

family endured in order to protect the freedoms we all enjoy in this country.

Mr. President, let me close by saying to the children of Colonel Shelton that we can never replace the years you lost with your father, but his marker in Arlington National Cemetery will serve as a reminder for generations to come of his heroism, his courage, and his unyielding love for this country.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, morning business is closed.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I appreciate your recognition. I would like to use my leader time to make a statement on the pending resolution prior to the time to take our vote.

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, 7 days ago, a brutal attack on a Federal office building in Oklahoma City left over 80 people dead, more than 400 injured, and a city and Nation shaken to its core.

On Sunday, the Nation observed a day of mourning. All Americans joined President Clinton, the families of victims, and the people of Oklahoma City in thought and prayer at the memorial service. With them, we thanked and honored the brave men and women who have aided in the rescue efforts at the bomb site. It was an added tragedy to learn Sunday that one of the rescuers, a nurse, lost her own life in the course of helping others.

The swift and efficient work of FBI and other Federal law enforcement in apprehending suspects reinforces the well-earned reputation of those agencies. Terrorists must know that no matter who they are, domestic or foreign, there is no place to hide from the reach of our law. President Clinton has made clear that those who committed this act will be pursued, found, convicted, and punished to the full extent of the law. He has the support of every law-biding American in that determination.

An act of terror—the intentional murder of innocent men, women, and small children—shattered the sense of security that Americans have enjoyed in an increasingly violent world. Our world has made us all vulnerable to the deranged and to the enraged. No one's security can be guaranteed against people determined to attack, to kill, to pursue their mad plans. Security cannot be guaranteed against those who have no concern for human life.

But that does not mean we are doomed to give in to the forces of insanity or mad rage. The human world has always been one of risks and dangers. Throughout human history, violence has erupted in wars and between individuals; human beings have been at

risk from the forces of nature, from disease and accident.

Today's violence and terrorism come into our homes through television images. They have an impact that written reports of battles and tornadoes could never have.

No sooner had Wednesday's bombing been reported than scores of faked bomb threats began to be received from coast to coast. Federal buildings in Kansas City; Miami; Portland, OR; Dayton and Steubenville, OH; Casper, WY, and Boise, ID, were closed. In Omaha, the Zorinsky Federal Building was closed, and its day center emptied, by a bomb threat.

Television and wire service stories reported all these threats and others. No wonder Americans all over the country immediately felt at risk. The immediacy of live television, the awful images of wounded, bleeding, shaking people staggering out of the Federal building in Oklahoma City made every American watching a participant in this hideous tragedy. No one who saw the small children covered with blood, dazed and bewildered, will ever forget their eyes.

The deaths and injuries, have brutalized families all across America. A young woman from Spearfish, SD, serving in the Air Force, is among the missing. Married just 4 days before the bombing, she left her duty station at Tinker Air Force Base on Wednesday morning to go to the Social Security office in the Federal building in Oklahoma City to register her married name, and she has not been found. Her father, David Koch of Rapid City, her high school classmates from the 1993 graduating class at Spearfish High, and all who knew her have been devastated by this terrorist attack. That is true for literally hundreds of families and people nationwide.

The immediacy of television brings us closer together as a Nation mourning national tragedies, but it also makes each of us feel less safe, less secure in our daily lives.

We should not let ourselves forget that outbreaks of insane violence have occurred before. In 1927, for instance, a Michigan farmer unable to pay his property taxes bombed a school full of children, killing more than 40, because he blamed the construction of the school for his high property taxes.

Incidents like that were not as frequent in a smaller, younger nation. But they did not occur and despite the fact that they occurred, Americans in every generation remained true to the constitutional structure of Government that has given us the world's most free society.

We need to remember this fact, as my colleagues from Oklahoma said so eloquently this morning, of our history in the face of the Oklahoma City tragedy. This act of terrorism will have achieved a purpose if it robs Americans of their sense of security. It will have achieved a purpose if it leads us to respond irrationally. It will have

achieved a purpose if public discourse turns to invective.

The deaths and injuries caused by the bombing of the Federal building must not be allowed to rip apart the fabric of our society.

The resolution the Senate is about to pass expresses the outrage and sadness of the Senate and the American people with respect to the bombing in Oklahoma City. It commends all those involved in the rescue efforts and the investigation. It offers our sincere condolences to all those who lost family members and friends in, and all those who were injured by, the bombing.

I want to clarify one point with respect to the resolution. It states correctly that the law authorizes the death penalty for terrorist murderers. Although the death penalty is not a sentencing option for those convicted of the World Trade Center bombing, the 1994 crime bill, which was enacted after the World Trade Center bombing, does provide for the death penalty in cases such as the bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma City.

The resolution also expresses support for the President's and the Attorney General's statements that Federal prosecutors will seek the maximum punishment allowed by law for those convicted of the bombing. While some Senators support the death penalty for certain crimes and others oppose the death penalty as a matter of principle, there is a strong belief among all Senators that the apprehension, prosecution, and punishment of those who commit heinous crimes such as this one should be pursued as aggressively as possible. That belief is reflected in the strong support for this resolution.

Of course, words can never express the depth of our emotions at a time like this. Furthermore, our national response must be multifaceted.

We have to relearn the hard fact that our technologically advanced society has created new ways to make us vulnerable. And it will never be possible to develop enough technological security to make us invulnerable. Metal detectors and x-ray machines, and electronic ID cards all have their place in necessary security actions. But the bombing in Oklahoma City proves that you need not even enter a building to blow it up.

At the same time, we must become more vigilant and more aware. The number of bombing incidents in the United States has gone up more than fourfold in the last decade. In 1983, the FBI reported 683 bombing incidents. In 1993, the last year for which complete figures are available, the FBI reported 2,980 bombing incidents.

Few Americans realize this, but in an increasingly violent and fragmented world, we cannot afford to be complacent. There are some steps we can take to respond more forcefully and proactively to the threat of terrorism, whether it is home-grown or comes from abroad.

We must do more and focus more attention on the intelligence resources that may help detect potential terrorist attacks before they can be consummated. We should take up and pass President Clinton's anti-terrorism proposals. We should determine what additional tools the FBI and other law enforcement agencies may need to carry out their missions.

We should examine proposals for improved visa tracking of overseas visitors to the United States, so that those who overstay their visa time cannot simply vanish into society without a trace. We should take steps to alter our asylum procedures, so that those legitimately seeking political refuge can be admitted, while those using asylum backlogs as a pretext are not allowed to stay indefinitely, but let us remember, as well, that this tragedy was not the work of overseas terrorists, but of Americans, people who enjoyed the great freedom our Nation offers.

We have become accustomed to seeing terrorist attacks in other parts of the world—Bosnia, the Middle East, Europe, and Latin America. Americans have seen hundreds of smoke-stained people streaming out of the World Trade Center Buildings in New York City. In response, we have been quick to explain that the causes are nationalism, or religious fanaticism, or some other belief system with which Americans have nothing in common.

Americans have always been quick to seek reasons to explain what happens in the world around them. But there are events so monstrous, so evil, that they cannot be explained away. No human reasons can account for the minds that could conceive, or the hands that could carry out, this deed.

Nevertheless, it is natural and healthy for each of us to question and try to understand how this could have happened, and to think—beyond laws—about what we as a society might do to reverse the trends of violence and intolerance in America.

It is imperative that we find ways for Americans from diverse backgrounds with sometimes very divergent points of view to live harmoniously.

The first step toward that goal is for us to talk to each other. We must find better ways to do that. We must restore civility to private, and especially public, discourse. We should not permit our political or racial or ethnic or other differences to blind us to each other's truths.

If we listen to one another, we are likely to find our differences are not as great as some of the intemperate rhetoric makes them appear. We are likely to remember that what divides us is much less important than what unites us as a nation. We will never eliminate all our differences, but we will learn that we can live with them.

Each of us—as parents, neighbors, teachers, elected officials, candidates for office, journalists—has an affirmative responsibility to promote that kind of environment.

The bombing in Oklahoma City is the result of evil, misguided people. We do not yet know what their motivation was; we can only speculate. But we can ask ourselves if our increasingly hateful public discourse is falling on ears receptive to hate, if it is providing a context for hands ready to undertake hateful acts.

No one believes that the actions of any man are the fault of the speech of another, but people are inspired and uplifted by words and ideas. We saw that at the memorial service in Oklahoma City. Words and ideas can and do inspire and uplift. But they can mislead and delude. All of us who speak and act in the public arena have an obligation to bear that in mind, for every time we speak, in effect, we are making a choice about what kind of environment we promote. The privilege of serving our community carries with it the obligation not to damage that community.

Americans now can and must do what earlier generations of Americans have done. We must mourn with the families of victims and pray for all the shattered lives and hopes. We must identify changes in the law that have the promise of making us safer. And we must continue to live our lives, saddened by the enormous loss, but rededicated to the social contract that binds us together and allows all of us from different backgrounds, with different ideas, to live together in peace.

CONDEMNING THE BOMBING IN OKLAHOMA CITY

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HUTCHISON). Under the previous order, the hour of 12 noon having arrived, the Senate will now proceed to consideration of Senate Resolution 110, which the clerk will report. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to vote on the resolution. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 110) expressing the sense of the Senate condemning the bombing in Oklahoma City.

The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. LOTT. I announce that the Senator from Oregon [Mr. HATFIELD] and the Senator from Vermont [Mr. JEFFORDS] are necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 133 Leg.]

YEAS—97

Abraham	Feingold	McCain
Akaka	Feinstein	McConnell
Ashcroft	Ford	Mikulski
Baucus	Frist	Moseley-Braun
Bennett	Glenn	Moynihan
Biden	Gorton	Murkowski
Bingaman	Graham	Murray
Bond	Gramm	Nickles
Boxer	Grams	Nunn
Bradley	Grassley	Packwood
Breaux	Gregg	Pell
Brown	Hatch	Pressler
Bryan	Heflin	Pryor
Bumpers	Helms	Reid
Burns	Hollings	Robb
Byrd	Hutchison	Rockefeller
Campbell	Inhofe	Roth
Chafee	Inouye	Santorum
Coats	Johnston	Sarbanes
Cochran	Kassebaum	Shelby
Cohen	Kempthorne	Simon
Conrad	Kennedy	Simpson
Coverdell	Kerrey	Smith
Craig	Kerry	Snowe
D'Amato	Kohl	Specter
Daschle	Kyl	Stevens
DeWine	Lautenberg	Thomas
Dodd	Leahy	Thompson
Dole	Levin	Thurmond
Domenici	Lieberman	Warner
Dorgan	Lott	Wellstone
Exon	Lugar	
Faircloth	Mack	

NOT VOTING—3

Harkin Hatfield Jeffords

So the resolution (S. Res. 110) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

[Senate Resolution 110 was not available for printing. It will appear in a future issue of the RECORD.]

RECESS UNTIL 2:15 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:37 p.m., recessed until 2:16 p.m., whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. KYL].

COMMONSENSE PRODUCT LIABILITY AND LEGAL REFORM ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report pending business.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 956) to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Gorton amendment No. 596, in the nature of a substitute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. PELL. 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.