

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

REGULATORY REFORM

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, on Saturday President Clinton gave his Saturday speech wherein he justified defeating the regulatory reform bill.

I really believe that so many people who are opposed to this regulatory reform bill did not get the message that came from the American people on the 8th of November because, loudly and clearly, they wanted to redefine the role of Government in our lives.

The President talked about how you are going to be poisoned by your hamburgers. He talked about how people are dying in the streets because they are not adequately protected from exposure to the physical elements, and from food, as if Government has a role of taking care of everyone and people's responsibility for themselves is nonexistent. And the theme of all of this was that Government really does things better than people do. That is not what this country is all about.

The other day we were talking about some reforms that were necessary insofar as the EPA is concerned. The EPA is a good example of a regulator that has gone far beyond the intent of what we have always felt a regulator should do.

I remember in my city of Tulsa, OK, there is a lumber company called Mill Creek Lumber Co. owned by the Dunn family. It is a third generation lumber company owned by the family. It is a competitive business. It is a tough business.

I got a call from Jimmy Dunn, the owner and CEO of Mill Creek Lumber Co., that family lumber company on 15th Street in Tulsa, OK. He said, "The EPA just put me out of business after three generations of family running this business." I said, "What did you do wrong?" He said, "I do not think I did anything wrong." He said, "About 10 years ago I sold used crankcase oil to a licensed contractor, and the licensed contractor apparently disposed of it in the wrong place." It was called the Double Eagle site.

So this guy 10 years later, after disposing of crankcase oil, long before the law was even in effect, ended up with a letter from the EPA Administrator saying that you are going to be fined \$25,000 a day, and you are going to maybe even have criminal sanctions.

Then a year ago Christmas, about 4 or 5 days before Christmas, I got a phone call from a guy named Keith Carter. Keith Carter was a man of very modest means. He had developed a business in Skiatook, OK, which was in my congressional district at that time. He called up one day 4 days before Christmas and he said, "Congressman INHOFE, I have a serious problem. The EPA just put me out of business, and right before Christmas, I have to fire my six employees." I said, "What happened?" He said, "Well, about 2 years

ago I moved from the basement in my home three blocks down the street to another location because the business was kind of good and I needed a little bit more room. Apparently they say that I did not advise the EPA that I made my move." I said, "My gosh. You have been operating for 2 years in an area where they did not know where you were?" He said, "Oh, no. I told the regional office in Texas. But apparently they did not tell the office in Washington." They called up and put him out of business.

It took me about a week to get him back in business. He called up a week later, and he said, "I have another problem, Congressman." He said, "They let me back in business but I cannot use the number that I had before because they said during that 1 week I was out of business, they assigned it to somebody else. I had \$25,000 worth of inventory."

So we finally got it corrected. But for each one who calls a Congressman or someone to intervene in behalf of decency and honesty and good sense, there are hundreds of them who do not do that. If he had not called, then Keith Carter would have been out of business and his employees would be unemployed today, most likely. That is the kind of abuse that takes place by regulators in our society.

I suggest, Mr. President, the theme of this thing is far greater than we have been talking about. We are talking about freedom. That is what this whole thing is about; freedom, individual freedom. That is what this country is supposed to be all about.

I remember a few years ago when we had the problems down in Nicaragua. And I know, Mr. President, you were serving over in the House at that time and remember it also. At that time, it was, fortunately, driven home to me how we are perceived around the world, that we are the bastion of freedom, that we are the beacon of freedom. If you lose it here, you do not have it anywhere else. That is what this regulation is about, the theme that Government knows better how to take care of our lives than we do.

This is what was happening in Nicaragua at that time, if you will remember the big controversy we had here in both Houses of the U.S. Congress with people saying, "Well, the freedom fighters are really a bunch of rebels. We should not get involved in this thing." Yet, we knew that the Communists at that time were supplying them with the best of armaments, with the best of tanks, and with the best of helicopters. And so you had the freedom fighters risking their lives.

I can remember going down to Honduras. I think we were only about 7 miles from the Nicaraguan border. And I went through a hospital tent down there where they were bringing the freedom fighters in and nursing them back to health. The tent was about the size of these Chambers. It was a very large tent. And all around the periph-

ery they had hospital beds that were in a circle. And then they did their surgical procedures in the center. About all they did was amputations at that time because most of the young people who were in there, the freedom fighters from Nicaragua, were in there because they had stepped on land mines or something like that, so most of them were amputations. The average age of the freedom fighter was 18 at that time, because the older ones had either died or lost their arms or legs.

I remember, I went all the way around—I speak Spanish—and I talked to each one of those individuals. I tried to get in my own mind: What is it that is driving these people? What is it that they risk their lives for that so many of them are dying? And so I asked the question to each of them. The last one was a young girl 19 years old. Her name was Maria Lynn Gonzalez. I will always remember her because she was an itty-bitty girl. It was her third visit to the hospital tent; she kept coming back. But she would not go back to fight again because that morning they amputated her left leg and blood was oozing through the bandages.

As she lay there, with her large eyes looking up after having gone through all that terror, I asked her that question. She responded to me, and she said:

Es porque han tomado nuestras casas, campos, todo lo que tenemos. Pero, de veras, ustedes en los Estados Unidos entienden. Porque ustedes tuvieron que luchar por su libertad lo mismo que estamos luchando ahora.

What the little girl was saying was well, of course, we are fighting; we are fighting because they have taken our farms and our houses and everything we own. But surely you in the United States do not have to ask that question because you had to fight for your freedom from an abusive government the same as we are fighting for our freedom today.

It occurred to me at that time this little girl, Maria Lynn Gonzalez, who could not read or write, she was not well educated; she had never gone to school; she was brilliant in her knowledge and appreciation of freedom, and she was willing to die for it. She looked at our revolution in this country, that revolution which we could not have won any other way than our reliance upon God and the principles that made this country so great, and she did not know whether we won that revolution 5 years ago or 200 years ago; she did not have any concept of when all this was happening, but to her it was a fight for freedom against all odds, and we were that beacon of freedom that led them to their success down there.

It has been that way for 200 years. The whole world looks at us. And while the world looks at us as the example that people are bigger than government, and that totalitarian government, centralized government that is in charge of people's lives does not perform as people do when they are unleashed and can do as they wish and

have the product of their labors, then that means so much more.

So while we are the beacon of that freedom, the administration is trying to hold on to the old, abusive governmental waste of the past with white knuckles.

And so I say to you, Mr. President—not this Mr. President but Mr. President Clinton—that you are not going to win this battle because there was an election. When that election took place in November 1994, there were a lot of loud messages. They wanted to rebuild a strong national defense at the same time they wanted to balance the budget. We are going to do both.

They wanted to change the role of Government so it no longer has abusive control and power over the citizenry, and that is exactly what is going to happen.

So this is a very important debate that we are in the middle of right now, Mr. President, the debate on the role of Government, how abusive is Government, and for all those people around the world who look to us as that beacon of freedom we are going to keep that beacon very bright and shiny for them.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR PRYOR

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, Senator DAVID PRYOR is a man of many accomplishments. In his distinguished career, he has been a journalist and founder of a newspaper, a member of the Arkansas House of Representatives and a two-term Governor of his State. In Arkansas, they still talk about his achievements as Governor during the 70's recession. Carefully and caringly, he cut spending without cutting the programs that people depended on.

He is also a lawyer who served three terms as the Representative of the Fourth Congressional District of Arkansas. He has served three terms in this body as a U.S. Senator and the last time he ran, he was so popular that nobody bothered to run against him. As a member of the Agriculture Committee, he has actively shaped innovative programs and policies which have helped the farmers of Arkansas while furthering the leadership position of the United States in the world agricultural community.

More than anything else, what has distinguished Senator PRYOR's legislative work in the U.S. Congress has been his sensitivity to the needs of private citizens. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, he wrote a "Tax-

payer Bill of Rights" which guaranteed—for the first time in 40 years—the rights of individual citizens in their dealings with the IRS.

Senator PRYOR is known as an advocate for senior citizens. His advocacy is based on an extensive acquaintance with their situation, a compassionate understanding of their needs and a thorough knowledge of the existing support systems for the elderly. As a Member of the House of Representatives, he at one point worked incognito to gain first-hand experience of conditions in the nursing home industry. He served for 6 years as chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, and, as ranking member, is continuing the fight to save Social Security and bring down prescription drug prices.

Senators, and I was one of them, heard his announcement that he did not plan to run again in 1996 with both relief and great regret. Relief, because he works too hard. If by leaving the Senate he can stop working too hard, then that is the right thing to do, for his health and for his wonderful wife and family. But I do feel sincere regret, for the Senate and for the Nation, that in 1996 we will lose his legislative skills and his compassion for the individual. And speaking for myself, I feel genuine regret that our working relationship will be ending. It has been a warm, collegial, productive relationship for 17 years, most notably on the Aging Committee. I have appreciated both the astuteness of his insights and the pleasure of his company, and hope to do so for the remainder of our terms.

THE NUCLEAR AGE'S BLINDING DAWN

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, 50 years ago yesterday, July 16, 1945, the course of human history was changed forever.

President Harry Truman, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin were preparing for the European peace conference to end the war with Hitler and the Axis. There were major questions to be answered. Where would the conference be held? The war in the Pacific was still raging; would Russia enter into the war against Japan?

And, then, we learned about the events at Los Alamos, NM. We did not know that we had just succeeded in the greatest scientific race of all time, let alone the unquestionable magnitude of this achievement that would end the Second World War. Until this time, the activities at Los Alamos were shrouded in complete secrecy.

As recounted in several superb articles in New Mexico newspapers, the activities at Los Alamos changed the lives of New Mexicans as much as they impacted upon the rest of the world.

During the early morning of July 16, 1945, some of the citizens in New Mexico witnessed a sudden illumination in the sky. A friend of mine Rowena Baca, was quoted as saying that her "grandmother thought it was the end of the

world." This shocking irradiation incited Mrs. Baca's grandmother to shove her, as well as her cousin, under the bed. From underneath the bed, the two children saw the walls and ceiling reflect a red color. They were 35 miles from the Trinity sight, where the explosion occurred.

Dolly Oscuro's ranch used to include the land that became the Trinity sight. Where the cattle grazed, Mrs. Oscuro remembers looking out her window and seeing a rising mushroom cloud.

Helen and William Wrye, also ranchers, were returning home from a long and exhausting trip. They live in the same house that is 20 miles from the Trinity sight. They slept through the explosion. The radiation, according to Mr. Wrye, caused his beard to quit growing for a while. Of course, we are not sure that was the case, but at least that is what he perceives.

Mr. friend, Larry Calloway, who writes for the Albuquerque Journal, wrote what is in my opinion an articulate, well-documented, and human perspective of the first successfully tested atomic bomb. The article, "The Nuclear Age's Blinding Dawn," describes in detail the events of the night and morning leading up to this first display of atomic power.

Mr. Calloway's article portrays the human side of this historic day: about people such as Joe McKibben who wired the instruments that set off the implosion bomb; Berlyn Brizner who served as chief photographer; and Jack Aeby, a civilian technician who assisted in placing the radiation detectors—just to name a few.

"The Nuclear Age's Blinding Dawn" is worthy reading for all Americans. Many times, the specific event in history overshadows the individuals who made the event possible. Mr. Calloway tells us about the people in New Mexico who made this historic achievement happen.

Fifty years later, in hindsight, debate continues on the issue of whether development and deployment of the atomic bomb was the right thing to do. For example, a Smithsonian exhibit featuring the *Enola Gay*, the plane that dropped "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, becomes controversial. It is probably fair to suggest that the debate will rage for another 50 years. However, many believe that their work associated with this effort was right.

On this anniversary, let's turn to other aspects of this event. Our entrance into the Nuclear Age is as much about people as it is about science. It is the well known people: J. Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi, I.I. Rabi, Niels Bohr, Hans Bethe, Luis Alvarez, Emilio Segre, Norman Ramsey, Val Fitch, Aage Bohr, A.H. Compton, E.O. Lawrence, and James Chadwick, and Maj. Gen. Leslie R. Groves, to mention a few.

It is about the citizens of New Mexico who witnessed the Trinity test.

And, it is about the unsung workers and scientists at Los Alamos who were