate, I know how important it is to provide a constructive and therapeutic atmosphere for children.

The Children's Home is special because it is a comprehensive residential