

How much stronger our country would be if our leaders took to heart the prophetic words that Eisenhower spoke in his 1961 farewell address to the American people:

Ike said, "As we peer into society's future, we must avoid the impulse to live only for today, plundering for our own ease and convenience the precious resources of tomorrow. We cannot mortgage the material assets of our grandchildren without risking the loss also of their political and spiritual heritage. We want democracy to survive for all generations to come, and not to become the insolvent phantom of tomorrow."

As always, Eisenhower matched his words with actions. There have been four balanced federal budgets in the last half century. And Ike gave us three of them. He knew that it was easy to be popular. It is easy to say "yes" to every federal program. But he also knew that more important than being popular for a moment is to provide leadership that stands the test of time.

Along with trusting the American people, Ike also trusted the values that built our country, and that were instilled in him by his parents in Abilene. Values like hard work. Honesty. Personal responsibility. Common sense. Compassion for those in need. And, above all, love of family, God, and country.

These are the values that built America, and they are values that must never go out of fashion, or be regarded as "politically incorrect," by our government or by those in our entertainment industry.

Along with trusting our citizens, and trusting our values, there's one final lesson about trust that Eisenhower's life and career can teach us. And that's the fact that the world must always be able to count on American leadership.

And that's a lesson I hope we especially remembered yesterday, the 50th anniversary of VE Day. It was American leadership that built the arsenal of democracy which made that victory possible. It was American leadership that held the Allies together during the darkest days of the war. And it was American leadership which conquered the forces of tyranny and restored liberty and democracy to Europe.

Make no mistake about it, leadership carries a price. It did during World War II. It did during the Eisenhower Administration. And it does today. But it is a price worth paying. As Ike said in his Second Inaugural Address, "The building of * * * peace is a bold and solemn purpose. To proclaim it is easy. To serve it will be hard. And to attain it, we must be aware of its full meaning—and ready to pay its full price."

And Ike never forgot just what that full price meant. He said that whenever he returned to Normandy after the war, his foremost thoughts were not with the planes and the ships or the guns. Rather, he said, "I thought of the families back home that had lost men at this place."

I was privileged to walk the beaches of Normandy and to return to the hills of Italy where I saw action during the D-Day commemorations last June. And I, too, thought of the families back home that had lost men, and how we must never forget the cause for which they fought and died. And the only way to ensure that future generations of Americans will not be buried on foreign land, is to continue to provide leadership whenever and wherever it is needed.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am honored by the confidence bestowed in me through this leadership award and will do my best to meet the high expectations left by the legacy of Dwight Eisenhower.

In closing, I want to share with you a few more words of this American hero—and they

were words he spoke on that rainy day in Abilene 43 years ago.

Returning home led Ike to think about growing up in Kansas, and he said "I found out in later years we were very poor, but the glory of America is that we didn't know it then: all that we knew was that our parents * * * could say to us, "Opportunity is all about you. Reach out and take it."

By working together and trusting one another, we can ensure that for generations yet to come, America's parents will still be able to say those words to their sons and daughters. This is what we owe to the memory of people like Dwight Eisenhower and all the GIs of World War II we remembered yesterday. But ultimately, we owe it to ourselves, to our children, and to the future of the country we love.

FREEDOM SHRINE FOR THE HOT SPRINGS VA MEDICAL CENTER

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, an exciting event recently took place in the southern Black Hills of South Dakota. The Freedom Shrine, a collection of documents from U.S. history, was dedicated at the Hot Springs VA Medical Center in Hot Springs, SD.

I commend Maurice Wintersteen, the Exchange Club of Rapid City, and Hot Springs VA Director Dan Marsh, for their efforts to bring the Freedom Shrine to Hot Springs. Late last year, Maurice Wintersteen approached the Exchange Club of Rapid City about sponsoring a freedom shrine in the local VA Hospital. The Exchange Club of Rapid City agreed to his request, and Director Marsh threw his full support behind the project.

As a result of their dedicated efforts, the Freedom Shrine became a reality and was placed in the rotunda of the VA Domiciliary Building. The Freedom Shrine displays reproductions of 28 historic American documents, including the U.S. Constitution, President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and President Kennedy's Inaugural Address. It is my understanding the Hot Springs VA Hospital is the only VA facility in the Nation to have such a freedom shrine.

It is very fitting that the Freedom Shrine was dedicated on the 50th anniversary of the death of President Franklin Roosevelt—the man who led a worldwide alliance against a tyranny that threatened freedom-living people throughout the world. The Freedom Shrine serves as an essential reminder to all Americans that the freedom we enjoy today is the direct result of the enormous effort and sacrifice of our forefathers, from the pioneers who first settled the Nation, to the veterans who gave their lives to defend it and the values we stand for. We must never forget the precious gift they gave us. It is ours to preserve for future generations.

Inspired by the Freedom Train that toured the United States with American historical documents after the Second World War, the National Exchange Club resolved to display documents from U.S. history in communities throughout the Nation so that Americans of all ages would have easy access to the rich heritage of their

past. Since 1949, many freedom shrines have been installed by exchange clubs in various communities across the Nation, Puerto Rico, and at American outposts around the world. From State capitols to U.S. warships, and hundreds of schools across the Nation, freedom shrines serve as an invaluable reference for students and other citizens seeking information or inspiration from these historic treasures.

Again, I congratulate the Exchange Club of Rapid City, Maurice Wintersteen, Hot Springs VA Director Dan Marsh, and all our veterans for their ongoing commitment to the preservation of American principles. Their deep pride in the history, traditions, and values of our great State and Nation are reflected in the Freedom Shrine. Most important, they have given present and future generations of South Dakotans a precious and lasting gift. I salute everyone involved with this inspiring project.

THE FUTURE OF THE B-1B BOMBER IS SECURE

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, last week the Pentagon released a much-anticipated report by the Institute for Defense Analyses [IDA] on our Nation's heavy bomber force structure. This report, the heavy bomber study, examined the deployment options of our long-range heavy bomber forces—in association with additional tactical forces—under the circumstances of two hypothetical, nearly simultaneous world conflicts. To date, the IDA study is the most comprehensive, in-depth analysis of the use of our Nation's three heavy bombers—the B-1 bomber [B-1B], the B-2 stealth bomber, and the B-52—in a conventional war-fighting role.

I am pleased that the IDA study confirmed what I have said for quite some time: The B-1B is an efficient and effective long-range bomber, and it can be used successfully as the centerpiece of American airpower projection. The IDA study suggests that planned conventional upgrades to the B-1B would be more cost-effective than purchasing 20 additional B-2 bombers. Further, the study recommends that remaining B-2 bomber production preservation funds should be reallocated to other weapons and conventional upgrades. That would allow for a total bomber force consisting of 95 B-1B's, 66 B-52's, and 20 B-2's.

As my colleagues know, the B-1B was developed and built at the height of the cold war. Thus, it was anticipated that its function would be limited to meeting one of several nuclear options. However, the B-1B has shown to be an effective conventional force component—a testament to designers, Air Force strategists and pilots who recognized the versatility of this aircraft.

Time and again, the B-1B has had to meet new challenges. For example, the 1994 congressionally mandated assessment test of the B-1B, performed by the 28th Bomber Wing at Ellsworth Air

Force Base and code named the Dakota Challenge, measured the readiness rate of one B-1B bomber wing when provided fully with the necessary spare parts, maintenance equipment, support crews, and logistics equipment. The Dakota Challenge found that a fully funded B-1B wing could maintain an unprecedented 84 percent mission capable rate. In addition, improvements were seen in other readiness indicators, including the 12-hour fix rate—a measure of how often a malfunctioning aircraft can be repaired and returned to the air within one half day.

By meeting a number of different challenges, the B-1B has earned justifiably the designation as the workhorse of the heavy bomber fleet.

Based on the analysis of the IDA report, the B-1B should assume a prominent role in our Nation's defense. The study recognizes that maintaining the B-1B as the workhorse of the heavy bomber fleet would yield the highest return on our defense investment and render the most cost-effective contribution to our Nation's heavy bomber requirements. With continued investments in weapons upgrades, I believe the B-1B will be an outstanding and effective conventional heavy bomber capable of projecting America's air power into the next century.

Mr. President, over the next several decades, the United States increasingly will be forced to respond rapidly and decisively to regional security threats around the globe. Holding 36 world records for speed, payload, and distance, the B-1B is uniquely suited to meeting our Nation's present and future defense challenges. In this period of budget constraints, I urge my colleagues to consider carefully the recommendations in the IDA Heavy Bomber Study before casting their vote on any defense measures affecting our heavy bomber force structure.

WAS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? THE VOTERS HAVE SAID YES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, before contemplating today's bad news about the Federal debt, let us do that little pop quiz once more. You remember—one question, one answer:

Question: How many million dollars are in \$1 trillion? While you are arriving at an answer, bear in mind that it was the U.S. Congress that ran up the Federal debt that now exceeds \$4.8 trillion.

To be exact, as of the close of business Tuesday, May 9, the exact Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$4,853,699,696,611.41. This means that every man, woman, and child in America now owes \$18,424.73 computed on a per capita basis.

Mr. President, back to the pop quiz: How many million in a trillion? There are a million million in a trillion.

HONORING MARGARET STANFILL FOR BRAVERY AND SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise today to salute a Missourian who has distinguished herself for her bravery while in service to her country, Margaret Stanfill of Hayti, MO. As a nurse serving in the U.S. Army Nurses Corps during the Second World War, Margaret served her country with unprecedented bravery and dedication while participating in some of the greatest Allied successes of the war.

Margaret Stanfill was documented as the first American nurse to arrive on the beaches of Normandy during the Allies' D-day invasion of France on June 6, 1944. The wire service accounts of the invasion reported that the first nurses to arrive by barge, "waded ashore while battle-weary soldiers blinked in astonishment." The nurses, led by Margaret Stanfill and clothed in two layers of men's uniforms with steel helmets, went to work immediately setting up dressing stations in pup tents and ministering to the wounded. Many of the wounded were paratroopers injured as part of the initial assault. I rise today to salute Margaret's bravery and leadership, not only at Normandy, but throughout her life.

Margaret Stanfill grew up in Hayti, in the bootheel of Southeastern Missouri near the Tennessee border, graduating from Hayti high school in 1938. While in high school Margaret was a 4-year member of the basketball team, serving 1 year as team captain. She was also a 4-year member of the Hayti high school tennis team and was county high school's girls singles champion. After graduation, Margaret entered nurses training at the Baptist Hospital in Memphis, TN, graduating from there in 1940. After a year in private nursing, Margaret felt the call of service and entered the U.S. Army Nurses Corps, training at Camp Tyson.

Margaret arrived in England for additional training on August 1, 1942. By November of that year, she was among the first nurses to arrive on shore during the Allied invasion to liberate North Africa. The scenes of Margaret and her surgical operating unit being carried ashore from barges on the shoulders of their male colleagues appeared in news reels shown around the world. Her unit followed the Allied advance through North Africa into Sicily, where Margaret followed the infantry onto European soil at the invasion of Italy before returning to England for further training preceding the D-day Invasion.

Margaret Stanfill returned from the war and married Wick P. Moore, an Army captain she served with during the North Africa campaign. They settled down in Texas and had three children, two sons and a daughter. I once again salute Margaret Stanfill Moore for her service and bravery in playing a role in some of the most crucial events in the history of our Nation and our world. Her love of freedom and willing-

ness to give of herself and her talents for her country sets an example of service of which all of us can be proud.

NONPROFIT HOSPITALS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, many may believe that health care reform is not an issue in the 104th Congress. But I have been advocating reform in one form or another throughout my now 15 years in the Senate, and I continue to do so. I have come to the floor on 14 occasions over just the last 3 years to urge the Senate to address health care reform. On the first day the Congress was in session in 1993 and again on the first day in 1995, I introduced comprehensive health care legislation. The Health Care Assurance Act of 1995, S. 18, which I introduced on January 4 of this year, is comprised of reform initiatives that our health care system needs and can adopt immediately. They are reforms which can both improve access and affordability of coverage and health care delivery and implement systemic changes to bring down the escalating cost of care. Today, I again address my colleagues on the issue of health care access. I want to bring to the Senate's attention a particular component of our health care delivery system which is uniquely poised to provide innovative services which respond to the particular needs of individual communities, but which is in jeopardy—nonprofit hospitals.

In my view it is indispensable that there be comprehensive affordable, accessible health care for all Americans. I believe the essential question is whether we have sufficient resources, that is medical personnel and hospital, laboratory, diagnostic and pharmaceutical facilities to deliver services. I think we do; and nonprofit hospitals are an important resource of innovative, community-based care. Well over 80 percent of the hospitals in this country have been and are nonprofit institutions. Most nonprofits were founded decades ago and arose from religiously or ethnically identified groups and so were dedicated to serving a particular community. Most have adhered to this dedication to community and all of them serve without restriction or preference. There are approximately 80,000 voluntary trustees, leaders in their respective communities giving freely of their time, their energies, and their money to raise the level of health care in those communities. However, I am concerned that recent trends in the health care market, including the growth of large for-profit hospital systems, and the emphasis on costs and profits of many managed care organizations as they become economically dominant, threaten the community health focus of nonprofit hospitals.

We stand at the threshold of dramatic breakthroughs in understanding, preventing, and treating a variety of diseases. Clinical application of the breakthroughs in research will yield wondrous results which will alleviate