

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Georgia [Mr. NUNN], for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BRADLEY, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, and Mr. COHEN, proposes an amendment numbered 4367.

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

Mr. NUNN. I thank the Senator from West Virginia.

I yield the floor.

LETTING GO OF THE ONES WE LOVE

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, earlier today, Senator Leahy rose to pay tribute to his late mother, Alba LEAHY, who passed away last month. It was a beautiful tribute, filled with memories about the love that his mother radiated throughout her life and about the people which that love nourished. I was moved by reading Senator LEAHY's remarks. The memories he conveyed were so vivid because, some 14 years ago, I sustained a great loss. Upon two or three occasions, I attempted to make reference to that loss and give a tribute to my departed grandson.

I came to this same Senate floor and gave a eulogy for my grandson, and it was a very difficult thing to do. And I know that Senator LEAHY's remarks today were very hard for him to deliver.

Letting go of those whom we love is one of the most trying experiences, if not the most trying experience, in human existence. But looking back over a road of 78 years, it seems to me that much of life is about the seemingly simple process of letting go. It begins early in our human experience, as we let go of the security of our mother's arms, our mother's lap, of our favorite toys—if we were fortunate enough to have any toys—of childhood friends, of the house in which we grew up, our favorite teachers, and the blissful security of being still a child.

It continues throughout life, as we let go of our youth, as we watch our children grow up, as we watch them go away, as we say our final goodbyes to our parents and other loved ones, and at last we let go even of our own earthly existence to progress along the pathway to an unknown final destination.

Somehow, although we spend our lives letting go and moving on, it never becomes any easier. The practice never seems to make perfect; never seems to ease the pain of all of the goodbyes. The best that we poor humans can do is to handle the letting go with a modicum of dignity, to soothe the outward signs of pain with ceremony and nourish the lingering void inside with the sustenance of memories.

So, today Senator LEAHY shared some of his precious memories with all

of us here in the Senate. He had told his mother that he would deliver such a eulogy. At the time he talked about it with her, he thought that the time that eulogy would be expressed was perhaps some years away. But we have no way of knowing what another day will bring forth.

He bade his wonderful mother a beautiful farewell. But, as with all farewells, things will forever be changed. There are relationships and rituals in the Leahy family often, but nothing will ever be quite the same anymore.

As Senator LEAHY and his family traverse the familiar but ever difficult process of letting go, my heart goes out to them. But, as he already knows, and as is so evident in his beautiful tribute to his mother's life, as they always do, the memories will never cease to sustain us.

Let Fate do her worst, there are relics of joy,
Bright dreams of the past, which she cannot
destroy;

Which come, in the night-time of sorrow and
care,
And bring back the features that joy used to
wear.

Long, long, be my heart with such memories
filled,
Like the vase in which roses have once been
distilled,

You may break, you may shatter the vase, if
you will,

But the scent of the roses will hang round it
still.

Mr. LEAHY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I thank my dear friend from West Virginia. I have been privileged to serve with him for now 22 years, and I daresay that everything I have learned about the rules and protocol of this body I have learned from him. But I have learned far more than that.

I have learned from my good friend from West Virginia the special bond that Senators have. It really goes beyond party, or region, or anything else. And when my good friend from West Virginia, Senator BYRD, called me the weekend my mother died, when I was at my farmhouse in Vermont, his words touched me as a friend, as a Senator, as a colleague, and as one who knew my mother and knew my late father. His words were a great comfort to me and to my family at that time, as they are today.

He is right. There are times, of course, when we have to let go in our lives. I know the great tragedy that the Senator from West Virginia had in his own life more than a decade ago—almost a decade and a half ago now. I recall sitting in his office on a rainy evening once when we talked of that great tragedy. I could understand, not from a parental or grandparental feeling, but more through my own experiences as a prosecutor. I grieved for him, and I know how much he has grieved over the years since then. But I think he found during that time, and since, that it is his own friends and the words and thoughts of those friends

that helped him just as he helps me in this.

So I do thank him for doing that. I told my good friend from West Virginia that among my mother's possessions were letters that he had sent her on different occasions—birthdays, and whatnot. Among the things she had collected were speeches of his in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and poems that he had spoken.

He is the only person I have ever seen who is able to recite poetry of all types at great length with nary a note. She read those. And in the later years, when her eyes failed, I would read to her "The History of the Senate."

So, my friend, thank you.

I yield the floor.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, at the outset, I would like to add my sympathy and my condolences to my friend, Senator PAT LEAHY. I would not have known but for the eloquence of the Senator from West Virginia. Certainly, I know that all of us join in our thoughts and prayers at a very sad time.

(The remarks of Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN pertaining to the introduction of S. 1911 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

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

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

CONDEMNATION OF TERROR ATTACKS IN SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I send a Senate resolution to the desk and I ask that it be stated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows.

A resolution (S. Res. 273) condemning terrorist attacks in Saudi Arabia:

S. RES. 273

Whereas on June 25, 1996, a massive truck bomb exploded at the King Abdul Aziz Air Base near Dhahran, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

Whereas this horrific attack killed at least nineteen Americans and injured at least three hundred more;

Whereas the bombing also resulted in 147 Saudi casualties;

Whereas the apparent target of the attack was an apartment building housing United States service personnel;

Whereas on November 13, 1995, a terror attack in Saudi Arabia, also directed against U.S. personnel, killed five Americans, and two others;

Whereas individuals with ties to Islamic extremist organizations were tried, found guilty and executed for having participated in the November 13 attack;

Whereas United States Armed Forces personnel are deployed in Saudi Arabia to protect the peace and freedom secured in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm;

Whereas the relationship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been built with bipartisan support and has served the interest of both countries over the last five decades and;

Whereas this terrorist outrage underscores the need for a strong and ready military able to defend American interests—

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns in the strongest terms the attacks of June 25, 1996, and November 13, 1995 in Saudi Arabia;

(2) extends condolences and sympathy to the families of all those United States service personnel killed and wounded, and to the Government and people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

(3) honors the United States military personnel killed and wounded for their sacrifice in service to the nation;

(4) expresses its gratitude to the Government and the people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their heroic rescue efforts at the scene of the attack and their determination to find and punish those responsible for this outrage;

(5) reaffirms its steadfast support for the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and for continuing good relations between the United States and Saudi Arabia;

(6) determines that such terrorist attacks present a clear threat to United States interests in the Persian Gulf;

(7) calls upon the United States Government to continue to assist the Government of Saudi Arabia in its efforts to identify those responsible for this contemptible attack;

(8) urges the United States Government to use all reasonable means available to the Government of the United States to punish the parties responsible for this cowardly bombing and;

(9) reaffirms its commitment to provide all necessary support for the men and women of our Armed Forces who volunteer to stand in harm's way.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I wish to stress that this is a bipartisan resolution, and I wonder if I might ask the distinguished clerk to read the cosponsors so that they might be shown in the RECORD.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Mr. HELMS, for himself, Mr. PELL, Mr. LOTT, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to be listed as a cosponsor of this measure.

Mr. HELMS. I thank the Senator.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to also be added as a cosponsor.

Mr. HELMS. I certainly thank the Senator.

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I likewise ask unanimous consent that I be added as a cosponsor.

Mr. HELMS. I thank all three Senators.

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

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, all decent and honorable human beings join in the condemnation of the brutal terrorists who participated in Tuesday's

cowardly and contemptible attack on United States military personnel in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

All of us send our condolences to the families of the 19 brave Air Force servicemen and women who died in the attack, and we offer our prayers to the hundreds of wounded U.S. military personnel.

This tragedy has touched my home State of North Carolina. Airman 1st Class Paul Blais of Kinston was among those killed in the bombing. We send our condolences and prayers to his family. Also we convey our deepest sympathies to the people and the Government of Saudi Arabia for the many scores of Saudi citizens who were wounded in the attack.

Mr. President, the United States is a world leader, a nation with global responsibilities, and is therefore necessarily obliged to assign young Americans in uniform to almost every corner of the world to protect the interests of the American people and our allies.

When and wherever young Americans sacrifice their lives we are reminded of the big price paid to maintain America's global obligations. This price has been especially high in Saudi Arabia, where another bombing last November killed five Americans. Despite the cost, Mr. President, we must stand firm in our support for Saudi Arabia.

Terrorists will not and cannot drive the United States out of Saudi Arabia. U.S. interests in that country, and in the Persian gulf, are clear and compelling. We have a vital national interest in maintaining the stability of this strategically important region and shielding our friends in the gulf from the expansionist designs of rogue regimes in Iran and Iraq.

Mr. President, since the dust has barely settled from the blast, the facts are not yet entirely clear. Nobody yet knows who is responsible for this cowardly attack. I am confident that our Saudi friends will make every effort to apprehend and punish those guilty of this outrage and if this bombing turns out to be the work of a hostile foreign government, I hope that the President will respond swiftly and harshly.

Through this tragedy, we must remember to thank our friends in Saudi Arabia for their rescue efforts, which have won praise from United States officials. We should be grateful for the lives that may have been saved by their prompt reaction.

Mr. McCAIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I join with my colleague from North Carolina and applaud his action and believe that all of us obviously share his view, his outrage and his sorrow, especially for the young man from the State of North Carolina who was killed.

I also think we should consider some salient facts. One is that this is not the first act of terror that has been committed in Saudi Arabia. It is not the first time that American lives have

been lost. Last November, there was another bombing. I think it is very important for us to recognize that this administration has an obligation to take every possible measure to protect the lives of these young men and women in Saudi Arabia.

Since the last bombing in November, the President of the United States held an antiterrorism summit which took place at a resort in Egypt. I have no idea how many millions of dollars it took to provide security. There was 240 minutes of opening statements made at this antiterrorism summit, 40 minutes of discussion, and then all participants went out for a nice photo-op where they all, in an almost teenage fashion, raised each other's arms in the air and celebrated the end of terrorism.

To my knowledge, Mr. President, there was no concrete action taken as a result of this photo-op antiterrorism summit. So now we have the next tragedy and the next outrage. What is the President of the United States going to do? He is going to raise it at the G-7 Summit and make the G-7 Summit an antiterrorism summit.

Meanwhile, the Secretary of State has just gone back to Damascus again. I remind my colleagues that Syria is still a nation listed as a terrorist nation by the State Department. I might point out it was his 25th trip to Syria.

I saw Mr. Netanyahu, the new Prime Minister of Israel, last night, and he made a very important point I think, and that is that first we have to have security before we can have peace.

Perhaps some people have those priorities reversed. If we want to stop terrorism, we do not attack it at the end of the line, the end of the chain where the act of terrorism takes place. We go to the source.

I do not know whether this act of terror or the one before were orchestrated from within and are simply part of the internal Saudi Arabian situation—although I should note that four individuals were beheaded by the Saudis recently because they were supposed to have been the culprits in the November bombing that took five American lives. I do not think many of us think that trading of lives is really a satisfactory answer, which emphasizes my point of the President taking care of the problem after rather than before it has done the damage. But I also do not know, nor do any of us yet know, if this act of terror was orchestrated from without, by well-known terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah.

I am not an expert on acts of terrorism. I do know something about the conduct of warfare. From what I have seen of this act, it required a significant amount of sophistication, planning, and execution. Apparently, there were people who were seen in and around the compound, checking out the security points, passers-by asking questions, and of course, as we know, a warning was sounded but, unfortunately and tragically, too late. But I suggest, if it is Hezbollah or if it is another terrorist organization which has

been provided training by either the Iranians or the Syrians, then I suggest we should respond and respond in the strongest fashion.

I do not say every situation is similar, but I do remember with great clarity after the bombing of a cafe in Germany where American lives were taken, and we traced it back to Mr. Qadhafi, and there was a bombing raid on Mr. Qadhafi. Mr. Qadhafi has been very quiet ever since then—ever since. I do not suggest we bomb Damascus. I am not suggesting that we do anything to the Iranians militarily. That is a decision that the President as Commander in Chief makes, sometimes in consultation with the leaders of Congress.

What I am suggesting is that antiterrorism photo ops do not do the job. The United States should lead. The United States should urge our allies to cooperate and assist us. I think it is about time. There seems to be some problem between ourselves and our European allies as to how to treat Iran. I would remind our European friends—and they are indeed our close and dear friends—that there are 20,000 American troops in Bosnia as we speak, who have their lives on the line. We believe that Iran is a threat to the peace and security, not only of the West, but the men and women in our military.

So I applaud the Senator from North Carolina for his resolution. I know all of us support it. All of us share in the anguish and the anger and the sorrow of the families of Americans who have suffered death and injury in this latest outrage. Words do not adequately describe how strongly we feel about that.

But now, or very soon, our efforts should be made to prevent a recurrence of this tragedy, this kind of tragedy which has already happened twice in the country of Saudi Arabia. The answer is not to leave Saudi Arabia, Mr. President, in my view, because when we leave countries because Americans are killed, it only encourages our adversaries to kill other Americans in other countries. But we do owe these men and women who have volunteered to defend the Nation, not only every possible security measure—which I am sure is being taken as we speak—but we owe them a response. We owe a response to this act of terror, which will prevent further acts of terror from being contemplated by the evil that seems rampant through the world.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNETT). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

Mr. NUNN. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The clerk will continue to call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 4367

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I want to express my thanks to the distinguished Senator from Georgia. We have some difference of opinion over the NATO expansion amendment. The Senator has gone out of his way to advise me that he was going to offer it, and out of consideration, to let me have a copy in advance. And he also was kind enough to adjust the time of which he would offer it on the floor to fit my schedule. I was tied up in a meeting on Afghanistan I was chairing, and I could not be here. I think he exhibits exceptional courtesy. I want to express my thanks to the Senator from Georgia for his consideration.

Mr. NUNN. I thank the Senator very much. I look forward to working with him. As I mentioned, I have not spoken on this subject yet. But as I talked to the Senator from Colorado and the Senator from Arizona, it is my intent in this amendment, and the intent of all of us, not to tilt this amendment one way or the other, but, rather, to ask the questions that need to be asked before we make this very important decision about expanding an alliance where we extend article V protection. And article V protection includes nuclear protection. That is a very serious matter.

I think we have not started nor has the administration thought through nor has NATO thought through some of the tough questions here. We all have an obligation to do that. This could be a matter before the Senate for ratification of the expansion of the treaty next year.

So it is my intent to have questions that are tough questions, the hard questions, but also fair questions, on both sides. I invite my colleagues that may perceive that this is a tilt, one way or the other, to work on the language. And I would certainly be amenable to taking a look at their suggestions.

So Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this amendment be temporarily laid aside. We will continue to work on it. So we are open for amendment. I know Senator THURMOND and I, as managers of this bill, encourage people to come down with relevant amendments on the defense matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection the amendment is laid aside.

Mr. NUNN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 4367

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, in the interest of time, while we are waiting on an amendment to be presented, I will go ahead and make my remarks on the amendment which was pending and which has been temporarily laid aside.

This amendment has been offered on behalf of myself, Senator HUTCHISON, Senator BRADLEY, Senator KASSEBAUM, and Senator COHEN. I note at the outset this amendment is not intended to prejudice the case for or against NATO enlargement or even the pace at which NATO might enlarge.

The amendment requires the President to submit a report on NATO enlargement to the Senate Armed Services Committee and their counterpart committee in the House at the same time that the President submits the budget request for fiscal year 1998 to the Congress.

This amendment is designed to provide the information that will stimulate a comprehensive and informed discussion in the Congress on this important matter. If there are questions that are not in this amendment that people on the other side of the aisle or this side think should be added, I certainly would be receptive to that.

Mr. President, there have been a number of editorials and op-ed pieces favoring a rapid pace for NATO enlargement. These pieces generally focus on two aspects. First, on the positive side, the need for greater security for Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic so they can continue on the road toward democratization and free market economies. On the second side is the need to ensure that Russia does not have a veto over the process by which NATO decides to enlarge.

There have also been a number of editorials and op-ed pieces opposing NATO enlargement. These opposition pieces tend to focus on the potential that NATO enlargement would have to produce the very thing that we are trying to prevent; namely, a Russian military threat to European security and also the impact it would have on Ukraine, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia if those nations were not included in the first stage of NATO enlargement.

What is missing, however, are a number of other issues that are directly involved in NATO enlargement that have not been discussed in the various commentary on either side of the issue and that need to be carefully considered. This amendment provides for the President's report to comprehensively discuss a host of issues. In the interest of time, I will mention only a few of the issues for purposes of illustration.

What would the cost be for NATO enlargement and who would pay these costs? Certainly that is a question the American people are entitled to have us debate and actually examine and present. There ought to be at least some projection of that by the administration and by NATO.