

public and the environment are protected from dangerous releases of radioactivity. Three Federal agencies each play a key role in the safe transfer of radioactive materials from nuclear power plants to a central storage facility. The DOE is responsible for accepting, transporting, storing and disposing of spent fuel from nuclear power plants. The DOT regulates highway routing, packaging, labeling, shipping papers, personnel training, loading and unloading, handling and storage, as well as transportation vehicle requirements. The NRC regulates container design and manufacturing to ensure that containers maintain their integrity under routine transportation conditions and during severe accidents. S. 1936 requires that containers for nuclear fuel transport be licensed by the NRC. The agency also examines shipping routes to ensure the security of spent fuel shipments.

According to NRC regulations, the radiation level of containers during shipment cannot exceed 10 millirem per hour at a distance of 6 feet from the truck. At this level, a person who spends 30 minutes standing 6 feet away from the vehicle carrying radioactive materials would receive 5 millirem of radiation. By comparison, the average person receives about 300 millirem each year from natural background radiation.

#### ACCIDENTS

Between 1971 and 1989, seven accidents occurred involving transportation of spent nuclear fuel. None caused any release of radioactivity. The most severe of these accidents occurred in 1971 in Tennessee. A tractor-trailer carrying a 25-ton spent fuel shipping container swerved to avoid a head-on collision, went out of control and overturned. The trailer, with the container still attached, broke free of the tractor and skidded into a rain-filled ditch. The container suffered minor damage, but did not release any radioactive material.

#### LOCAL RESPONSE-TRAINING

The Federal Government provides training and other assistance to the States so they may adequately respond in the event of an accident. Under existing law and S. 1936, DOE provides funding from the Federal Nuclear Waste Fund to train State and local officials and tribal emergency rescue workers and to develop emergency response and preparedness plans. S. 1936 also required the Secretary of Transportation to establish training standards applicable to workers directly involved in the removal, transportation, interim storage, and disposal of high-level radioactive waste.

The DOE operates a Radiological Assistance Program, with eight regional offices staffed with experts available for immediate assistance. If necessary, police will summon those experts to handle the transportation package and remove any radioactive material that may have been released.

#### TERRORISM

Terrorism has been given considerable attention in the planning, procedures and regulation of spent fuel transportation. It is highly unlikely that a terrorist would have the opportunity, the equipment, or the required expertise to sufficiently damage a spent nuclear fuel container to cause a radiation release.

Points of origin, schedule, route, and mode of transportation are known only by a core group of Federal and State government officials. Special devices on vehicles, sophisticated satellite tracking, and armed security through populated areas will be employed to deter terrorist threats.

Tests by Sandia National Laboratories evaluated the possibility of a terrorist attack. For security reasons, much of this information is classified; however, we do know that, for testing purposes, a container was subjected to a device 30 times more powerful than a typical anti-tank weapon. This test was conducted in a carefully controlled environment and resulted in a one-fourth of an inch in diameter hole through the primary containment wall. The NRC estimates that even a device this powerful would have caused a release of less than 10 grams of spent fuel.

#### THE 100 MILLIREM STANDARD

S. 1936 establishes a 100 millirem standard for release of radioactivity from the repository as a maximum annual dose to an average member of the general population in the vicinity of Yucca Mountain. This standard is consistent with current national and international standards designed to protect the public health and safety and the environment. S. 1936 also would allow the NRC to establish another standard if it finds that the 100 millirem level would pose an unreasonable risk to the health and safety of Nevadans.

#### CONCLUSION

In sum, I believe that S. 1936 is an effective short-term solution to our nuclear waste disposal, for both commercial and defense waste. A central interim storage facility is both environmentally and economically sound. To me, the choice seems clear. Why leave nuclear waste scattered throughout the country in various sites when it can be safely transferred and stored in one central site? A single storage site is clearly the pro-environmental option. Interim storage at a central Federal site enhances safety and efficiency in the management of spent fuel. In addition to the environmental benefits, central storage is significantly more cost-effective for electricity customers. Storing used fuel at a central interim storage facility would save consumers \$4.3 billion if the facility is operating by 2000 and a repository begins accepting spent fuel in 2010.

America's 110 nuclear power plants are this Nation's second largest source of electricity, constituting about 20 percent of our electric power. Nuclear

energy supplies over 40 percent of all the new electricity required by the American people since 1973. Our nuclear power plants will also make the largest contribution of any technology toward meeting the Administration's year 2000 goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Whether we build new nuclear power plants in the future or not, we must deal responsibly with the nuclear fuel produced by our currently operating plants. We must also deal with the defense waste that this Nation has produced. S. 1936 is good policy and represents a safe, responsible solution that enjoys strong bipartisan support.

#### TRIBUTE TO LTG ROBERT L. ORD III

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate and pay tribute to a great American leader, statesman and soldier. Lt. Gen. Robert L. Ord, III, Commanding General of the U.S. Army, Pacific (USARPAC) will retire on July 31, 1996 after more than 34 years of dedicated service to our nation and our Army.

A native of Medford Lakes, NJ, Lieutenant General Ord graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1962 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant of Infantry. Over the course of the next three decades, he served our country honorably and faithfully in a variety of exceptionally challenging troop and staff assignments in the United States, Vietnam, and Korea.

A leader in both peace and war, he has commanded at every level from platoon to division and Army major command. Lieutenant General Ord commanded a rifle company in Vietnam and the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry Training Brigade at Fort Benning, Ga. Following graduation from the Army War College in 1980, he served as the Operations Officer, Chief of Staff, and Commander of the 9th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division (Light) at Fort Ord, CA. He then served in the Pentagon as the Executive Officer to the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel followed by promotion to brigadier general and assignment in Korea as Chief of Staff of the United States-Korea Combined Field Army. Subsequently, he returned to Fort Ord as Assistant Division Commander of the 7th Infantry Division (Light), where he participated in Operation Just Cause in Panama, followed by Command of the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command in Washington, DC.

From February 1992 until September 1993, Lieutenant General Ord served as the commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and the United States Army, Hawaii where his relentless pursuit of excellence and focus on mission training placed the 25th Infantry Division (Light) on the cutting edge of combat readiness. Through his innovative, aggressive and creative

leadership, the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and United States Army, Hawaii became fully integrated, modernized, manned and equipped forces capable of exceptional tactical mobility, lethality and versatility.

As Commanding General, United States Army, Pacific, Fort Shafter, HA, from November 1993 to June 1996, Lieutenant General Ord has been the consummate statesman and ambassador for the United States throughout the Pacific. He has utilized his vast diplomatic skills with senior leaders from over 37 countries of the Asia-Pacific region to win friends and influence foreign governments; thereby, broadening the prestige of the U.S. Army and deterring hostile action from potential adversaries. Through his insightful guidance and visionary leadership, he has redefined the future of the Army in the Pacific and made dramatic progress toward its "end-state" with alignment and restructuring of apportioned Army forces.

Throughout his career, Lieutenant General Ord has demonstrated a deep and personal concern for soldiers, Army civilians, retirees, and their families that has earned him a reputation as a commander who would spare no effort to ensure that their needs were met. His extraordinary leadership and brilliant statesmanship have significantly enhanced the vital national security interests of the United States and were the driving force behind preparing America's Army in the Pacific for the 21st Century. With resolute commitment and dedication, he has accomplished the Army's most challenging tasks of downsizing, reorganizing and streamlining while maintaining exceptional combat readiness and quality of life in his forces.

Lieutenant General Ord's career has been the epitome of selfless service to our nation and the quintessential example of all we could hope our military leaders to be. And through the decades of service and sacrifice, he has been supported by a loving family. The Nation shares Lieutenant General Ord with his wife Gail, their daughters Traci and Ginger, and grandchildren Mariah and Zachary. They too have served our country, supporting in countless ways the career of this dedicated soldier and statesman.

Lieutenant General Ord, a consummate professional, a loyal servant of the Constitution, a leader of demonstrated moral and physical vigor and courage—on behalf of the Congress of the United States and the people we represent, I offer our heartfelt appreciation and sincere thanks to you and your family for your selfless and dedicated service. Mahalo, aloha and best wishes for a bright and happy future.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I think so often of that November evening long ago in 1972 when the television networks reported that I had been elected

as a U.S. Senator from North Carolina. I remember well the exact time that the announcement was made and how stunned I was.

It had never really occurred to me that I would be the first Republican in history to be elected by the people of North Carolina to the U.S. Senate. When I got over my astonishment, I thought about a lot of things. And I made some commitments to myself one of which was that I would never fail to see a young person, or a group of young people, who wanted to see me.

I have kept that commitment and it has proved enormously meaningful to me because I have been inspired by the estimated 60,000 young people with whom I have visited during the 23 years I have been in the Senate.

A large percentage of them are greatly concerned about the total Federal debt which back in February exceeded \$5 trillion for the first time in history. Congress created this monstrous debt which coming generations will have to pay.

Mr. President, the young people who visit with me almost always are inclined to discuss the fact that under the U.S. Constitution, no President can spend a dime of Federal money that has not first been authorized and appropriated by both the House and Senate of the United States.

That is why I began making these daily reports to the Senate on February 25, 1992. I decided that it was important that a daily record be made of the precise size of the Federal debt which, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 16, 1996, stood at \$5,158,429,724,926.15. On a per capita basis, the existing Federal debt amounts to \$19,442.95 for every man, woman, and child in America on a per capita basis.

The increase in the national debt in the 24 hours since my report yesterday—which identified the total Federal debt as of close of business on Monday, July 15, 1996—shows an increase of more than \$2 billion—\$2,116,065,511.60, to be exact. That 1-day increase alone is enough to match the total amount needed to pay the college tuitions for each of the 313,770 students for 4 years.

#### FOREIGN OIL CONSUMED BY THE UNITED STATES? HERE'S THE WEEKLY BOX SCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending July 12, the United States imported 7,300,000 barrels of oil each day, 800,000 barrels less than the 8,100,000 barrels imported during the same week a year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 53 percent of their needs last week, and there are no signs that this upward spiral will abate. Before the Persian Gulf War, the United States obtained about 45 percent of its oil supply from foreign countries. During the Arab oil embargo in the 1970's, foreign oil accounted for only 35 percent of America's oil supply.

Anybody else interested in restoring domestic production of oil—by U.S. producers using American workers? Politicians had better ponder the economic calamity sure to occur in America if and when foreign producers shut off our supply—or double the already enormous cost of imported oil flowing into the United States—now 7,300,000 barrels a day.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY BOARD ON ARMS PROLIFERATION POLICY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 160

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 1601(d) of Public Law 103-160 (the "Act"), I transmit herewith the report of the President's Advisory Board on Arms Proliferation Policy. The Board was established by Executive Order 12946 (January 20, 1995), pursuant to section 1601(c) of the Act.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 17, 1996.

#### REPORT CONCERNING THE EMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 161

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

On June 3, 1993, I determined and reported to the Congress that Bulgaria is in full compliance with the freedom of emigration criteria of sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974. This action allowed for the continuation of most-favored-nation (MFN) status for Bulgaria and certain other activities without the requirement of a waiver.

As required by law, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning emigration laws and policies of