

occur the weekend of October 28, followed by conviction and expulsion from the country. Finally, a commitment was made that the release would occur this past weekend in Vietnam.

While all of this goes to show that freedom of speech and due process are still scarce in Vietnam, I am pleased that normalization has apparently given us more tools to pursue issues of dispute with the Vietnamese Government. The two Americans have now been released, but many political prisoners, whose only crime has been to address issues of religious and political freedom, remain locked away in Vietnamese prisons.

I am encouraged as well that the Vietnamese have been more forthcoming with the release of information about MIA's and POW's after normalization. We must continue our efforts with Vietnam to pursue a full accounting, as my resolution also has requested.

Again, I applaud the personal intervention of Secretary Warren Christopher and Secretary Lord on this important matter, and I also look forward to working with them to pursue our mutual goals now that we have normalized our relationships with Vietnam.

To Mr. Tri and to Mr. Liem I say, Welcome home.

Mr. President, I yield the floor. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### HOLD THE LINE—NO COMPROMISE

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, recently I received a letter from a constituent named Sue Magruder, who lives in Snohomish, WA. This is what she wrote:

DEAR SENATOR GORTON: Hold the line. If the President decides to veto and the Government shuts down, so be it. We don't need all this Government, and compromise is out of the question.

Please pass this sentiment on to the rest of your colleagues. We want you to hold the line. Don't compromise with my tax dollars because there is no more to give.

Mrs. Magruder and her husband are small business people in the town of Snohomish, WA. They feel—and I think they feel justly—that they are overburdened with regulation and with taxes, with attempting to support themselves, with attempting to make both their own family and their community a better place in which to live. And they, together with millions of other Americans like them, want us to continue on the course that we set out at the beginning of this year—the course that will bring the budget into balance, a course that will remove at least some

of the duplicative and unnecessary regulations from their backs, a course which will lessen the burden of taxation, which governments at all levels impose on them.

They, unlike many Members of Congress, believe that the money that they earn is their own, and that they can be asked to give some of that to support common purposes. They disagree, however, that somehow or another everything they earn belongs to the Government, which, in its generosity, will allow them to keep some of it. That is a fundamental disagreement that they have with many Members of this body and many others who live and work in this Capital of the United States. They know that every penny the Government gets comes out of the pocket of some hard-working American citizen or some other person who lives and works at some point or another in this country.

Sue Magruder wrote that there is no more to give. In that line, she was concentrating on herself and her family and her community. But at least an equally undesirable—no, immoral element in the way in which this Government has been run during the course of the last 20, 30, or 40 years is that we spend money by the hundreds of billions of dollars that we are not taking directly from our citizens in the form of taxes, but are borrowing, at interest, and sending the bill not to the citizens who live and work in the United States now, but to their children and our children and grandchildren. That, Mr. President, is a greater imposition, a greater wrong done to them than can possibly be done by any control over the increase in spending policies, by the cancellation of any marginal Government spending program.

We simply do not have the right to spend the money on consumption today and ask our children and their children and their children to pay the bill. That is the central issue; that is the central question which separates us from a White House that believes in the status quo and believes that there really is nothing wrong with the continuation of multibillion-dollar deficits year after year, as far as the eye can see. And it is on that proposition, Mr. President, that I do not believe that constructive compromise is possible. Once the White House, once the administration realizes the depth of our feeling on this issue, once it comes to its senses and is willing to join us in the goal of balancing the budget in 7 long years, on the basis of realistic projections, then, Mr. President, I think many things are said to be compromised. Many elements of the spending program can go up while others go down. I do not believe that there is any absolute bottom line after we have reached that conclusion. Under those circumstances, compromise will be a constructive activity. But to compromise away the proposition that we must stop spending more than we take in would be essentially wrong, would be

a repudiation of the commitments that those in the majority made to our voters last year. Mr. President, I am convinced it cannot and will not be done.

So, if I may, I will end these comments by repeating one part of Sue Magruder's letter:

We want you to hold the line. Don't compromise with my tax dollars because there is no more to give.

Mr. President, that is correct and that is the line that we are going to continue to hold.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES— H.R. 2546

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the order of November 2, 1995, the Chair is authorized to appoint conferees on the bill, H.R. 2546.

The Presiding Officer appointed Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. INOUE conferees on the part of the Senate.

#### THE DEATH OF ISRAEL PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN

Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, it is with a sad heart that I offer a few final words today on behalf of Yitzhak Rabin—statesman, military war hero, peacemaker, and friend.

His burial in Jerusalem on Monday casts a pall over Israel and the Middle East. The resilient people of Israel will overcome this tragedy, but his assassination reminds us of the extremist poisons that continue to threaten Yitzhak Rabin's dream—peace between Israel and the Arab world.

I first met Yitzhak Rabin when he served as Ambassador to the United States beginning in 1968. It was one of many leadership posts he held in a long and distinguished career. From brigade commander in the 1948 war of independence to Army Chief of Staff during the historic 6-day success in the 1967 war to Ambassador and then Prime Minister on two different occasions, Yitzhak Rabin embodied the fighting, and now peacemaking, Jewish spirit.

I had the good fortune of visiting with him many times over a period of three decades. Following the raid on Entebbe, he honored my mother-in-law, my wife, and me with a state dinner in Jerusalem in 1973. During visits to Israel since then, and on his trips to Washington, I continued to learn from Yitzhak Rabin's political wisdom and insights, as well as appreciate the difficulty of living in a world surrounded by declared adversaries. His was a

voice of reason, forged by the fires of war and tempered these last few years by yearnings for peace.

Because of my own military background, Yitzhak Rabin shared additional insights with me on the strength and force of Israeli defense forces and difficult combat environment they faced. I respected him enormously for the military prowess he demonstrated during his years of service and afterwards. His fighting skills in 1948 and 1967 earned him accolades as an authentic war hero. Most would agree that his military leadership was invaluable in securing the birth, and continuing security, of the Jewish State.

But Yitzhak Rabin left the battlefield for the political trenches in the 1970's, initially implementing iron fist policies during his first term as Prime Minister that brooked no dissent from the enemies of Israel. Hostile states, terrorist organizations committed to the destruction of the Jewish State, and other inimical forces would not push Israel into the sea.

After a stint as Defense Minister in the 1980's and then a Labor-Likud powersharing arrangement, Yitzhak Rabin returned to the Prime Minister's Office and began to lay the groundwork for comprehensive peace with the Palestinians and Arab Nations. It was not an easy decision to make, trading land for peace, but no one was more respected or qualified to lead Israel away from the bloodshed of its past to a more secure future.

The 1993 Declaration of Principles has started us down that road. I will not forget the Prime Minister's words that sunny September morning 2 years ago on the White House lawn when the accord was signed. "The time for peace has come," he said. "We, the soldiers who have returned from battles stained with blood \* \* \* say in a loud and clear voice: Enough of blood and tears. Enough."

King Hussein appropriately eulogized Yitzhak Rabin as one who "died as a soldier of peace." We can only hope that his assassination imbues the peace process, pushing implementation of the Oslo II agreement forward. In earlier times Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin espoused different views and styles within the same Labor Party tent, but in an ironic twist the two forged a personal alliance these last few years in the name of peace. I have high hopes for the Acting Prime Minister carrying forward with Rabin's good work.

For if he were with us today, I think Yitzhak Rabin would urge us to finish the job he has begun. It only saddens me that this courageous leader did not live to enjoy the fruits of his own labor to create a better future for Israel.

#### THE DEATH OF YITZHAK RABIN

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President I, rise today to express my profound grief over the death of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin—a man who was brave in the conduct of war and courageous in the pursuit of peace.

Yitzhak Rabin's life embodied the very concept of leadership. He was a warrior of great skill, an accomplished diplomat, and, in the fullest sense of the term, a statesman. His leadership was a catalyst of reconciliation and peace in a region long torn by animosity and war. The dramatic progress we have witnessed over the last 2 years in the Middle East peace process would not have occurred without the leadership of Yitzhak Rabin.

One of his key strengths as a leader was his ability to bond realism with optimism. It is a trait that is all too rare and all too necessary in regions beset by conflict.

Rabin combined his acute understanding of the obstacles to peace in the Middle East with his recognition that peace was essential to security of his nation. The product is the historic roadmap in the Middle East we must now follow. It has not, nor will not, be an easy path. It will be all the more difficult in his absence.

In such endeavors, leaders matter. Rabin's tenure as Prime Minister demonstrated this clearly. Despite setbacks and ever present dangers, Rabin never allowed himself to become disillusioned with prospects for peace. He forged ahead. He marshalled support for what were initially unpopular, but nonetheless necessary, steps toward Arab-Israeli reconciliation. Rabin kept the process on track.

The death of Yitzhak Rabin is clearly a blow to the peace process. However, Mr. President, his assassination is not a reflection of the fragility of peace he has helped bring to the Middle East. It is a reflection of the urgency with which we must work to consolidate that peace.

We must remember that while leaders matter, it is their visions that are enduring. Yitzhak Rabin left to Israel and the Middle East, indeed to the world, a vision of reconciliation that will be his lasting legacy. Our greatest contribution to the memory of Yitzhak Rabin must not be our grief over his departure, but determination to ensure that his vision of peace and reconciliation becomes an enduring reality in the Middle East.

#### REMEMBERING YITZHAK RABIN: WARRIOR FOR PEACE

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember one of America's greatest friends—my friend Yitzhak Rabin—who was tragically murdered Saturday in Israel. His sudden death is even more shocking because he was assassinated just after making an impassioned speech for peace in the Mideast.

Mr. President, Yitzhak Rabin was the strongest leader in today's world. Period. As he guided the ship of Israel through a sea of hostility, he forcefully led the troubled Mideast toward peace. We can only hope that we continue to seek the Prime Minister's goal—peace among Moslem, Christian, and Jew—

and continue to turn away from the violence that always bubbles just under the surface in that part of the world.

Yitzhak Rabin trained to be a farmer. Like one of our greatest Presidents, Harry S. Truman, Prime Minister Rabin had the plain-speaking, straightforward, blunt common sense of farmers. But also like Truman, Rabin's destiny led him to the army and to becoming a world leader whose strategic intellect was respected all over.

Just 6 years ago, Senators DANIEL INOUE, Jake Garn, and I spent several hours with Rabin when he was Israel's Defense Minister. To this day, I will not forget the time that Mr. Rabin spent showing us the intricate desert defense preparations made by Israel. His courtesy, combined with his intense attention to detail, made our mission a learning success.

Mr. President, if there is one thing that I have realized in recent years, it is that Yitzhak Rabin was a warrior for peace in the Mideast. When Israel's security was in grave danger, he fought and led military battles, notably the Six-Day War in 1967. But over time, he came to embrace peace as the only way for Mideast stability.

Just 90 minutes before he was gunned down in Tel Aviv, Prime Minister Rabin stood before more than 100,000 people at a rally to implore them to harvest the fruits of peace. He said, "I waged war as long as there was no chance for peace. I believe there is now a chance for peace, a great chance, and we must take advantage of it for those standing here, and for those who are not here." A few moments later, he added, "The people truly want peace and oppose violence. Violence erodes the basis of Israeli democracy."

Mr. President, today, in our grief, as we remember our friend Yitzhak Rabin, let us all look to his last words for the guidance to achieve the greatest legacy we can give our friend—a lasting peace.

Mr. President, an editorial in today's edition of the State of Columbia is a fitting tribute to Prime Minister Rabin. I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RABIN: "BEST IN WAR, BUT \* \* \* GREATEST IN PEACE"

Among the thousands who will experience the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin in front of an international audience today, the thoughts should be on the peace process the Israeli prime minister was setting up when an assassin struck him.

As Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said, Mr. Rabin was "at his best in war, but at his greatest in peace."

There was more truth than hyperbole in this. The man was a warrior who served as chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces, overseeing the dramatic victory over Arab armies in the Six-Day War of 1967. He had risen to this position after more than 20 years as a soldier, a career that began in the Jewish underground before independence, as a commando in Haganah.